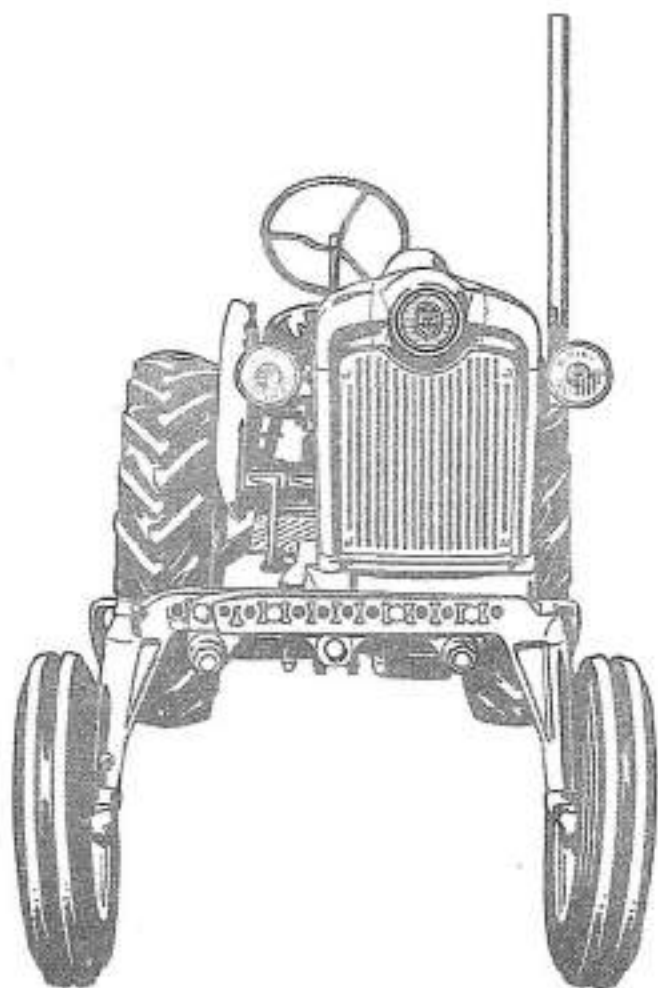


FORD

Owner's Manual Supplement

OFFSET TRACTOR

Series 501



Prepared by
TRACTOR AND IMPLEMENT DIVISION
FORD MOTOR COMPANY

www.ntractorclub.com

STANDARD AND OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT CHART

STANDARD EQUIPMENT	MODELS			541	541-4
	134 Cu. In. Gasoline Engine			X	X
	Vertical Exhaust			X	X
	Linkage Type Draw Bar			X	X
	3 Point Linkage			X	X
	Adjustable Toplink			X	X
	Hydraulic System			X	X
	4-Speed Transmission			X	X
	Transmission Driven P.T.O.			X	X
	550 - 16	4 Ply	Front Tires	X	X
OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT	10 - 28	4 Ply	Rear Tires	X	
	10 - 38	4 Ply	Rear Tires		X
	300 Lb. Stabilizer Weight			X	X
	Diesel Engine			X	X
	LP-Gas Engine			X	X
	Hydraulic Remote Control Valve			X	X
	11 x 28	4 Ply	Rear Tires	X	
	12 x 38	4 Ply	Rear Tires		X
	Manifold Heater Kit (For Diesel Tractor Only)			X	X

FOREWARD

Your new Series 501 Ford Offset Tractor is basically the same as the Model 741 tractor with the required modifications to obtain the offset feature. Model 541 is the standard offset tractor, Model 541-4 is the high clearance offset.

Information given in this manual covers only the portions of your tractor that are different from the Model 741 and should be used as a supplement to the regular owner's manual included in your owner's envelope.

