

MICHIGAN FFA ZERO TURN MOWER SAFETY, MAINTENANCE & OPERATION - TEST BANK KEY

NOTE: These are examples of the type and subject of the questions you may see. They may appear re-worded or in another form at the contest. The answers can be found on www.exmark.com

Which of the following safety alert symbols is WHITE LETTERING with a RED background?

- A. Maintenance
- B. Caution !
- C. Warning !
- D. **Danger !**

Which of the following safety alert symbols Indicates a potentially hazardous which, if not avoided MAY result in minor or moderate injury?

- A. Maintenance
- B. **Caution !**
- C. Warning !
- D. Danger !

Which is the most dangerous way to mow with a riding Zero Turn Radius Mid-Deck Mower?

- A. **Mowing Down a slope.**
- B. Mowing Up a slope
- C. Mowing Across a slope
- D. Mowing on a area with zero slope.

What should you use near drop-offs, ditches, steep banks or water?

- A. Mid-Deck ZTR
- B. Walk Behind 21 inch mower
- C. String Trimmer
- D. **Both B & C**
- E. None of the above

When do you wear a seat belt on a Zero Turn Rider?

- A. Going down a slope
- B. Going across a slope
- C. **Only if there is a ROPS in place.**
- D. Only if NO ROPS is in place

How can you reduce the chances of shooting a rock across a yard into a window when mowing?

- A. **Have the discharge chute deflector shield lowered and mow with the discharge chute away from the building.**
- B. Have the discharge chute deflector shield up and mow with the discharge chute towards the building.
- C. Mow at half throttle
- D. Mow slowly

What do you do when crossing surfaces other than grass with any mower and when transporting the mower to and from the yard and trailer/truck to prevent damage to bystanders and property?

- A. Turn on the blade PTO switch
- B. Raise the deck
- C. Turn off the blade PTO switch
- D. **Both B & C**

Before checking, cleaning or working on the mower, refueling, dumping the grass catcher, striking a foreign object, clearing blockages or leaving the mower; what do you do?

- A. Release the seat belt and get off the ZTR mower quickly.
- B. Stop the engine, wait for all moving parts to stop and remove the key.
- C. Fuel immediately because your boss says we are behind schedule.
- D. Drive immediately to the garage with the PTO on and clear the blockage.

Before stopping the engine on a Commercial ZTR mower, what do you do to prevent backfire and make the engine last longer?

- A. Speed up the blades to cool the mower on a concrete surface.
- B. Turn off the PTO, Set the parking brake, Throttle back to at least midway and let the engine run to cool off.
- C. Run the engine at full speed.
- D. Just turn it off and jump off.

If one of the safety guards on a commercial mower that covers the serpentine belt that turns the blades is damaged or missing what should you do?

- A. Be more cautious than usual when mowing.
- B. Report the problem to you supervisor, tag it for repair and not use the mower until it is repaired.
- C. Be more cautious when refueling.
- D. Do nothing.

If an electric start ZTR mower is going to be not used for 30 or more days; what is the most important thing you should you do?

- A. Disconnect the battery cable from the negative (-) post and put Sta-Bil in the gas tank.
- B. Cover it up to keep it from getting dusty.
- C. Lock it up.
- D. Do nothing.

If you lose a owner's manual or parts manual for a mower, what information do you need to find a replacement at your dealer or online?

- A. The color of the mower
- B. When you bought it.
- C. The size of the mower
- D. The name of the manufacturer, model number and serial number of the mower.

If you get up in your seat on a ZTR while the PTO is engaged the mower SHOULD shut off or it should be tagged and placed out of service until repaired.

- A. True
- B. False

What makes the owner's manual so important to the correct operation of the rotary mower?

- A. Each piece of equipment is different and may have a different procedure for starting, operation and maintenance .
- B. The rotary mower will be rendered inoperable without the owner's manual
- C. The owner's manual is necessary if the rotary mower ever needs to be returned to the manufacturer
- D. The owner's manual contains a warranty the consumer needs to understand the rotary mower

Why is it important to disconnect the spark plug when performing any service on the rotary mower?

- A . It helps to keep the engine cold
- B . It is impossible to perform service without disconnecting the spark plug

- C. It eliminates the chance the engine can start accidentally
- D. It ensures the mower will not stop working after the service is complete

Where should refueling take place?

- A. On concrete
- B. On tile
- C. On carpet
- D. On grass

On a pull start engine, if the choke is used to help start the engine how many pulls on the starter cord are appropriate before disengaging the choke?

