Welcome to the World of Mantis Gardening

Here’s your new MANTIS Tiller . . . the lightweight wonder that’s Changing the Way Americans Garden.®

Unlike big tillers, your MANTIS Tiller weighs only 20 lbs. (Model 7920) and 22.5 lbs. (Model 7924). So it lifts easily, handles smoothly, tills and weeds precisely. And, unlike other small tillers, it features serpentine tines that churn soil to ten inches deep. It creates a soft, smooth seed bed, even in problem soil.

Once you know how to use your tiller correctly, we guarantee you’ll love it. So first, please read this manual. It shows, step by step, how to use your tiller safely.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Thank you for purchasing this Schiller Grounds Care, Inc. product. You have purchased a world class product, one of the best designed and built anywhere.

This machine comes with Operation and Safety instructions, Parts and Service instructions and Engine instructions. The useful life and good service you receive from this machine depends to a large extent on how well you read and understand these manuals. Treat your machine properly, lubricate and adjust it as instructed, and it will give you many years of reliable service.

Your safe use of this Schiller Grounds Care, Inc. product is one of our prime design objectives. Many safety features are built in, but we also rely on your good sense and care to achieve accident-free operation. For best protection, study the manuals thoroughly. Learn the proper operation of all controls. Observe all safety precautions. Follow all instructions and warnings completely. Do not remove or defeat any safety features. Make sure those who operate this machine are as well informed and careful in its use as you are.

See a Schiller Grounds Care, Inc. dealer for any service or parts needed. Schiller Grounds Care, Inc. service ensures that you continue to receive the best results possible from Schiller Grounds Care, Inc. products. You can trust Schiller Grounds Care, Inc. replacement parts because they are manufactured with the same high precision and quality as the original parts.

Schiller Grounds Care, Inc. designs and builds its equipment to serve many years in a safe and productive manner. For longest life, use this machine only as directed in the manuals, keep it in good repair and follow safety warnings and instructions. You’ll always be glad you did.

Schiller Grounds Care, Inc.
1028 Street Road
Southampton, PA 18966-4217
PHONE (800) 366-6268 • FAX (215) 956-3855

This Operator’s / Parts Manual is part of the machine. Suppliers of both new and second-hand machines must make sure that this manual is provided with the machine.
You will notice throughout this Operator’s Manual Safety Rules and Important Notes. Make sure you understand and obey these warnings for your own protection.

I. SPECIAL SAFETY INFORMATION

**WARNING**

Attention: This symbol points out our important safety instructions. When you see this symbol, heed it's warning!! Stay alert!!

**WARNING**

To reduce the potential for accidents, comply with the safety instructions in this manual. Failure to comply may result in serious personal injury, and/or equipment and property damage.

II. SAFETY & WARNINGS

**WARNING**

Improper use or care of this tiller or failure to wear proper protection can result in serious injury. Read and understand the rules for safe operation and all instructions in this manual. Wear hearing and eye protection.

**WARNING**

The engine exhaust from this product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm.

III. SAFETY DECAL INFORMATION

An important part of the safety system incorporated in this tiller are the warning and information decals found on various parts of the tiller. These decals must be replaced in time due to abrasion, etc. It is your responsibility to replace these decals when they become hard to read.
If the tiller is used improperly or safety precautions are not followed, the users risk serious injury to themselves and others. Read and understand this manual before attempting to operate this tiller.

**IV. WARNINGS - DOS**

Read and understand the owner’s manual. Pay particular attention to all sections regarding safety.

1. **Always** keep a firm grip on both handles while the tines are moving and/or the engine is running. BE AWARE!! The tines may coast after throttle trigger is released. Make sure tines have come to a complete stop and engine is off before letting go of the tiller.

2. **Always** maintain a firm footing and good balance. Do not overreach while operating the tiller. Before you start to use the tiller check the work area for obstacles that might cause you to lose your footing, balance or control of the machine.

3. **Thoroughly** inspect the area where equipment is to be used and remove all objects, which can be thrown by the machine.

4. **Always** keep area clear of children, pets, and bystanders.

5. **Always** stay alert. Watch what you are doing and use common sense. Do not operate unit when fatigued.

6. **Always** dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry, they might get caught in moving parts. Use sturdy gloves. Gloves reduce the transmission of vibration to your hands. Prolonged exposure to vibration can cause numbness and other ailments.

7. **While working**, always wear substantial footwear and long trousers. Do not operate the equipment when barefoot or wearing open sandals.

8. **Always** wear ear and eye protection. Eye protection must meet applicable CE requirements. To avoid hearing damage, we recommend hearing protection be worn whenever using the equipment.

9. **To reduce fire hazard**, keep the engine, and petrol/gas storage area free of vegetative material and excessive grease.

10. **Start** the engine carefully, according to the manufacturer’s instructions and with feet well away from tool(s).

11. **Keep** all nuts, bolts and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.

12. **Use extreme caution** when reversing or pulling the machine towards you.

13. **Work only** in daylight or good artificial light.

14. **Always** be sure of your footing on slopes.

15. **Exercise** extreme caution when changing direction on slopes.

16. **Always** keep a safe distance between two or more people when working together.

17. **Always** inspect your unit before each use. Keep all knobs, nuts, bolts and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.

18. **Always** visually inspect to see that the tools are not worn or damaged. Before using your tiller, replace worn or damaged elements and bolts in sets to preserve balance.