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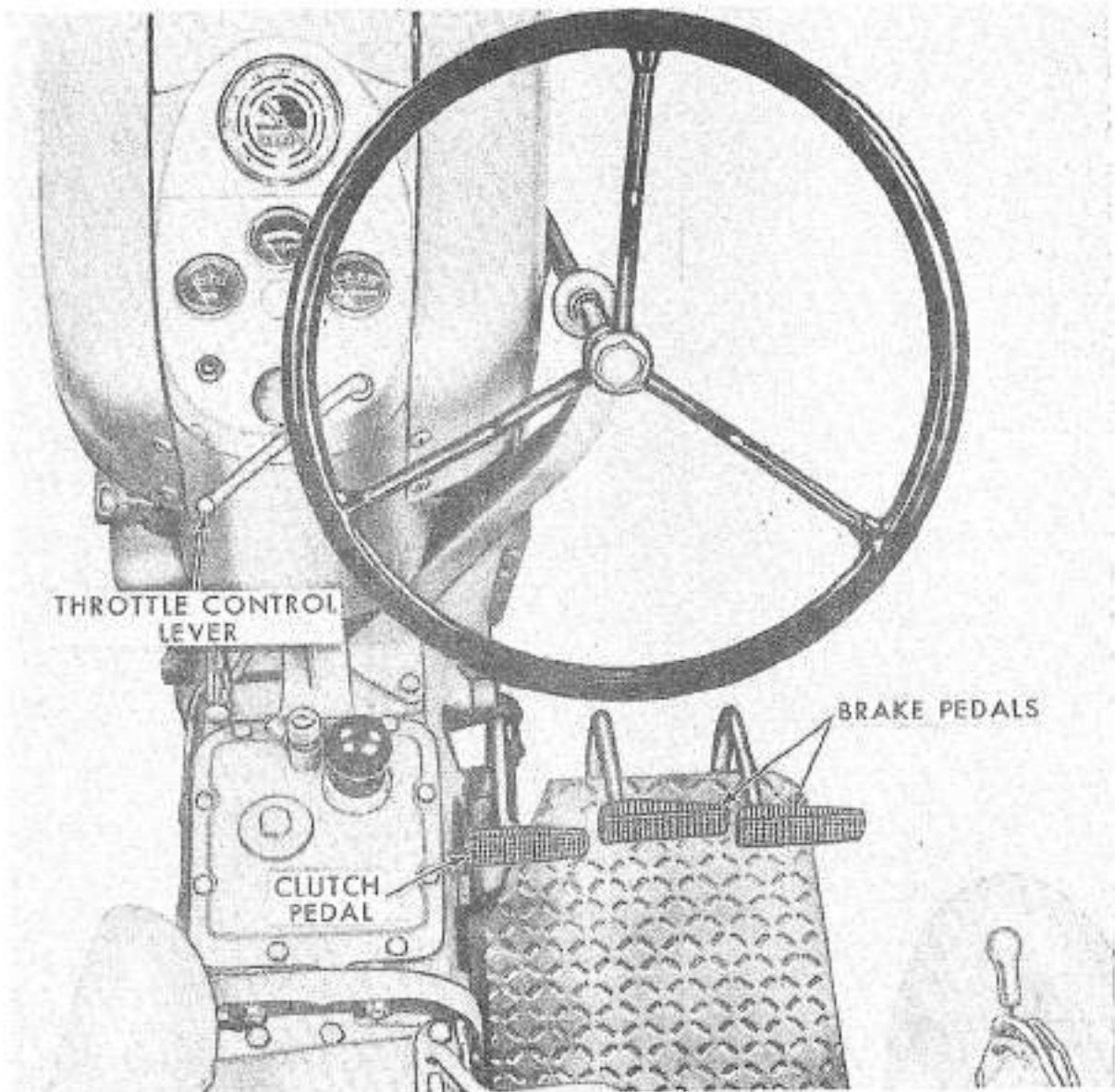


Figure 1
Controls and Instruments

CONTROLS

The design of the offset tractor necessitated the relocation of some of the controls as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

The throttle control lever is located on the right side of the instrument panel. Push the lever up to increase the engine speed. On diesel engine equipped tractors, the throttle lever must be pulled all the way down to shut the engine off.

The clutch pedal, brake pedals, brake pedal locks and power take-off lever are located as shown. The operation of these controls remain