- A. One or two pulls
- B. Three or four pulls
- C. Five or six pulls
- D. Ten pulls

How often is the oil changed in a commercial grade air cooled engine like a Kohler Command Pro?

- A. Every 100 hours of operation
- B. Every 75 hours of operation
- C. Every 50 hours of operation
- D. Every 25 hours of operation

Never mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary - carefully look for others behind you when you do.

- A. True
- B. False

How often are the blades sharpened on a commercial ZTR mower to maintain fuel efficiency and prevent turf tip shredding?

- A. Every 100 hours of operation
- B. Every 75 hours of operation
- C. Every 50 hours of operation
- D. Whenever they become dull or every 8-10 hours of operation.

Why is it important to balance the blade after sharpening?

- A. An out-of-balance blade will cause the mower to stop working
- B. Balancing the blade is necessary to make sure sharpening was done properly
- C. An out-of-balance blade will cause the mower to vibrate excessively and will damage the equipment
- D. Balancing the blade ensures each part of the mower is cleaned evenly

Do not add gasoline to a running or hot engine and never leave the machine running in an enclosed area.

- A. True
- B. False

As with other power tools and equipment, do not operate a lawn mower when consuming alcohol.

- A. True
- B. False

Wear appropriate clothing - significant footwear, long pants, eye and hearing protection.

- A. True
- B. False

Pick up stones, toys and debris from the lawn to prevent injuries and damage from flying objects.

A. True

B. False

Never allow children to be passengers on ride-on mowers.

A. True

B. False

Keep children and pets a safe distance from the area you are mowing. Use extreme care near blind corners and around objects that may block you from seeing a child.

A. True

B. False

Do not operate without the grass catcher, discharge chute, or other safety devices in place and working.

A. True

B. False

Be careful when mowing slopes over 15 degrees.

A. True

B. False

Do not mow in wet conditions because it affects traction and clogging of the discharge chute

A. True

B. False

Never mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary - carefully look for others behind you when you do.

A. True

B. False

Turn off the mower and wait for blade(s) to stop completely before leaving the mower, removing the grass catcher, picking up debris, or crossing gravel roads or paths.

A. True

B. False

Let the mower cool before refueling, cleaning and storing.

A. True

B. False

Follow all directions - including turning off the engine and disconnecting the spark plug or electric cord - before working on the mower or trying to unclog the discharge chute.

A. True

B. False

ROPS, in the fully raised position, can prevent an operator from being pinned under their machine if they do not wear their seat belt.

A. True

B. False

In combination with seat belts, ROPS are shown to be highly effective in preventing serious injuries or deaths if the equipment overturns.

A. True

B. False

The ROPS bar must be in the fully raised position - an operator is not protected by a ROPS bar that is folded or partially raised.

A. True

B. False

ROPS is an important safety feature; it is not a substitute for driving safely and consciously choosing to avoid hazards.

A. True

B. False

Make sure safety equipment such as the deflector shield, ROPS and safety interlocks are functional and utilized. Never bypass or remove any safety equipment.

A. True

B. False

To maximize safety, performance and proper operation of the machine, it is essential that all operators carefully read and fully understand the contents of the operating manual.

A. True

B. False

Failure to comply with the operating instructions or receive proper training may result in injury.

A. True

B. False

In the interest of safety, keep your speed under control and operate the control levers with smooth, even pressure.

A. True

B. False

The maximum degree of slope you can mow with a mid-deck ZTR mower and stay in the safety zone is:

A. 10%

B. 15%

C. 20%

D. 30%

When using a bagging attachment, remember the weight of the grass clippings does not affect the stability of the mower.

A. True

B. False

When operating a zero-turn riding mower, it's important to review the area to be mowed, and note all hazards before beginning.

A. True

B. False

Allow plenty of safe clearance in the vicinity of drop-offs and on unstable ground surrounding ponds, drainage ditches and other bodies of water.

A. True

B. False

A good guide is to allow a safe area of two mower widths when mowing near ponds, retaining walls, drainage ditches or drop offs.

- A. True
- B. False

Hand trim when mowing near ponds, retaining walls, drainage ditches or drop offs. with a walk-behind mower and/or string trimmer.

- A. True
- B. False

Keep the roll bar in the fully raised and locked position, and use your seat belt when operating the mower.

- A. True
- B. False

Safety basics when operating any mowing equipment:

- A. Wear goggles and protective hearing devices.
- B. Read the manual and safety decals.
- C. Avoid drugs and alcohol.
- D. All The Above

Clean your ZTR unit as often as possible, but minimize the use of water. Water under pressure + detergent = corrosion and problems. Use compressed air or blowers as much as possible.