20. **Always** store tiller in a sheltered area (a dry place), not accessible to children. The tiller as well as fuel should not be stored in a house.

21. **Always** keep in mind that the operator or user is responsible for accidents or hazards occurring to other people or their property.
**V. WARNINGS - DON’TS**

**Don’t** use tiller with one hand. Keep both hands on handles with fingers and thumbs encircling the handles, while tines are moving, and engine is running.

**Don’t** run with the machine, walk.

**Don’t** work on excessively steep slopes.

**Don’t** attempt to clear tines while they are moving. Never try to remove jammed material before switching the engine off and making sure the tines have stopped completely.

**Don’t** allow children or people unfamiliar with these instructions to use the machine. Local regulations can restrict the age of operator.

**Don’t** let others operate tiller without proper training.

**Don’t** operate while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

**Don’t** attempt to repair this tiller. Have repairs made by a qualified dealer or repairman. See that only original Mantis parts are used.

**Don’t** overreach. Keep a good footing at all times.

**Don’t** stand in front of tiller when tines are rotating.

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**VI. ENGINE/FUEL WARNINGS - DOS**

**Always** use fresh gasoline in the fuel mixture. Stale gasoline can cause damage.

**Always** store fuel in containers specifically designed for this purpose.

**Always** add fuel before starting the engine.

**Always** replace all fuel tank and container caps securely.

**Always** pull starter cord slowly until resistance is felt to avoid kickback and prevent arm or hand injury.

**Always** operate engine with spark arrestor installed and operating properly.

**Stop** the engine whenever you leave the machine and before refueling. Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure. Replace worn or damaged parts for safety.

**If** the fuel tank needs to be drained, this should be done outdoors.

**Don’t** pick up or carry a machine while the engine is running.

**Don’t** fuel, refuel or check fuel while smoking, or near an open flame or other ignition source. Stop engine and be sure it is cool before refueling.

**Don’t** leave the engine running while the tiller is unattended. Stop the engine when carrying out maintenance and cleaning operations, when changing tools and when being transported by means other than under its own power.

**Never** remove the cap of the fuel tank or add fuel while the engine is running or when the engine is hot.

**Never** refuel, start or run this tiller indoors or in an improperly ventilated area.

**Don’t** refuel, start or run this tiller indoors or in an improperly ventilated area.

**Don’t** run engine when electrical system causes spark outside the cylinder. During periodic checks of the spark plug, keep plug a safe distance from cylinder to avoid burning of evaporated fuel from cylinder.

**Don’t** check for spark with spark plug or plug wire removed. Use an approved tester.

**Don’t** crank engine with spark plug removed unless spark plug wire is disconnected. Sparks can ignite fumes.

**Don’t** run engine when the odor of gasoline is present or other explosive conditions exist.

**Do not** attempt to start the engine if fuel is spilled, but move the machine away from the area of spillage and avoid creating any source of ignition until fuel vapors have dissipated.

**Don’t** operate your tiller if there is an accumulation of debris around the muffler, and cooling fins. To reduce the fire hazard, keep the engine and fuel storage area free of vegetative material and excessive grease.

**Don’t** touch hot mufflers, cylinders or cooling fins as contact may cause serious burns.

**Don’t** change the engine governor setting or over speed the engine.

**Don’t** attempt to remove spark plug while engine is hot. Removing a spark plug from a hot engine can cause irreparable damage to the engine and will void your warranty.

**Don’t** use starter fluids as they will cause permanent engine damage.

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**WARNING**

Handle fuel with care, it is highly flammable. Fueling a hot engine or near an ignition source can cause a fire and result in serious personal injury and/or property damage.
Assembly

WHAT COMES IN THE BOX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>Part No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Upper Handle Throttle Side Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Upper Handle Assembly, Left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lower Handles W/Plug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Handle Brace Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Plastic Carrying Handle</td>
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<tr>
<td>T21A, T20, T46</td>
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<td>Engine Assembly (includes Fender Guard &amp; Worm Gear Transmission) (model 7920)</td>
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<td>T21B, T20, T46</td>
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<td>Engine Assembly (includes Fender Guard &amp; Worm Gear Transmission) (model 7924)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>T39/T40</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pair Tiller/Cultivator Tines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bag of Hardware Containing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Handle Clamps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Throttle Clip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bolts (3” long)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Knobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Acorn Nuts</td>
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<tr>
<td>T14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lock Nuts</td>
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<td>T15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cap Screws</td>
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<tr>
<td>T41</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tine Retaining Pins</td>
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<tr>
<td>T42</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Carriage Bolts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T49</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kickstand, Stand Assembly (model 7924)</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kickstand, Bracket and Hardware Bag (model 7924)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Shown</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>2-Cycle Oil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO ASSEMBLE THE TILLER

Prior to removing the contents and assembling, it is important to:

- Have a clean work area.
- Make sure all necessary tools are handy.
- You will need two 7/16” wrenches
- A 3/8” wrench for kickstand assembly

WARNING

Improper assembly of this tiller can result in serious injury. Make sure to follow all instructions carefully. If you have any questions, contact our factory at 1-800-366-6268 or an authorized Mantis dealer.