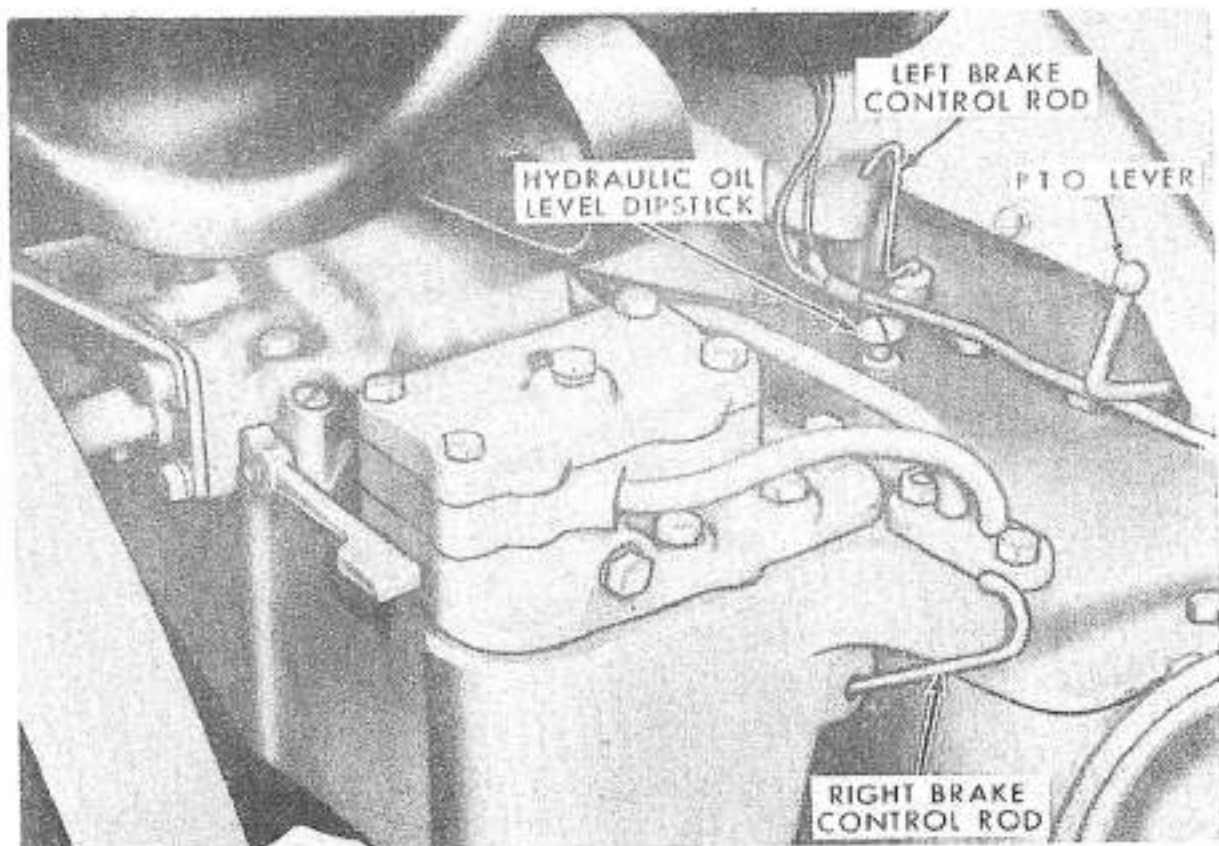


Figure 2
Brake Pedal Locks and P.T.O. Lever

the same as described in the Model 741 owner's manual supplied with your tractor.

OPERATION

Attaching Implements: Most implements can be easily and quickly attached to the tractor three point linkage. Operation of the lift links, leveling crank and three hole rocker shown in Figure 3 are the same as described in the Model 741 owner's manual.

The adjustable top link may be adjusted to suit implement operation requirements by releasing the lock and rotating the sleeve until the desired length is obtained. The standard length of 25 inches (as opposed to 23 on the Model 741) is obtained by adjusting the link as shown on a decal located on the sleeve (see Figure 3).

Drawbar: The linkage drawbar, Figure 4, which fits between the lower links is standard equipment on the offset tractor. The drawbar stays, Figure 4, should always be used with the linkage drawbar. Lock the lift control lever in the down position, see insert, Figure 4, to pre-

vent the operator from using the hydraulic system. The swinging drawbar, sold as an accessory, can be used by removing the left link as shown in Figure 5.

WHEEL TREAD ADJUSTMENT

Front Wheels: The front wheel tread adjustment for the offset tractor can be varied from 40" to 78" in approximately 4" spacings. To change the tread width, place a jack under the forward end of the transmission housing and lift the front wheels off the ground. Adjust one axle section at a time by first removing the two hex head bolts (1), Figure 6, that secure the axle half to the center axle. Then, remove the connecting rod square head set screw (2). Position the axle half in or out to obtain the desired wheel spacing.

Replace the hex head axle bolts (1), making sure there are at least two holes between each bolt. Install the flat washers and nuts and tighten the nuts evenly.