- A. True
- B. False

Make sure you grease and lubricate the ZTR unit afterward if water was used to clean it.

- A. True
- B. False

At least once a year, clean and repack the electrical connections of your ZTR mower with dielectric grease.

- A. True
- B. False

Do Not use synthetic oil in your ZTR engine during the break-in period.

- A. True
- B. False

Oxygenated fuels have a shelf life of 30 days (fuels containing alcohol-ethanol blends or MTBE-methyl tertiary butyl ether). Mark the date on your gas can when you fill it.

- A. True
- B. False

Use gas that contains over 10 percent alcohol or 15 percent MTBE in your ZTR air cooled engine.

- A. True
- B. False

After replacing the serpentine belt on your ZTR; always check the adjustment on a new belt, often. Check the belt three times in the first 24 hours of use, and adjust it if necessary.

- A. True

B. False

Dull blades tear leaf tips, making them susceptible to dieback and pests.

A. True

B. False

A dull blade increases the load on the belts, bearings and engine resulting in premature wear.

A. True

B. False

Add fuel before starting the engine. Never remove the cap of the fuel tank or add fuel when engine is running or when the engine is hot.

A. True

B. False

If fuel is spilled, Do Not attempt to start the engine. Move away from the area of the spill and avoid creating any source of ignition until fuel vapors have dissipated.

A. True

B. False

Do Not operate without entire exhaust system in place and in proper working condition.

A. True

B. False

Do Not fill the fuel tank completely full. Fill the fuel tank to the bottom of the filler neck. The empty space in the tank allows gasoline to expand.

A. True

B. False

Fill the fuel tank outdoors on level ground, in an open area, when the engine is cold. Wipe up any gasoline that spills.

A. True

B. False

Never refill the fuel tank or drain the machine indoors or inside an enclosed trailer.

A. True

B. False

Always place gasoline containers on the ground first away from your vehicle before filling to avoid release of a static charge.

A. True

B. False

When practical, remove gas-powered equipment from the truck or trailer and refuel the equipment with its wheels on the ground to avoid release of a static charge.

A. True

B. False

If a gasoline pump dispenser nozzle must be used while the mower is on a trailer, keep the nozzle in contact with the rim of the fuel tank or container opening at all times until fueling is complete to avoid release of a static charge.

A. True

B. False

Keep cell phones in the cab of your truck while fueling your ZTR or gasoline containers to avoid release of a static charge.

- A. True
- B. False

Fuel tank vent is located inside the roll bar tube. Removing or modifying the roll bar could result in fuel leakage and violate emissions regulations.

- A. True
- B. False

Check that the operator's presence controls, safety switches, and shields are attached and functioning properly. Do Not operate the ZTR mower unless they are functioning properly.

- A. True
- B. False

Allow engine parts, especially the muffler, to cool before touching.

- A. True
- B. False

Remove accumulated debris from muffler and engine area prior to mowing each day. Debris, such as leaves, grass, brush, etc. can catch fire.

- A. True
- B. False

Do Not run engine indoors or in a small confined area where dangerous carbon monoxide fumes can collect as they can kill you.

- A. True
- B. False

Be sure all drives are in neutral and parking brake is engaged before starting engine

- A. True
- B. False

Never operate the mower with damaged guards, shields, or covers. Always have safety shields, guards, switches and other devices in place and in proper working condition.

- A. True
- B. False

Never mow with the discharge deflector raised, removed or altered unless there is a grass collection system or mulch kit in place and working properly.

- A. True
- B. False

Park machine on level ground. Stop engine, wait for all moving parts to stop, remove key and engage parking brake:

- A. Before checking, cleaning or working on the mower.
- B. After striking a foreign object or abnormal vibration occurs (inspect the mower for damage and make repairs before restarting and operating the mower).
- C. Before clearing blockages.
- D. Whenever you leave the mower
- E. All The Above

Stop engine, wait for all moving parts to stop, and engage parking brake:

- A. Before refueling.
- B. Before dumping the grass catcher.
- C. Both A & B
- D. None of the Above

Keep hands, feet, hair, jewelry, or clothing away from rotating parts.

- A. True
- B. False

NEVER carry passengers. DO NOT operate the mower when people, especially children, or pets are in the area.

- A. True
- B. False

Be alert, slow down and use caution when making turns. Look behind and to the side before changing directions.

- A. True
- B. False

Stop the blades, slow down, and use caution when crossing surfaces other than grass and when transporting the mower to and from the area to be mowed.

- A. True
- B. False

Be aware of the mower discharge path and direct discharge away from others, buildings and vehicles.