Bag Contents

Not Shown 1 451 2-Cycle Oil

Model 7924 Only

T49 T50
LET’S BEGIN
• With the box upright, open the box and remove the tine box and the loose parts that are at the top of the tiller box. Do not remove any other parts in the box.
• Lay the box on one side and open the bottom flaps.
• Return the box to an upright position (as shown) and pull the box straight up.
• Leave the engine and throttle handle in the cradle to assist in the assembly.
• Lay everything out so you can easily identify the parts (see parts image and list on page 6).

LOWEST HANDLE ASSEMBLY
To identify part numbers see page 6.

1. For ease of assembly and stability it is important that you keep the engine assembly in its cardboard cradle.

2. Lay the handle parts within easy reach. You’ll need one of the handle clamps (T7) and one of the lower handles (T3). Note that the lower handles have a short leg on one end.

3. Fit the handle clamp along the outside of the short leg. Line up the holes on the clamp and the leg.

4. Choose one of the two 3-inch bolts (T11). Slide it through the first set of holes — near the elbow where the lower handle curves. (Pictures 2 & 3)

5. Now slide the other lower handle onto the 3-inch bolt. Fit the other clamp onto the other handle’s short leg. Add a lock nut (T14) and tighten finger tight. (Picture 3)

6. Slide the second 3-inch bolt (T11) through the second set of holes in the short legs. Add a lock nut (T14) and tighten finger tight until you’ve completed assembly.

NOTE: SOME OF THE PHOTOS IN THIS MANUAL DO NOT REPRESENT YOUR TILLER ENGINE. THEY ARE FOR ASSEMBLY PURPOSES ONLY.

NOTE: THE LOCK NUTS ARE STAMPED. FINGER TIGHT IS APPROXIMATELY 1/2 TO 1-1/2 TURNS UNTIL YOU’VE COMPLETED ASSEMBLY.
Assembly (Continued)

UPPER HANDLE ASSEMBLY

7a
- Lightly squeeze the lower handles (T3) toward one another so that they line up with the two smaller holes on the carrying handle (T10). Then slide the carrying handle over and down the lower handles. It will rest about four to six inches above the fender.
- Gently pull the lower handles out to their original position.

7b
- Your Mantis Tiller will look like this when the lower handle assembly is complete.

8
- Lift the upper handle until it lines up with the lower handle.
- Insert carriage bolt (T42) from outside in.
- Screw on knob (T12) and fully tighten the knob at the pivot point.

9
- Cap the exposed bolt with an acorn nut (T13) and tighten with your 7/16” wrench until snug. Do not over tighten.

TINE ASSEMBLY

1
- You’ll need the 2 Tines and the 2 retaining pins.

2
- Remove the unit from the cardboard cradle and lay the unit on its side.

3
- You will notice that one side of the Tine has a circular hole while the other has a “D” shaped hole.
TINE ASSEMBLY (Continued)

4. Attach the Tine so that the circular hole slides onto the axle first.

5. When the axle protrudes from the other side it will line up perfectly with the "D" shaped hole.

6. Slide a retaining pin (T41) through the hole in the axle to secure the Tine.
   - Repeat steps for the other side.

KICKSTAND ASSEMBLY (MODEL 7924 ONLY)

1. Position the kickstand brace just above the bend of the lower handles.
2. Position the kickstand under the lower handles, line up the holes and thread the kickstand brace bolts into the kickstand.
   - Tighten with the 3/8" wrench.
3. Your Mantis tiller will look like this when lower handle assembly and kickstand is complete.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**
Make sure you have installed the handles properly. When you stand behind your tiller, holding the handles, the fender warning label should face you.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**
Before you use your MANTIS Tiller, read the Safety Rules & Warnings on pages 3-5

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**
Be sure you have proper throttle movements and that the throttle cable is not wrapped or twisted around the handle bar. Hold down the lockout lever, fully squeeze the throttle trigger and let go. The throttle triangle must click in both directions. If there is any doubt, remove air filter and visually check that the throttle triangle hits both the idle screw and the full open stop. THIS MUST BE DONE BEFORE STARTING THE ENGINE.

**WARNING**
Improper Throttle installation can cause tines to rotate unexpectedly.

Contact us at www.mantis.com
2-Cycle Tiller Fueling

2-CYCLE TILLER FUELING

MIXING FUEL

Use a mixture of 50 parts unleaded regular gasoline and 1 part two-stroke MANTIS oil (50:1).* Use branded 89 octane (R+M+2) unleaded gasoline (maximum 10% ethanol, or 15% MTBE, no methyl alcohol.)

Here’s how to mix the oil with the gas:
1. Pour 1/2 of the gasoline into a safe container. Do not mix the fuel and oil in the engine fuel tank.
2. Add 2.6 ounces of two-cycle engine oil to the gasoline and mix. The bottle is measured exactly to 2.6 ounces. Then add the rest of the gasoline.
3. Screw the cap onto the gasoline can. Then swirl the can to blend the oil and gas.
4. Carefully pour the fuel mix into the tiller’s fuel tank. After putting the fuel tank’s cap back on, wipe up any spilled fuel from tank and gasoline can.

Need more pre-measured engine oil? You can order it directly from Mantis or your local authorized Mantis dealer. Just call toll free 1-800-366-6268 and ask for our Sales Dept.

