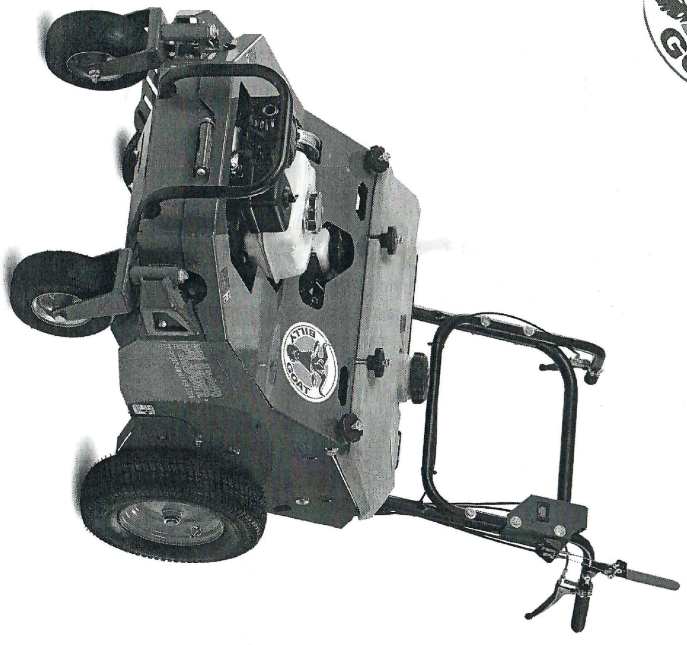


# PL2501SPH & PL2501SPV Owner's Manual



## Aerator Owner's Manual

**PL2501SPH & PL2501SPV**  
Beginning Serial #: 0032618001  
U.S. Patent #: 6892821

**Original Instructions**  
IMPORTANT - READ CAREFULLY BEFORE USE AND KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

### Specifications

	PL2501SPH	PL2501SPV
Engine	Honda GX160 w/Gearbox	Briggs and Stratton Vanguard 12V3
Engine Model No.	GX160UT2HX2	
Engine Fuel Capacity	3.3 qt. (3.1 L)	3.3 qt. (3.1 L)
Engine Oil Capacity	0.63 qt. (0.58 L)	0.63 qt. (0.58 L)
Total Unit Weight	435lb (197.3kg)	435lb (197.3kg)
Length	67" (1.7 m)	67" (1.7 m)
Width	35" (0.89 m)	35" (0.89 m)
Height	38" (0.97 m)	38" (0.97 m)
Maximum Operating Slope	15°	15°

### Intended Use

This machine is designed for aerating established lawns and large grass covered areas. The machine should not be used for any other purpose than that stated above.

**⚠ DO NOT OPERATE IF EXCESSIVE VIBRATION OCCURS!** If excessive vibration occurs, shut engine off immediately and check for damaged or worn tire crank, loose crank bearings or tires, loose engine or lodged debris. To remove debris from the machine, see the machine specific trouble shooting section.  
**Note:** See parts list for proper bolt torque and specifications.

### Safety

#### PROPOSITION 65 STATEMENT



**WARNING**  
This product can expose you to chemicals including gasoline engine exhaust, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer, and carbon monoxide, which is known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov).


REFERENCE

## Warning and Instruction Labels

The labels shown below were installed on your BILLY GOAT® Aerator. If any labels are damaged or missing, replace them before operating this equipment. Item numbers from the Illustrated Parts List and part numbers are provided for convenience in ordering replacement labels. The correct position for each label may be determined by referring to the Figure and Item numbers shown.

**WARNING**

**Amputation and Pinch Point Hazard**  
To avoid injury from rotating parts, stay clear of parts and keep all shields and guards in place.




5103184

DECAL, WARNING, HAND IN BELT,  
ENG. ONLY P/N 5103184

**Belt Serviceability**

Read the Operator's Manual for complete belt servicing instructions.