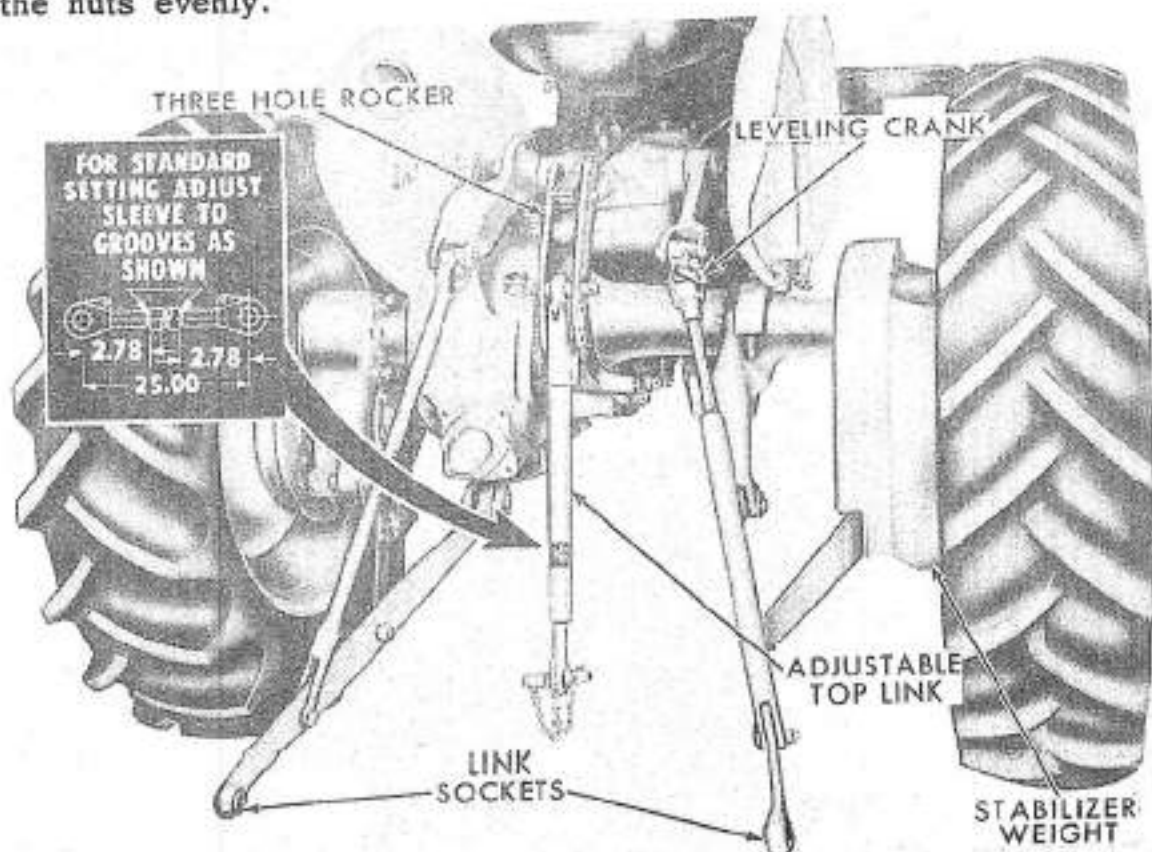


Figure 3

Leveling Crank and Adjustable Top Link

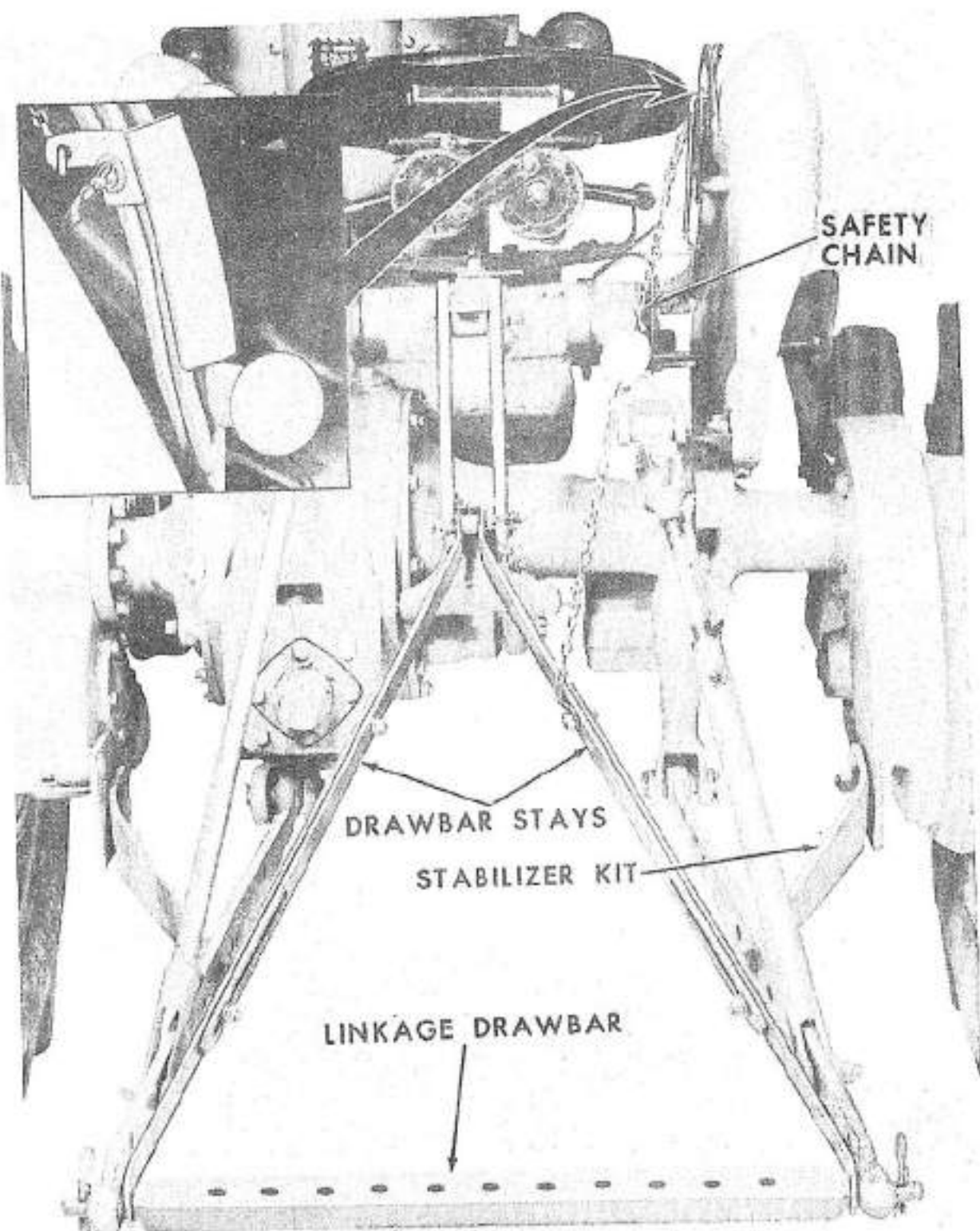


Figure 4
Drawbar Stays and Safety Chain

With the front wheels in the straight ahead position, align the hole in each spindle arm sleeve with the proper dimple in the connecting rod. This is best accomplished by looking through the hole in the sleeve to