IMPORTANT:
Two stroke fuel separates and ages. Do not mix more than you will use in a month. Using old fuel can cause difficult starting or engine damage. Shake fuel container to thoroughly mix fuel before each use.
Remember …
• Never, run your tiller on gasoline alone. This will ruin your engine and void all warranties.
• Always use a clean gas can and always use unleaded gas.
• Never try to mix the oil and gasoline in the engine fuel tank.
• Always mix oil and gas in the proper proportions: 2.6 ounces of two-cycle engine oil to one gallon of unleaded gasoline.

IMPORTANT NOTE:
Do Not use old or stale oil/gasoline mixture. Always use the proper oil/gasoline mixture. If you do not, your engine will suffer rapid, permanent damage. And you will void the engine warranty.

* 2 Cycle Oil must meet or exceed ISO-L-EGD (ISO/CD 13738) and J.A.S.O. FD Standards
2-CYCLE TILLER STARTING

1. Fill the fuel tank with the proper oil/gasoline mixture. (See previous section.)
2. Hand tighten the gasoline cap just until it’s snug.
3. Place the O/I switch into the I “start/on” position. (Picture 1)
4. Pull the choke button all the way out, to completely close the choke. (Picture 2)
5. Locate the purge bulb on the upper right of the engine, in front of the fuel tank. (See Picture 3) It sends fuel into the carburetor, for easy starting. Press the purge bulb until you see fuel flow through the clear fuel return line. Since you’re starting “cold,” you may need to press six to eight times. As soon as fuel starts flowing through the clear fuel line, stop pressing!

FOR MODEL 7920:
Pull the recoil starter handle/rope (Picture 4A) with a controlled motion until resistance is felt. Then give the cord a few brisk pulls until the engine fires. During cold starting, you may need to try three or four times before the engine fires. Do not pull the rope out to end stop and do not let it snap back into the starter housing.

FOR MODEL 7924 (Fast starting engine option):
Fast starting system significantly reduces the effort required to start the engine. Energy is stored in the starter spring each time the handle/rope is pulled. Slowly pull the recoil starter handle/rope (Picture 4B) to wind up the spring. You will hear light clicking and then the sound of the released spring. Generally during cold starting, you may need two to four light pulls before the engine fires.

NOTE: DO NOT PULL THE CORD MORE THEN 4 TIMES WHEN THE CHOKE IS CLOSED. OVER PULLING MAY CAUSE ENGINE FLOODING!

Bear in mind that, when the engine fires, it only coughs or sputters, and will not run on choke.

6. Recoil pull starting (Different for each model)

7. Push the choke button in, all the way, to open the choke.
8. Then pull the starter cord again until engine starts and runs.
Let the engine warm up two to three minutes before using

NOTE: If engine does not start with choke in “Run” position after 5 engine engagements, repeat Cold Start instructions.

WARM STARTING

• To start a warm engine, follow the same procedure. The only exception is that you can leave the choke button in and you don’t have to pump the primer bulb.
• Before using the tiller, let the engine idle for a minute to warm up. Before shutting it down, let the engine idle for two to three minutes to cool down.

Never use starting fluids as they will cause permanent engine damage. Using them will void the warranty. Before you use the tiller, read the Safety & Warning rules on pages 5.

Contact us at www.mantis.com
WHAT TO DO JUST IN CASE

If you follow the normal starting procedure, you should have no problem starting your tiller. But, just in case you do have problems, here’s what to do.

Make sure the O/I switch is on "I" (start). You’d be surprised how many people forget to push the switch into the "I" (start) position.

If the switch was on “O” (stop) when you pulled the cord, you may have flooded the engine.
- First, examine the spark plug. Use the special wrench that comes with our optional MANTIS Handy Item Kit (Item #8444) or a 3/4 inch spark plug wrench. (Picture 1)
- Remove the cap over the spark plug.
- Unscrew the spark plug. (Picture 2)

STARTING A FLOODED ENGINE

If the end of the spark plug is wet, the engine may be flooded. Make sure the switch is in the “O” (stop) position, disconnect spark plug wire and remove plug. Use a paper towel or a clean rag to dry the spark plug, then, with the spark plug out of the engine, pull the starter cord several times. Next, replace the spark plug.

Use the wrench to tighten it and replace the cap. Then, put the switch in the “I” (start) position and pull the choke button out. Pull the starter cord three or four times until the engine coughs or sputters. Open the choke (push the choke button in) and pull the cord a few times. The engine should start and run.

FUEL LINES CHECK

If the end of the spark plug is dry, check to see if the fuel line is blocked. First loosen the fuel cap to relieve the pressure in the tank. The fuel line runs from the fuel tank to the carburetor. Pull it off at the carburetor end. Fuel should drip slowly from the line. Wipe off any excess or spilled fuel.

If fuel does not drip from the line, check the line for any bends or pinches. (Picture 3). Kinks in the line restrict the flow of fuel to the engine. Just straighten out the line. Reconnect. Then follow the normal starting procedure.

If fuel drips too freely, the line may be disconnected from the fuel filter. You’ll find the fuel filter inside the fuel tank. Just re-attach the line to the filter, and put the filter back in the tank. Then follow the normal starting procedure.
2-Cycle Tiller Operation

**WARNING**

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

**A SPECIAL FEATURE**

(With the idle set properly and the engine running)

Even when the engine is 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 YOUR ENGINE’S LIFE**

After you start the engine, let your tiller warm up for two to three minutes before you use it. Then, before you put your 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 your tiller trigger is released.

NOW YOU’RE READY TO USE YOUR MANTIS TILLER.

