

## **WARNING FRONT TINE ROTOTILLER**

Any piece of equipment can be dangerous if not operated properly. **YOU** are responsible for the safe operation of this equipment. The operator must carefully read and follow any warnings, safety signs and instructions provided with or located on the equipment. Do not remove, defeat, deface or render inoperable any of the safety devices or warnings on this equipment. If any safety devices or warnings have been removed, defeated, defaced, or rendered inoperable, **DO NOT USE THIS EQUIPMENT!!!**

**⚠WARNING:** Operating, servicing, and maintaining this equipment can expose you to chemicals including engine exhaust, carbon monoxide and lead, which are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. To minimize your exposure, avoid breathing exhaust, do not idle the engine except as necessary, operate and service your equipment in a well-ventilated area and wear gloves or wash your hands frequently when servicing your equipment. For more information go to [www.P65warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65warnings.ca.gov)

Use extreme caution whenever operating, moving, loading, or unloading this equipment. During and after operation the Muffler and other components are Extremely Hot and will cause Serious Burns.

Never operate power equipment of any kind if you are tired or if you are under the influence of alcohol, drugs, medication, or any substance that could affect your ability or judgment. Be alert! If you get tired while operating this equipment, take a break. Tiredness may result in loss of control.

Provide adequate ventilation when operating this equipment. Internal combustion engines consume oxygen and give off deadly carbon monoxide gas.

**DANGER: This equipment has multiple pinch points that can cause dismemberment or death. Keep hands, feet and all other body parts clear at all times.**

Do not tape down or otherwise by-pass any safety devices! Always operate this equipment from the designated operator's position.

Use extreme caution: The tiller tines are sharp! Keep your hands and feet clear of the tines at all times.

### **IMPORTANT SAFETY RULES TO FOLLOW**

1. Inspect area & remove all debris: stones, boards, wires, etc. Flag sprinkler heads, water pipes, etc.
2. Do not use tiller on wet or slick ground. Never remove debris while tiller is running.
3. Shut off engine whenever leaving unattended. Do not start tiller if you are near tines.
4. While operating, keep both hands on the handles. Keep hands and feet away from tines.
5. Always wear safety boots & safety glasses when operating. Do not wear loose fitting clothing or jewelry.
6. Stay away from sidewalks, fences, garden edging and stakes while operating.
7. Operate during daylight hours only. Do not refuel while engine is hot or running. Do not use indoors. Do not smoke while operating.
8. Only start engine when machine is on ground to be tilled.
9. Do not till on steep slopes.
10. Never operate without all safety guards in place.
11. Stop tiller when another person approaches you.
12. Do not operate near glass enclosures, autos, windows, wells, drop-offs, or bystanders.

**WARNING: Use of this product can create dust containing chemicals which may cause respiratory or other illnesses. Some examples of these chemicals are compounds found in pesticides, insecticides, fertilizers & herbicides. Your risk from these exposures varies, depending on how often you do this type of work. To reduce your exposure to these chemicals: work in a well-ventilated area, & work with approved safety equipment, such as those dust masks that are specially designed to filter out microscopic particles.**

If the person receiving this handout will not be the user of the equipment, forward these instructions to the operator. **If there is any doubt as to the operation or safety of the equipment,**

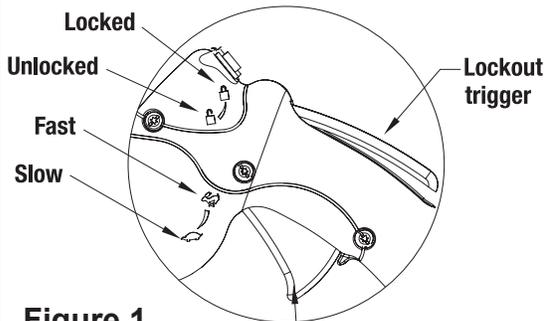
**DO NOT USE!!! CALL A TOOL SHED IMMEDIATELY!!! FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH**

## **⚠ WARNING ⚠**

ALWAYS MAKE SURE THE HANDLE KNOBS ARE SECURE BEFORE STARTING MANTIS TILLER.

## **⚠ WARNING**

Read the instructions carefully. Be familiar with the controls and the proper use of the equipment



**Figure 1**

**Throttle Trigger**  
Squeeze trigger to increase speed

## **NOW YOU'RE READY TO USE THE MANTIS TILLER.**

If you've used other tillers, this MANTIS Tiller may surprise you. It tills best when you pull it backward! When you pull the MANTIS Tiller backward, you give extra resistance to the tines, so they dig deeper. (Figure 2)

In addition, when you go backward, you erase your footprints, so your soil stays light and fluffy. With other tillers, by contrast, you walk right over the soil you've just tilled, packing it down, so it's less plantable.

## **RUN THE MANTIS TILLER LIKE A VACUUM CLEANER**

Place the Tiller at the head of the row or area you want to till, and start it up. Begin with an easy rocking motion, and pull the Tiller backward. Then repeat rocking motion, and pull it backward again. Then, let it move forward just a little bit, before pulling it backward again. This will help you till deeper. Keep repeating these steps until you've tilled an entire row, then start again on the next row. It's much like running a vacuum cleaner! (Figure 3)

You can even control depth.

**For deeper tilling:**

Move the Tiller slowly back and forth, as you would a vacuum cleaner. Work the same area over and over until you've dug to your desired depth. (Figure 4)

## **4-Cycle Tiller Operation**

## **⚠ WARNING**

If engine does not stop when switch is put in the stop position, release the throttle and allow engine to idle. Put the tiller down and slide the choke lever to the cold start (closed) position. Do not use again before product is serviced.

## **A SPECIAL FEATURE**

**Note:** With the idle set properly and the engine running the tines won't turn unless you squeeze the throttle trigger on the handlebars. When you release the throttle trigger, the tines will stop.

## **A TIP FOR EXTENDING THE ENGINE'S LIFE**

After you start the engine, let the tiller warm up for two to three minutes before you use it. Then, before you put the tiller away, let it idle for a minute

to give the engine a chance to cool down.

## **OPERATION**

With engine running, and both hands on the handles, hold down the throttle lockout trigger (Figure 1), then squeeze the throttle trigger gradually to increase the engine speed and engage the tines.

**NOTE:** This step must be repeated each time the tiller trigger is released.



**Figure 2**



**Figure 3**



**Figure 4**

## **For Big Weeds or Tough Roots:**

Let the Tiller rock back and forth over the tough spot until the tines slice through the weed or root.

## **MANTIS Tiller Handles Special Tilling Projects:**

Want to turn part of your lawn into a colorful flower border? MANTIS Tiller makes it easy! Just run the Tiller back and forth until the sod begins to break up. Then continue tilling. The Tiller will chop the clumps of sod until they're fine then work them into the soil. Pretty soon, you'll have a soft, fresh planting bed.

## **⚠ WARNING**

The operator of this tiller is responsible for accidents or hazards occurring to themselves, other people or their property.

## **⚠ WARNING**

Never try to remove an obstruction while the engine is running. Serious injury can result. If your tines get jammed or entangled, shut off the engine at once. Remove the obstruction while the engine is off.