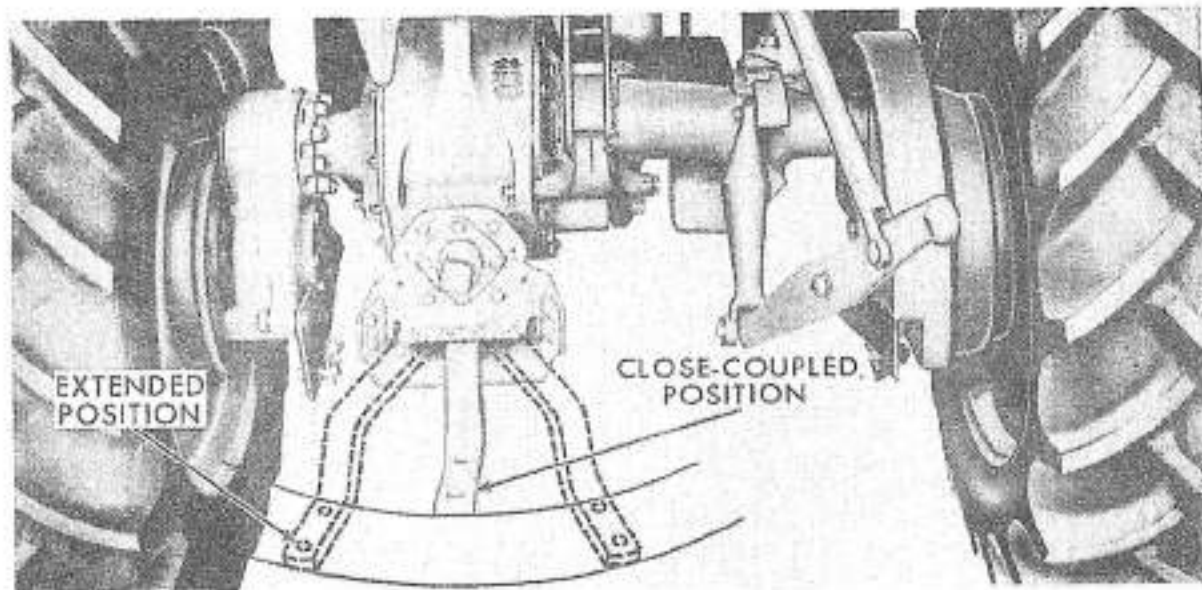


Figure 5
Swinging Drawbar

locate the dimple in the rod. Install the set screw (2), and securely tighten the lock nut.

An additional wheel spacing of 86" can be obtained by reversing the front wheels at the 78" spacing.

Normally, it will not be necessary to make a toe-in adjustment after changing tread width, but it should be checked after changing tread width.

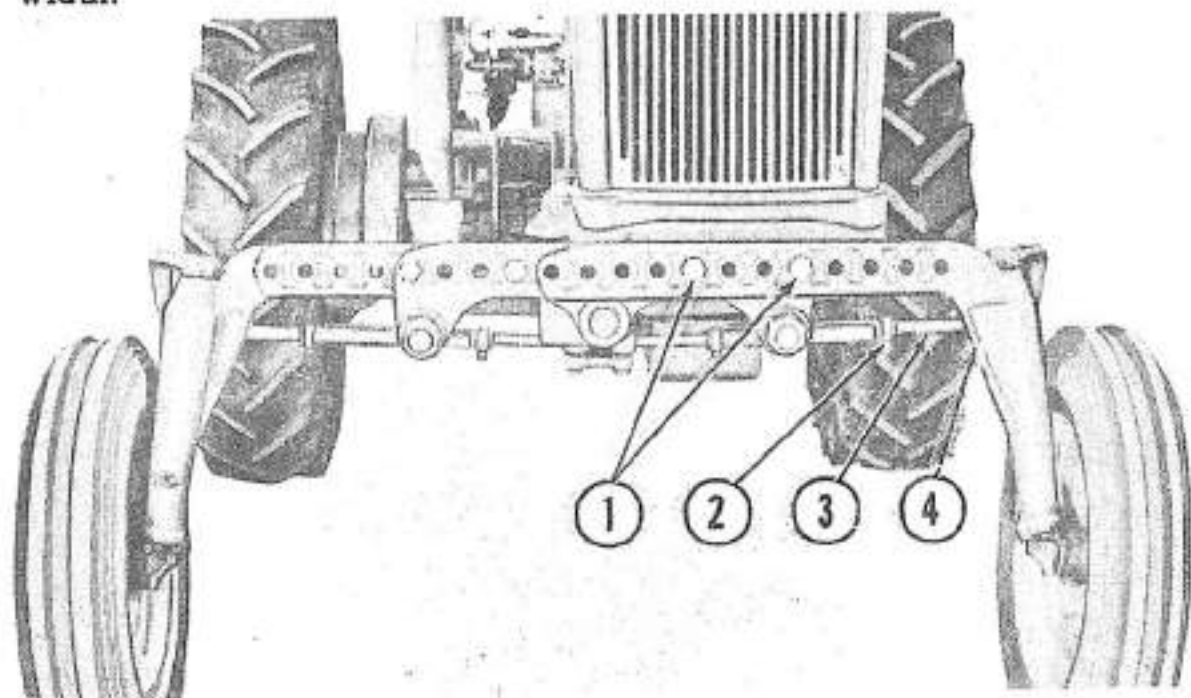


Figure 6
Front Axle Adjustment

Rear Wheels: The rear wheels are adjustable from 40 to 68 inches. The 40" tread width can be obtained only when standard 10" tires are used. Tread width settings are made by changing the position of the wheel discs and the rims to any of the positions shown in Figure 7. To change from the 40 inch tread width to the 68 inch width, it is only necessary to change the wheels from one side of the tractor to the other. Three other wheel changes are similar as shown at the top of Figure 7.