If you’ve seen other tillers, your MANTIS Tiller may surprise you. It tills best when you pull it backward! You see, you pull your 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 YOUR MANTIS TILLER LIKE A VACUUM CLEANER**

Place your Tiller at the head of the row or area you want to till. Start it up. Then use an easy rocking motion. First, pull your Tiller backward. Then use an easy rocking motion. Again, pull your Tiller backward. Then, let it move forward just a little bit. Then pull it backward again. This will help you till deeper.

Keep repeating these steps until you’ve tiled an entire row. 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 your 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)

**For Shallow Tilling:**

Switch the tines to the cultivating position. (See page 14 to learn how.) Then move your Tiller quickly over your soil surface.

For Big Weeds or Tough Roots:

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

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

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

**WARNING**

ALWAYS MAKE SURE THE HANDLE KNOBS ARE SECURE BEFORE STARTING YOUR MANTIS TILLER.
YOUR MANTIS TILLER MAKES WEEDING A PLEASURE!

As a tiller, your MANTIS Tiller works the soil down to 10" (25.4 cm) deep. But, as a cultivator, it gently cultivates the surface, only 2" to 3" (5.09 cm to 7.62 cm) deep.

First, you must switch the tines to the weeding, cultivating position. This takes less than a minute.

Then, your MANTIS Tiller’s sharp “tine teeth” will slice up those pesky weeds, burying them as you go along. And, since the tines in this position won’t dig too deep, they won’t hurt your plants’ precious root systems.

The result? Your Tiller will cut your weeding time in half, and turn a tiresome chore into a pleasure.

HOW TO SWITCH FROM TILLING TO CULTIVATING POSITION

1. Make sure your Tiller is off.
2. Remove the retaining pins from the tines.
3. Remove the tines from the axle.
4. Place the right-side tine onto the left-side axle. Place the left side tine onto the right-side axle. The “D” hole should be to the outside.
5. Reinsert the pins. (Figure 1)
2-CYCLE TILLER TRANSPORTATION

Transporting your Tiller is easy. It’s light enough and easy to carry using the carrying handle as seen in Figure 1. Or, with it running, you can walk it by gently squeezing the throttle until it moves at a comfortable pace.

Your tiller is easily transported in the back of a car or truck. Be sure to empty the fuel tank (This is crucial)! Then stow your tiller in the trunk of your car or truck.

TILLER STORAGE

**WARNING**

Never store the equipment with Fuel in the tank or in an area where fumes may accumulate and breach an open flame or spark.

Each fall, or before you store your Mantis Tiller for any long period, be sure to take these measures:

1. Do not store your Tiller with fuel still in it. Even under ideal conditions, stored fuel containing ethanol or MTBE can start to go stale in 30 days. And, since stale fuel has a high gum content, it can clog the carburetor, this, in turn, will restrict fuel flow. Therefore, when you’re ready to store your Tiller, or will not be using it for more than 2 weeks, drain the fuel tank completely.

2. Next, restart the engine to make sure no fuel is left in the carburetor. Then, run the engine until it stops. This will prevent gum deposits, forming inside of the carburetor and possible engine damage.

3. Disconnect spark plug wire and remove the spark plug. Slowly pull the starter cord once.

4. Inspect the spark plug, and if necessary, clean it. If you need to replace it, buy a NGR-BPM8Y.

Pour about a teaspoon of clean, air-cooled, two-cycle oil through the spark-plug hole into the combustion chamber. Leaving the spark plug out slowly pull the starter cord two or three times to coat the inside of the cylinder wall.

5. Install the spark plug, but leave the spark plug wire disconnected.

6. Wipe the tines with oil or spray them with WD-40, to prevent rusting.

7. Clean or replace the air filter.

8. Check or replace fuel filter.

9. Check the grease level in the worm gear housing. Add grease if needed.

10. Store your Tiller in an upright position in a clean, dry place. You can store with the handles in an extended position or folded down.

To fold the handles down, simply loosen the lower 2-pronged knobs until you can pivot the upper handles down. (Figure 2)

Or it can be hung using the handle brace.

11. Do you have fuel left over from last season? Dispose of it properly. Buy fresh oil and gasoline next season.

12. Remove Tilling Tines or attachments and lightly oil tine shaft at least once a year.
2-Cycle Tiller Maintenance

HOW TO CHECK, CLEAN AND CHANGE THE AIR FILTER

1. Loosen the wing nut on the side of the air-cleaner cover. (Picture 1)
2. Take off the cover. Make sure to clear the choke button.
3. The air filter is the pad on the inside of the air-cleaner cover. Check whether it is soiled or moist.
4. If the air filter needs cleaning or no longer fits properly, remove it. Just lift an edge carefully and “peel” it out. (Picture 2)
5. Use a brush to remove debris from the pad.
6. If the air filter is so dirty that it won’t come clean, you must replace it or severe engine damage will occur. Order a new one directly from our Customer Service Dept. Call 1-800-366-6268.
7. Insert your clean filter inside the air-cleaner cover. IMPORTANT! Make sure filter is “seated” properly in the cover. The filter must fit snugly inside the rim that holds the filter in place. Installing the filter incorrectly will cause engine damage and void the warranty. Fit the cover back over the air cleaner. (Again, make sure to clear the choke button.)
8. Tighten the wing nut to secure the cover.