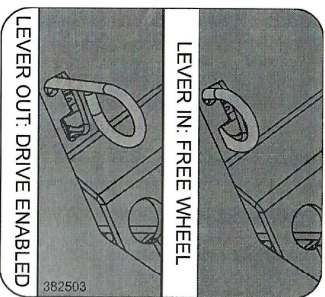


382502

DECAL, BELT SERVICE P/N 382502

LEVER IN: FREE WHEEL

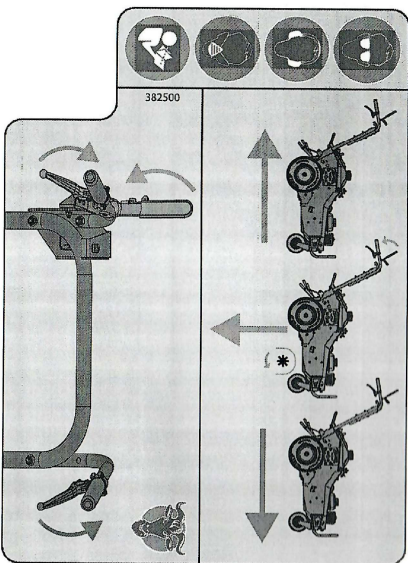
LEVER OUT: DRIVE ENABLED



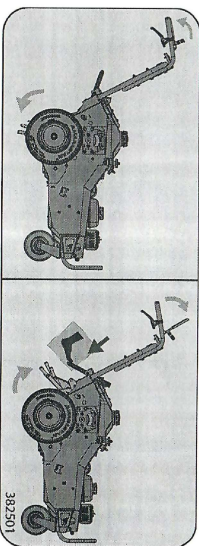
382503

DECAL, BI-PASS FUNCTION  
P/N 382503

382500

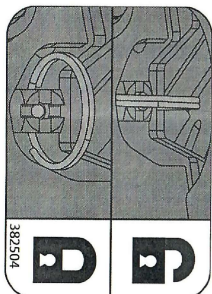


DECAL, OP INFO LEFT P/N 382500



382501

DECAL, OP INFO RIGHT P/N 382501



382504

DECAL, CASTER LOCK FUNCTION  
P/N 382504

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382506\_A\_HI

## Warning and Instruction Labels Continued

**Adjusting Chain Tension**

Adjust chain tension within first 10 hrs.

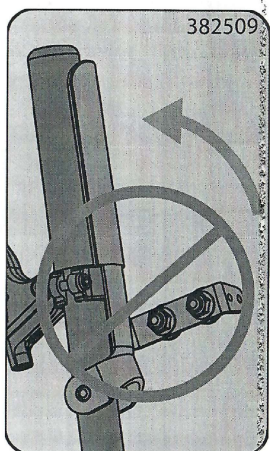
Read the Operator's Manual for complete chain servicing instructions.