NOTE: Figure 7 shows only one tractor wheel. Additional spacings of 72 and 76 inches can be obtained with the use of 2 inch or 4 inch spacers available from your Ford Tractor and Implement Dealer.

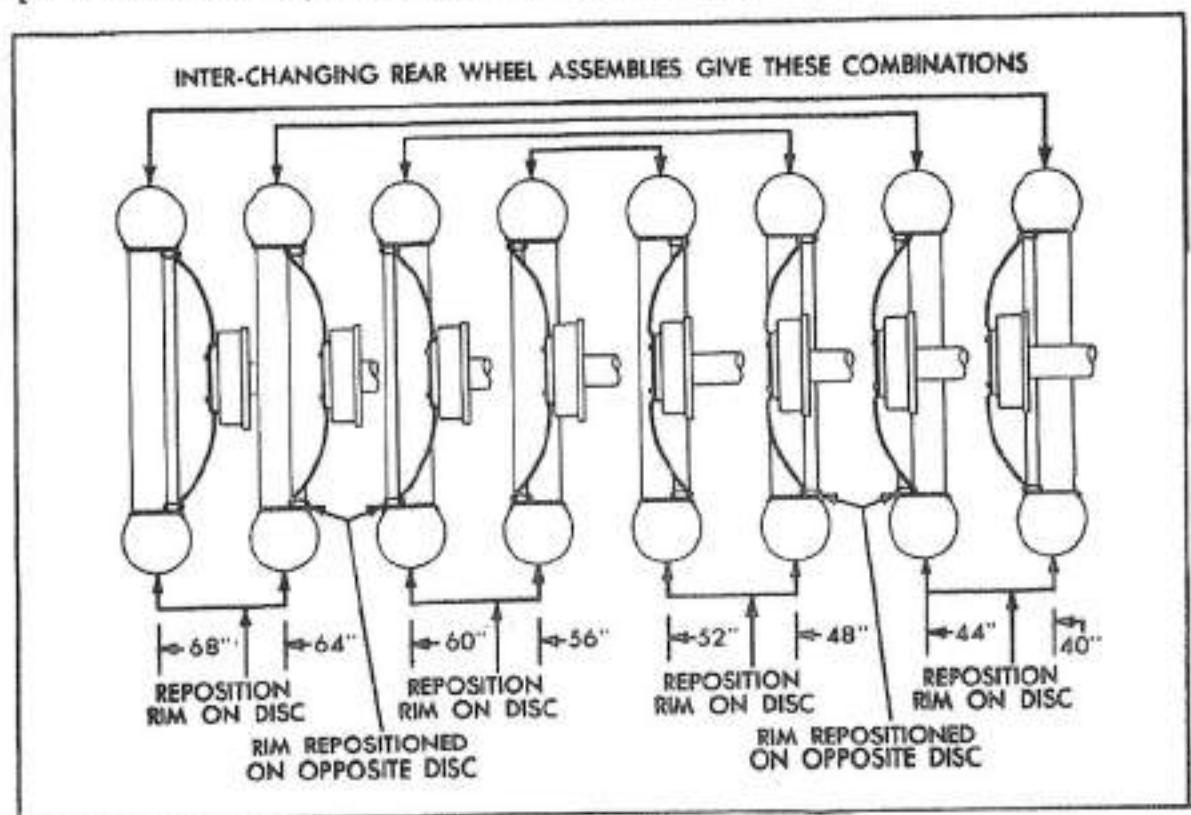


Figure 7
Rear Wheel Tread Adjustments

TOE-IN ADJUSTMENT

Toe-in adjustment is accomplished by loosening the spindle connecting rod clamp bolts (4), Figure 6, and the set screw (2). Lengthen or shorten the connecting rods (3), by turning them. Correct toe-in is obtained when a difference of 1/4" exists between the tread widths.

measured at hub height at the front and rear of the front tires. When adjusting toe-in, always make certain both rods are the same length by measuring and comparing the rod lengths. Tighten the clamp bolts (4), and set screws (2), securely.

To provide greater stability of the offset tractor, a 300 lb. stabilizer weight, shown in Figure 3, has been added to the right-hand final drive housing. This weight remains on the tractor at all times and need not be removed for making wheel tread adjustments.

Wheel Weight: Liquid ballast or cast iron weights can be used on the offset tractor. The following information should be used in conjunction with the information in the Model 741 owner's manual:

MAXIMUM CALCIUM CHLORIDE SOLUTION CAPACITIES (90% Fill)

Size of Tire	10 x 28	10 x 38
Pounds of Calcium Chloride	116	157
Gallons of Water	23	31
Weight of Solution	310 Lbs.	416 Lbs.
Inflation Pressure	12	12
Maximum Lbs. Tire Load Per Wheel	1575	1820

MAINTENANCE

Clutch Adjustment: To obtain proper operation and to insure the longest possible clutch life, it is necessary to maintain the recommended clutch pedal height and pedal free travel adjustments. For proper height the clutch pedal should be in line with the brake pedal.