Note:
Please check the lip on the Air Cleaner Cover. If the lip is chipped or cracked, it should be replaced. This will prevent dirt from being ingested through the carburetor into the inside of the engine.

FUEL FILTER REPLACEMENT

The fuel filter should be replaced every year. Open the fuel cap and using the cap retainer you can remove the fuel intake line. The filter is at the end.

Hold the fuel line and work the filter out. Then just push the new one back into the tube making sure the clamping wire is up high enough to engage with the stem of the filter.
WHAT TO DO IF YOUR ENGINE IDLES TOO HIGH

What if your engine runs too fast … or if the tines turn the instant you start the Tiller? You may need to adjust the idle screw right below the H and L screws. Gently turn it counter-clockwise. You’ll know you’ve adjusted it correctly when the axles do not turn at low idle.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR ENGINE RUNS “ROUGH” CARBURATOR ADJUSTMENT

If your engine runs “rough” or stalls, you may need to adjust the carburetor and idle screws.

If you remove the air-cleaner cover, you’ll see the two carburetor, adjustment screws next to the choke button. (Picture 1)

The “RED” screw is the HIGH-speed adjustment… The “WHITE” screw is the low speed adjustment.

First, remove the tines from the axle. Then start engine. Let it run for two to three minutes. “FLASH” the choke several times during the warm-up by closing and opening it while engine runs in order to clear any air from the Fuel system.

 Now, turn the RED, high-speed screw counter-clockwise all the way to stop… Then turn the WHITE, low speed screw halfway between the counter-clockwise and clockwise stop positions.

Now restart the engine to finish the carburetor adjustment.

Run the engine at full speed two or three seconds to clear out any excess fuel. Then return to idle.

Now, accelerate the engine to full throttle several times to check for a smooth transition from idle to high speed.

If the engine hesitates turn the WHITE, low-speed screw counter-clockwise one-eighth of a turn. Then accelerate the engine.

Repeat the adjustment until you get a smooth transition to high speed.

CLEANING THE MUFFLER SCREEN

1. Take out the spark plug.
2. Remove the red cylinder cover, (#D1) which is held on by 2 phillips-head screws, (#D2) and 1 hex-head screw, (#D3) which you will need an alien wrench to remove.
3. You will see the metal exhaust guide, held on by 3 more phillips-head screws. (#C1) Remove the exhaust guide.
4. Behind the exhaust guide (#C2) will be the muffler gasket (#C3) and muffler screen (#C4). The screen sits under the gasket.
5. If the screen (#C4) is clogged with deposits, it needs to be cleaned.
Use carburetor cleaner, and any brush that is not metal. Brush the screen until you are able to see through it.
6. If the screen remains plugged after attempts at cleaning, it must be replaced.

6. Tighten muffler mounting bolts (or nuts) to 80-95 in•lbf (90-110 kgf•cm).
7. Start engine, and warm to operating temperature.
8. Stop engine, and re-tighten mounting bolts (or nuts) to specifications.
9. Install engine cover and attach spark plug lead.

WARNING • DANGER

DO NOT USE GASOLINE OR OTHER FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCE
2-Cycle Tiller Maintenance

HOW TO RESEAT THE FLANGE

At some point, you may find that the tines won’t turn when you press the throttle. This may mean the engine isn’t sitting all the way down on the worm gear housing.

Perhaps you’ve been using your Tiller for several years. Or perhaps you’ve removed the engine for use with our hedge trimmer attachment, then replaced it. In either case, the flange bolt may have come loose and lifted the engine up.

If this happened you’ll notice a gap between the bottom of the engine clutch case and the top of the worm gear housing. (Figure 1)

To fix this, loosen the flange bolt. Take the engine off the worm gear housing. Notice the hex head on top of the drive shaft. Inside the clutch case, you’ll find the clutch drum. Make sure the hex head lines up with the clutch drum inside the clutch case.

Then put the engine back on the worm gear housing. Make sure the plastic carrying handle is not under the fuel tank.

If you’ve followed these steps properly, there will be no gap between the clutch case and the worm gear housing. (Figure 2) Make sure you tighten the flange bolt!

TRANSMISSION CARE

Check the transmission grease level after the first 10 hours of use, then check yearly.

With the tines off, remove the transmission plate (Figure 3) and gasket to see if the grease level is up to the plate flange (Figure 4). If it is not, you will need to add lithium zero or lithium one grease.

Wipe off any excess grease, replace the transmission gasket and plate.
## Troubleshooting