- A. True
- B. False

Use extreme care when loading or unloading the machine into a trailer or truck.

- A. True
- B. False

Use care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may obscure vision.

- A. True
- B. False

Use Extreme caution when mowing and/or turning on slopes as loss of traction and/or tip-over could occur.

- A. True
- B. False

Remove or mark obstacles such as rocks, tree limbs, etc. from the mowing area. Tall grass can hide obstacles.

- A. True
- B. False

Watch for ditches, holes, rocks, dips and rises that change the operating angle, as rough terrain could overturn the machine.

- A. True
- B. False

Avoid sudden starts when mowing uphill because the mower may tip backwards.

- A. True

B. False

Be aware that operating on wet grass, across steep slopes or downhill may cause the mower to lose traction. Loss of traction to the drive wheels may result in sliding and a loss of braking and steering.

A. True

B. False

Always avoid sudden starting or stopping on a slope. If tires lose traction, disengage the blades and proceed slowly off the slope.

A. True

B. False

Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for wheel weights or counter weights to improve stability.

A. True

B. False

Use extreme care with grass catchers or attachments. These can change the stability of the machine and cause loss of control.

A. True

B. False

Check carefully for overhead clearances (i.e. branches, doorways, and electrical wires) before driving under any objects and Do Not contact them.

A. True

B. False

Disconnect battery or remove spark plug wire before making any repairs. Disconnect the negative terminal first and the positive last. Reconnect positive first and negative last.

A. True

B. False

Use care when checking blades. Wrap the blade(s) or wear gloves, and use caution when servicing them. Only replace damaged blades. Never straighten or weld them.

A. True

B. False

Keep hands and feet away from moving parts. If possible, Do Not make adjustments with the engine running.

A. True

B. False

Do Not wear seat belt when the roll bar is down.

A. True

B. False

Lower the roll bar only when absolutely necessary.

A. True

B. False

Charge batteries in an open well ventilated area, away from spark and flames. Unplug charger before connecting or disconnecting from battery. Wear protective clothing and use insulated tools.

A. True

B. False

Be sure ignition switch is in the "OFF" position before charging the battery.

- A. True
- B. False

Check all bolts frequently to maintain proper tightness.

- A. True
- B. False

Frequently check for worn or deteriorating components that could create a hazard.

- A. True
- B. False

Keep body and hands away from pinhole leaks or nozzles that eject high pressure hydraulic fluid.

- A. True
- B. False

Use cardboard or paper, not your hands, to find hydraulic leaks.

- A. True
- B. False

Safely relieve all pressure in the hydraulic system by placing the motion control levers in neutral and shutting off the engine before performing any work on the hydraulic system.

- A. True
- B. False

PTO must be disengaged, brake engaged, and motion control levers out (neutral lock) to start engine. (It is not necessary for the operator to be in the seat to start the engine.)

- A. True
- B. False

Operator must be in seat when PTO is engaged, brake is disengaged, or motion control levers are moved in or engine will stop.

- A. True
- B. False

Engine will stop if either the left, the right, or both levers are moved from neutral lock position while parking brake is engaged.

- A. True
- B. False

Separate levers, on each side of the console, control speed and direction of travel of the respective drive wheels.

- A. True
- B. False

Steering is controlled by varying the position of the levers relative to each other.

- A. True
- B. False

Moving motion control levers outward (in slots) locks the drive system in neutral.

- A. True
- B. False

PTO Engagement Switch: Engages electric clutch (to drive belt) which engages mower blades

- A. True
- B. False

Parking Brake Lever: Engages parking brake.

- A. True
- B. False

Deck Height Adjustment Lever: Sets cutting height to desired position.

- A. True
- B. False

Deck Lift Assist Pedal: Foot pedal that lifts deck.

- A. True
- B. False

Curb weight of most 60" Mid-Deck ZTR Mowers

- A. 600 lb.
- B. 800 lb.
- C. 900 lb.
- D. 1200 lb

Tire Pressures should be checked with a gauge to spec PSI every:

- A. Day
- B. 20 Hours
- C. 40 Hours
- D. 100 Hours

Tire Pressure on a eXmark LHP23KC523 ZTR should be what psi on both the Drive Wheels (23 x 9.50-12) and Caster Wheels (13 x 5.00-6) for best performance and cut?

- A. 5 psi
- B. 13 psi
- C. 30 psi
- D. 50 psi

How often should you clean the grass build-up from under the deck?

- A. Daily
- B. Every 50 Hours
- C. Every 100 Hours
- D. Every 200 Hours