382505

DECAL, ADJUST CHAIN TENSION  
P/N 382505

382509



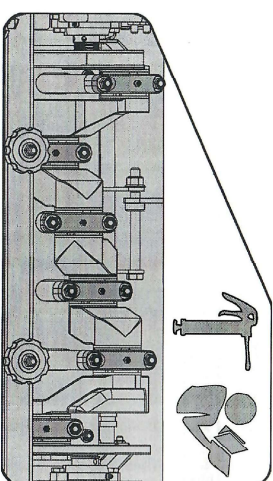
DECAL, NO CLUTCH P/N 382509

**Text PLUG to 33988 (U.S.) & 33433 (CAN) for helpful Video Tutorial**

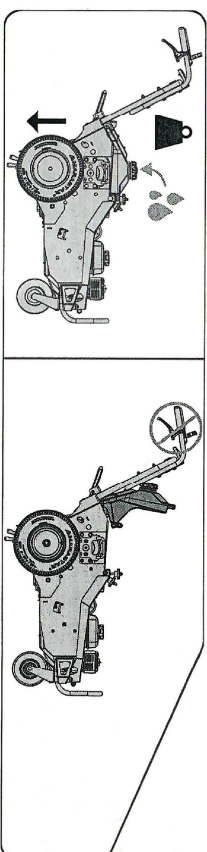


382512

DECAL, TV PLUG & SOIL  
P/N 382508



DECAL, MOLD IN WATER TANK LEFT



DECAL, MOLD IN WATER TANK RIGHT

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382506\_A\_HI



## Operation

### TIPS

- **MOW** - Mow the lawn to its normal cut height.
- **WATER** - For the best performance and maximum tire penetration the lawn should be thoroughly watered the day before aeration.
- **INSPECT** - Check the lawn before beginning work. Remove all rocks, wire, string, or other objects that can present a hazard during work prior to starting.
- **IDENTIFY** - Mark all fixed objects to be avoided during work, such as sprinkler heads, water valves, buried cables, or clothes line anchors, etc.
- **SLOPES** - Do not operate the aerator on steep slopes (exceeding 15°). Use extreme caution when operating on any sloped surface. For lesser sloped areas operate the unit, traversing up and down at a 45° angle to the slope rather than straight across. Extended operation on steep slopes can cause engine damage.

NOTE: Honda engines are equipped with a low oil sensor to prevent engine damage. When it senses a low oil condition (i.e. unit is operating or sitting on a steep slope) the engine shuts down. The low oil condition must be corrected before the engine can be restarted. See the engine owner's manual for more information. For increased wheel traction, fill the on-board tank with water (approximately five gallons).

## Maintenance

### PERIODIC MAINTENANCE

Periodic maintenance should be performed at the following intervals:

Maintenance Operation	Every Use (daily)	Every 10 Hrs	Every 50 Hrs	Every 100 Hrs
Inspect for loose, worn or damaged parts	•			
Check engine oil*	•			
Inspect belt for wear			•	
Engine (See engine manual)				
Grease Cam bearings (recommend using Almagard #3752)		•		
Thoroughly clean all debris from unit and tires		•		
Replace tire bushings				•
Grease shaft bearings and caster wheel bearings				•

\*ENGINE MUST BE LEVEL WHEN CHECKING OR FILLING OIL

## Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause(s)	Solution(s)
Engine will not start.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop switch off.</li> <li>• Throttle in off position.</li> <li>• Engine not in full choke position.</li> <li>• Out of gasoline.</li> <li>• Bad or old gasoline</li> <li>• Spark plug wire disconnected.</li> <li>• Dirty air cleaner.</li> <li>• Engine oil level too low (Honda only)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check stop switches, throttle, choke position, and gasoline.</li> <li>• Connect spark plug wire.</li> <li>• Clean or replace air cleaner or contact a qualified service person.</li> <li>• Check and fill engine oil.</li> </ul>
Abnormal Vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Damaged or missing tines.</li> <li>• Loose handle bolts.</li> <li>• Loose engine bolts.</li> <li>• Loose engine pulley</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop work immediately!</li> <li>• Replace any damaged or missing tines.</li> <li>• Tighten all loose bolts and nuts.</li> </ul>
Engine stalls or labors when aerating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working on too steep of a slope.</li> <li>• Not enough oil in the engine.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work at 45 degrees to the slope. Move up and down instead of across the slope.</li> <li>• Check engine and add engine oil.</li> </ul>
Engine is locked, will not pull over	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tension on tire drive belt</li> <li>• Engine problem.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pull spark plug wire and remove debris.</li> <li>• Inspect clutch cable for loose connection or damage.</li> <li>• Contact an engine servicing dealer for engine problems.</li> </ul>
Unit does not move when clutch is engaged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transmission in bypass position.</li> <li>• Belt drive out of adjustment.</li> <li>• Worn drive belt.</li> <li>• Loose or damaged pulleys.</li> <li>• Damaged, loose, or broken clutch cable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See maintenance on pages 9-21 of this manual.</li> <li>• Contact a qualified servicing dealer.</li> </ul>