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<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Remedy</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Tines don’t turn when throttle is depressed</td>
<td>• Engine is not seated properly on the gear housing.</td>
<td>• Re-install engine following the instructions on page 18 “How to reseat the flange”.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Engine fails to start</td>
<td>• O/I switch is in “O” position. • No fuel in tank. • Fuel strainer clogged. • Fuel line clogged. • Spark plug shorted or fouled. • Spark plug is broken (cracked porcelain or electrodes broken) • Ignition lead wire shorted, broken or disconnected from spark plug. • Ignition inoperative</td>
<td>• Move switch to “I” • Fill Tank. • Replace Strainer. • Clean fuel line. • Install new spark plug. • Replace spark plug. • Replace lead wire or attach to spark plug. • Contact your local authorized dealer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Engine hard to start.</td>
<td>• Water in gasoline or stale fuel mixture. • Too much oil in fuel mixture. • Engine under or over choked. • Carburetor out of adjustment. • Gasket leaks (carburetor or cylinder base gasket). • Weak spark at spark plug.</td>
<td>• Drain entire system and refill with fresh fuel. • Drain and refill with correct mixture. • If flooded by over choking, proceed according to instructions in operation section. If under choked, move choke lever to closed position and crank two or three times. • See “Carburetor Adjustment.” • Replace gaskets. • Contact your local authorized dealer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Engine continuously floods.</td>
<td>• Fuel tank vent line is not in an upright position.</td>
<td>• Return the fuel tank vent line to the upright position and place it under the cylinder cover in the small “pocket” in the cylinder cover.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. There is black smoke coming from exhaust</td>
<td>• The muffler screen is clogged</td>
<td>• Clean carbon from muffler screen (page 17)</td>
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<td>6. Engine misses.</td>
<td>• Dirt in fuel line or carburetor. • Carburetor improperly adjusted. • Spark plug fouled, broken or incorrect gap setting. • Weak or intermittent spark at spark plug.</td>
<td>• Clean or replace air filter. • See “Carburetor Adjustment”. • Clean carbon from muffler. • Remove muffler, rotate engine until the piston is at top of cylinder. With a wooden scraper or blunt tool, remove all carbon from exhaust ports. Be careful not to scratch or damage piston or cylinder walls. Blow out all loose carbon with compressed air. Install muffler and gasket. • Clean muffler screen (page 17) • Contact your local authorized dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Engine lacks power.</td>
<td>• Air filter clogged. • Carburetor out of adjustment. • Muffler clogged. • Clogged exhaust ports. • Spark Arrestor Clogged. • Poor compression.</td>
<td>• Clean or replace air filter. • See “Carburetor Adjustment”. • Clean carbon from muffler. • Remove muffler, rotate engine until the piston is at top of cylinder. With a wooden scraper or blunt tool, remove all carbon from exhaust ports. Be careful not to scratch or damage piston or cylinder walls. Blow out all loose carbon with compressed air. Install muffler and gasket. • Clean muffler screen (page 17) • Contact your local authorized dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Engine overheats.</td>
<td>• Insufficient oil in fuel mixture • Air flow obstructed</td>
<td>• Mix fuel as described in starting instructions. • Clean flywheel cylinder fins and screen.</td>
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<td>9. Engine noisy or knocking.</td>
<td>• Spark plug in incorrect heat range. • Bearings, piston ring or cylinder walls are worn.</td>
<td>• Replace with plugs specified for engine. • Contact your local authorized dealer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Engine stalls under load.</td>
<td>• Carburetor adjustment too “lean.” • Engine overheats.</td>
<td>• See “Carburetor Adjustment.” (page 17) • Remove dust and dirt from between fins.</td>
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*Also in key T46*
### Parts Assemblies

#### Model 7920

**SV-5CI/2 Engine**

#### Model 7924

**SV-5CI/2 Engine**

#### Carburetor - C1U-K82

**Explosion A**

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#### Air Cleaner

**Explosion B**

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*See Carburetor Diagram For Details*

#### Muffler

**Explosion C**

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Parts Assemblies

Model 7920
SV-5Ci/2 Engine

Model 7924
SV-5Ci/2 Engine

Engine Cover, Fan case, Clutch Case & Clutch
Explosion D

Ignition, Engine & Short Block
Explosion E

Contact us at www.mantis.com
ECHO INCORPORATED EMISSION CONTROL WARRANTY STATEMENT
FOR ECHO AND SHINDAIWA BRANDS

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and ECHO Incorporated (ECHO Inc.) are pleased to explain the emission control system warranty on your 2010 and later equipment/small off-road engine (SORE). New equipment/SORE must be designed, built and equipped to meet stringent EPA anti-smog standards. ECHO Inc. must warrant the emission control system on your equipment/SORE for the periods of time listed below, provided there has been no abuse, neglect or improper maintenance of your equipment/SORE. Your emission control system may include parts such as: carburetor, fuel-injection system, ignition system, catalytic converter/muffler, fuel tank, fuel feed lines, fuel cap assembly, spark plug, air filters, and other associated components. Where a warrantable condition exists, ECHO Inc will repair your equipment/SORE at no cost to you including diagnosis, parts and labor. The Emission Control System warranty is extended to the original owner including all subsequent owners.

MANUFACTURER’S WARRANTY COVERAGE:
The emission control system is warranted for 2 years or the length of the ECHO Inc. warranty, whichever is longer. If any emission-related part on your equipment is defective, the part will be repaired or replaced by ECHO Inc. or its Authorized Service Representative.

OWNER’S WARRANTY RESPONSIBILITIES:
As the equipment/SORE owner, you are responsible for the performance of the required maintenance listed in your Operator's Manual. ECHO Inc. recommends that you retain all receipts covering maintenance on your equipment/SORE however, ECHO Inc. cannot deny warranty solely for the lack of receipts or for your failure to ensure the performance of all scheduled maintenance. As the equipment/SORE owner, you should be aware that ECHO Inc. may deny you warranty coverage if your equipment/SORE or a part has failed due to abuse, neglect, improper maintenance or unapproved modifications.