To adjust the pedal height, turn the adjusting screw, shown in Figure 8, out to decrease height or in to increase height.

Pedal free travel is the distance the clutch pedal can be pushed down

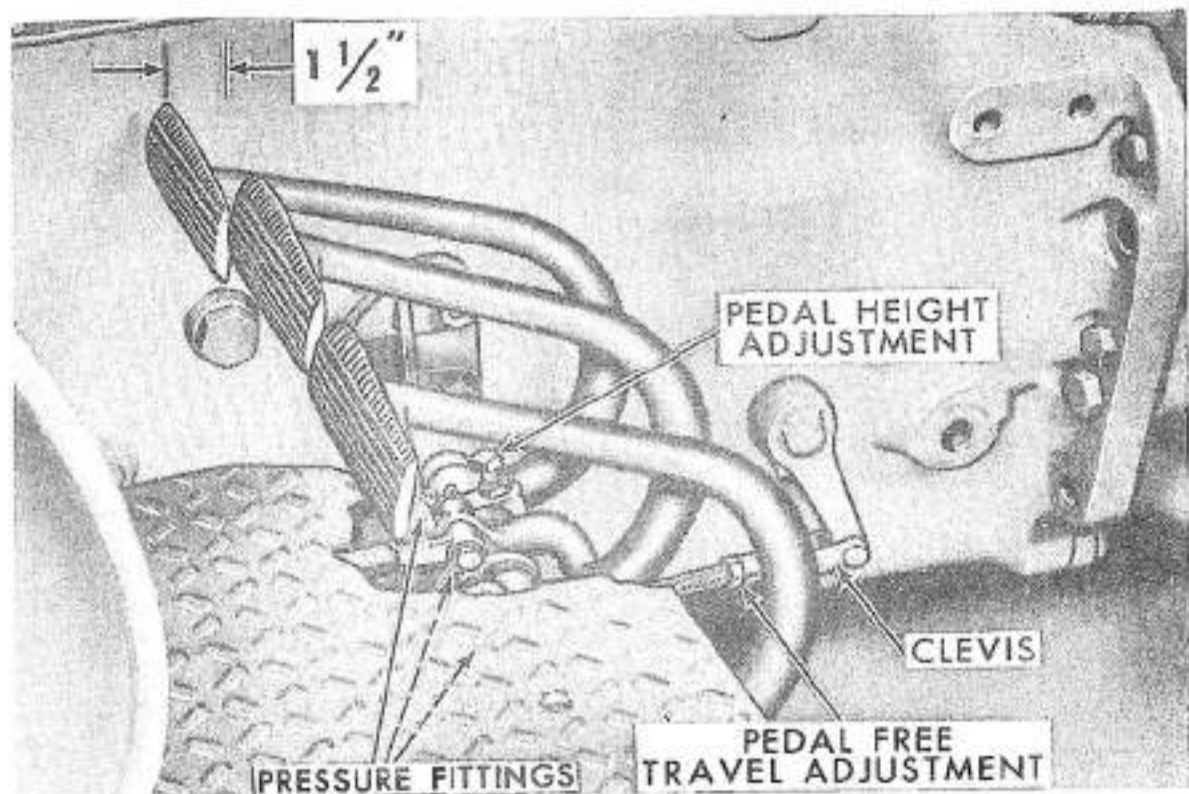


Figure 8
Clutch Pedal Adjustments

before resistance is met.

To adjust pedal free travel, loosen the clevis lock nut and turn the clevis in to decrease free travel, or out to increase free travel.

Set the pedal free travel at 1-1/2 inches, see Figure 8. Make sure the lock nut is securely tightened after adjusting.

The brake and clutch pedals have pressure type grease fittings, see Figure 8, which are to be serviced every 100 hours of operation.

BRAKE ADJUSTMENT

Brake adjustment is accomplished in the same manner as covered in the Series 701 Ford Tractor Owner's Manual. However, in the case of the right rear wheel, it will be necessary to adjust the brake from directly under the stabilizer weight. Due to the space limitation, a short screwdriver will be required. When correctly adjusted, the brake pedal arms should contact the step plate, see Figure 8.