You are responsible for presenting your equipment/SORE to an ECHO Inc. authorized service representative as soon as a problem exists. The warranty repairs should be completed in a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed 30 days. If a warrantable condition exists and there is no Authorized Dealer within 100 miles, ECHO Inc. will pay to ship the unit to the nearest authorized dealer. If you have questions regarding your warranty coverage, you should contact ECHO Inc. at 1-800-673-1558, web site WWW.ECHO-USA.COM or contact Shindaiwa at 1-877-986-7783, web site WWW.SHINDAIWA.COM.

WHAT DOES THIS WARRANTY COVER?
ECHO Inc. warrants that your equipment/SORE was designed, built and equipped to conform with applicable EPA emissions standards and that your equipment/SORE is free from defects in material and workmanship that would cause it to fail to conform with applicable requirements for 2 years or the length of the ECHO Inc. warranty, whichever is longer. The warranty period begins on the date the product is purchased by an end user.

HOW WILL A COVERED PART BE CORRECTED?
If there is a defect in a part covered by this warranty, any ECHO Inc. Authorized Service Dealer will correct the defect. You will not have to pay anything to have the part adjusted, repaired or replaced. This includes any labor and diagnosis for warranted repairs performed by the dealer. In addition, engine parts not expressly covered under this warranty but whose failure is a result of a failure of a covered part will be warranted.

WHAT PARTS ARE COVERED?
Any applicable emission related part not scheduled for “required maintenance” will be repaired or replaced within the warranty period. The repaired or replaced part will be warranted for the remaining ECHO Inc. warranty period.

Any warranted part that is scheduled only for regular inspection in the written instructions supplied is warranted for the warranty period stated above. Such part repaired or replaced under warranty will be warranted for the remaining ECHO Inc. warranty period.

Any emission related part scheduled for replacement during “required maintenance” is warranted for the period of time prior to the first scheduled replacement point for that part. Any such part repaired or replaced under warranty shall be warranted for the remainder of the period prior to the first scheduled replacement point for that part.

Any manufacturer-approved replacement part may be used in the performance of any warranty maintenance or repairs on emission related parts, and must be provided without charge if the part is still under warranty.

Any replacement part that is equivalent in performance and durability may be used in non-warranty maintenance or repairs, and shall not reduce the warranty obligations of the manufacturer.

Throughout the equipment/SORE warranty period, ECHO Inc. will maintain a supply of warranted parts sufficient to meet the expected demand for such parts.

SPECIFIC EMISSION RELATED WARRANTED PARTS:
• Electronic Ignition System  • Spark Plug
• Catalytic Converter / Muffler Assembly  • Carburetor (complete assembly or replaceable components)
• Choke  • Fuel-Injection Assembly (or replaceable components)
• Fuel Tank  • Fuel Cap Assembly
• Air Filter  • Fuel Feed Line (and associated clamps/connectors as applicable)

WHAT IS NOT COVERED?
Any failure caused by abuse, neglect, improper maintenance, unapproved modifications, use of unapproved add-on parts/modified parts or unapproved accessories.

This Emission Control Warranty is valid only for the U.S.A., its Territories, and Canada.

Contact us at www.mantis.com

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LIMITED WARRANTY

MANTIS extends this limited warranty against defects in material and workmanship for a period of two (2) years under normal usage for residential purposes and two (2) years under normal usage for commercial purposes, from the date of purchase by the original purchaser.

MANTIS will repair or replace, at its option, any part or parts of the product found to be defective in material or workmanship during the warranty period. Warranty repairs and replacements will be made without charge for parts or labor. All parts replaced under warranty will be considered as part of the original product, and any warranty on the replaced parts will expire coincident with the original product warranty. If you think your MANTIS TILLER is defective in material or workmanship, please contact customer service at 800-366-6268 for the location of an authorized servicing dealer or repair center. You will be responsible for pickup and delivery charges.

MANTIS assumes no responsibility in the event that the product was not assembled or used in compliance with any assembly, care, safety, or operating instructions contained in the Operators Manual or accompanying the product. This limited warranty does not cover damages or defects due to normal wear and tear, lack of reasonable and proper maintenance, failure to follow operating instructions or operators manual, misuse, lack of proper storage or accidents. This limited warranty shall not be effective if your Mantis tiller has been subjected to negligence or has been repaired or altered by anyone other than an authorized dealer or authorized service center.

You must maintain your MANTIS TILLER by following the maintenance procedures described in the operators manual. Such routine maintenance, whether performed by you or a dealer, is at your expense.

MANTIS MAKES NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, REPRESENTATIONS OR PROMISES EXCEPT THOSE CONTAINED HEREIN. THERE ARE NO OTHER WARRANTIES, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. ALL WARRANTIES OTHER THAN THE EXPRESS WARRANTY SET FORTH ABOVE ARE SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMED. THE DURATION OF ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY, INCLUDING MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, IS LIMITED TO THE DURATION OF THIS WRITTEN LIMITED WARRANTY. MANTIS DISCLAIMS ALL LIABILITY FOR INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL AND/OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OF THE MANTIS PRODUCTS COVERED BY THIS WARRANTY. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS AND/OR DO NOT ALLOW THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THAT ABOVE LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. THIS WARRANTY GIVES YOU SPECIFIC LEGAL RIGHTS, AND YOU MAY ALSO HAVE OTHER RIGHTS WHICH VARY FROM STATES TO STATE.

MANTIS
1028 Street Road
Southampton, PA 18966
(215) 355-9700

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