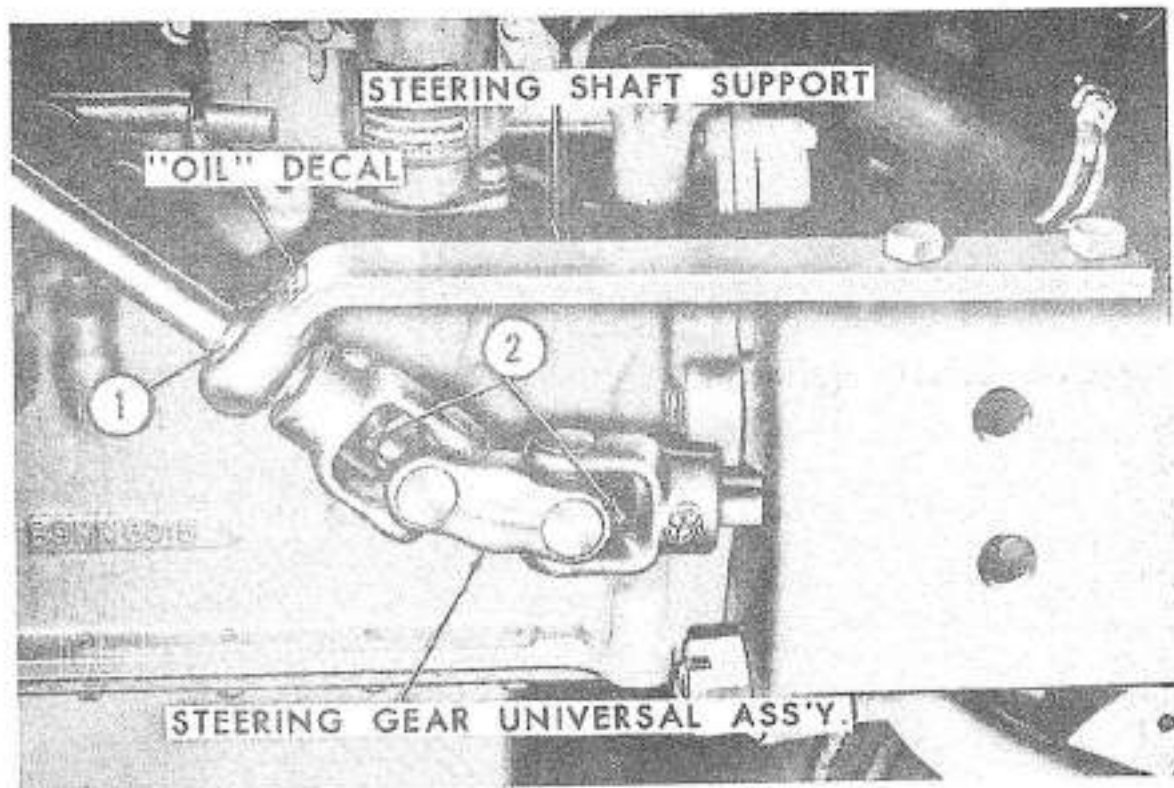


Figure 9
Steering Shaft Support

Hydraulic System Dip Stick: The hydraulic oil level dip stick has been relocated as shown in Figure 2. Check the level of the hydraulic oil on the dip stick daily or after every ten hours use. Maintain the oil level at the full mark with the proper lubricant as recommended under **SERVICE EVERY 600 HOURS**, in the Model 741 owner's manual.

NOTE: *When checking the hydraulic oil level, be sure all hydraulic cylinders are fully extended.*

The Universal Joints at the lower end of the steering shaft are both equipped with grease fittings (2), Figure 9. Clean the fittings and apply pressure gun grease after every 100 hours of operation. Oil the steering shaft support bearing (1), with light engine oil after every 10 hours of operation.

SPECIFICATIONS

Wheel Base		89 Inches
Overall Length		140.5
Overall Width at 40" Tread		55.6
Front Tread Width		40 to 78 Inches
Rear Tread Width		40 to 68 Inches
Clearance – Under Belly	Model 541	19.44 Inches
	Model 541-4	25.06 Inches
Clearance – Cultivating	Model 541	24 Inches
	Model 541-4	29.62 Inches
Inboard Braked Wheel Turning Circle Diameter (48" Wheel Setting)		6 Ft.
Shipping Weight	Model 541	3513 Lbs.
	Model 541-4	3664 Lbs.
Tire Size	Standard – Front	5:50 x 16
	Rear	Model 541 10 x 28
		Model 541-4 10 x 38
Clutch Pedal Free Travel		1-1/2 Inches.

NOTE: *The above specifications apply to the offset tractor only.
For additional information refer to your regular owner's manual.*

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

1. ALWAYS SHUT OFF THE ENGINE WHEN LEAVING THE TRACTOR.
2. MAKE SURE THE BRAKE PAWLS ARE SET WHEN PARKING THE TRACTOR.
3. DO NOT PERMIT ANYONE BUT THE OPERATOR TO RIDE ON THE TRACTOR AT ANY TIME.
4. NEVER OPERATE THE TRACTOR WITHOUT THE STABILIZER WEIGHT.
5. USE CARE WHEN OPERATING ON STEEP GRADES TO MAINTAIN PROPER STABILITY.
6. DRIVE TRACTOR AT SPEEDS SLOW ENOUGH TO INSURE SAFETY, ESPECIALLY OVER ROUGH GROUND OR NEAR DITCHES.
7. BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL WHEN OPERATING TRACTOR WITH THE WHEELS SET AT THE NARROW WIDTH TO AVOID TIPPING THE TRACTOR.
8. ALWAYS KEEP THE TRACTOR BRAKES IN PROPER OPERATING CONDITION.
9. KEEP THE TRACTOR KEYS WHERE THEY ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN.
10. REMEMBER, A CAREFUL OPERATOR ALWAYS IS THE BEST INSURANCE AGAINST AN ACCIDENT.





*A careful operator is the best insurance
against accidents.*

Most accidents that occur on the farm are the result of negligence and carelessness and are usually caused by the failure to follow simple safety rules and precautions. The safety precautions listed on the opposite page are suggested to help prevent such accidents.

The Tractor and Implement Division of the Ford Motor Co. being a member of the National Safety Council is privileged to use the Green Cross to denote safety instructions in operator's manuals.



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