



Grassland Aerator

Models 860g & 863g

Instruction Manual
& Operating Guide

Contents

Grassland Aerator - Models 860g & 863g

	Pages
Safety Notes and Warnings	3
Introduction and Intended Use / Specifications	4
Machine Settings	5
Maintenance	6
Spare Parts	7



Safety Notes and Warnings

- Allow only experienced tractor drivers to operate this machine.
- The machine is recommended for use with a 4 wheel drive tractor with appropriate front end ballast
- Operate only when bystanders are at a safe distance away.
- When unhitching the machine from the 3 point linkage, ensure that the parking legs are secured using the pins and lynch pins provided and the machine is set down on a firm and level area.
- Care must be taken on steep ground when lifting the machine out of work.

Operating in the field

- Use the machine when conditions allow, i.e. Not too wet or too dry.
- Ballast the machine to ensure the blades penetrate to the maximum permissible depth. Concrete blocks, kerb stones, or tractor front end weights can be used as ballast.
- Working speed 3 - 4.5 mph (5 - 7 kph).



Introduction and Intended Use

Ritchie Grassland Aerators - models 860g and 863g have been designed for, and are intended to be used by the agricultural industry purely to aerate and relieve compaction on grassland.

Deviations from the intended use should not take place without the notice and approval of David Ritchie (Implements) Ltd.

Features

- Robust tubular steel construction with replaceable high quality Boron blades on two adjustable rotor shafts.
- Adjustable blade angle up to a maximum of 10° to increase the shattering effect on compacted grasslands, allowing surface water to drain thereby stimulating root growth and encouraging absorption of nutrients.
- Fitted with category 2 - 3 point linkage and parking stands.
- Environmentally friendly, low maintenance machine requiring minimal horsepower.

Specifications

Model	Overall Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Height (mm)	Weight (mm)
860g	2450	900	1350	380
863g	3130	900	1350	460

Model	No. of Blades	Tractor Requirements	Linkage
860g	42	75 hp	Cat 2
863g	54	90 hp	Cat 2



Machine Settings

To Aerate Only

Set the two rotor shafts in line by turning the adjuster screw (Fig 1) in an **anticlockwise** direction as far as possible.

The blades will penetrate and exit straight in and out of the ground, leaving very little disturbance on the surface.

This setting is ideal for aerating silage ground in the early spring time.

To Aerate and Relieve Compaction

Adjust the two rotors to the desired angle by turning the adjuster screw in a **clockwise** direction to achieve the desired angle. The blades will penetrate and exit at an angle which in addition to aerating, will help shatter compacted soil between the aerating slits.

Please note that this setting will create more soil disturbance at the mouth of the slit.

This setting is ideal for grazing ground or semi/permanent pastures.

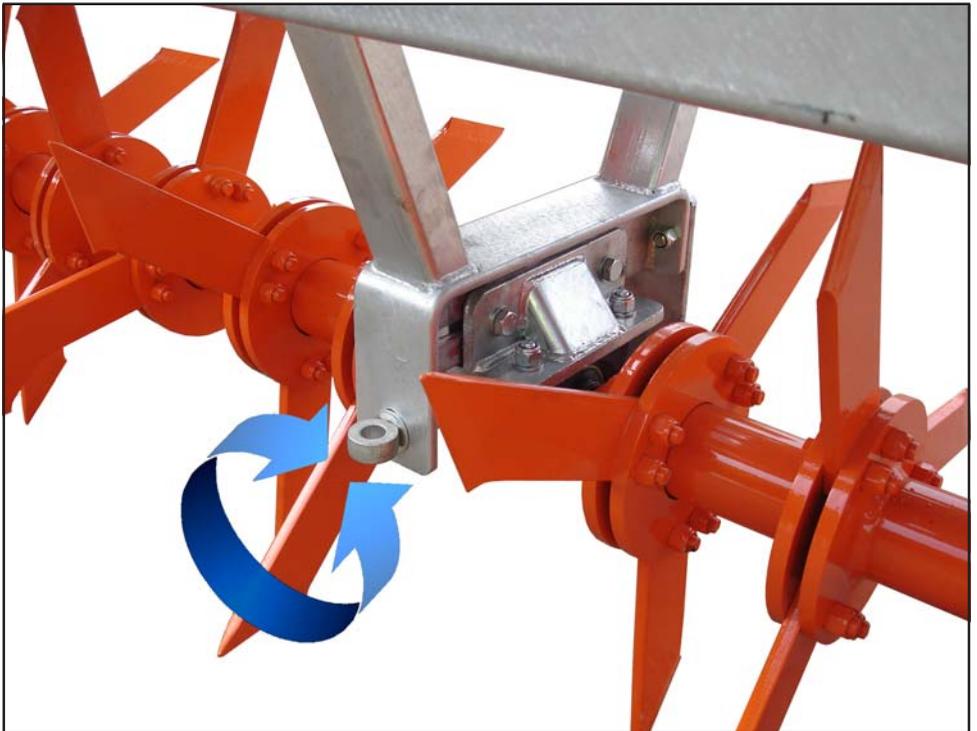


Fig 1



Maintenance



Before attempting any maintenance, lower the machine onto the ground and switch off the tractor engine.

Note: Check all bolts after the first hour in use and tighten if required.

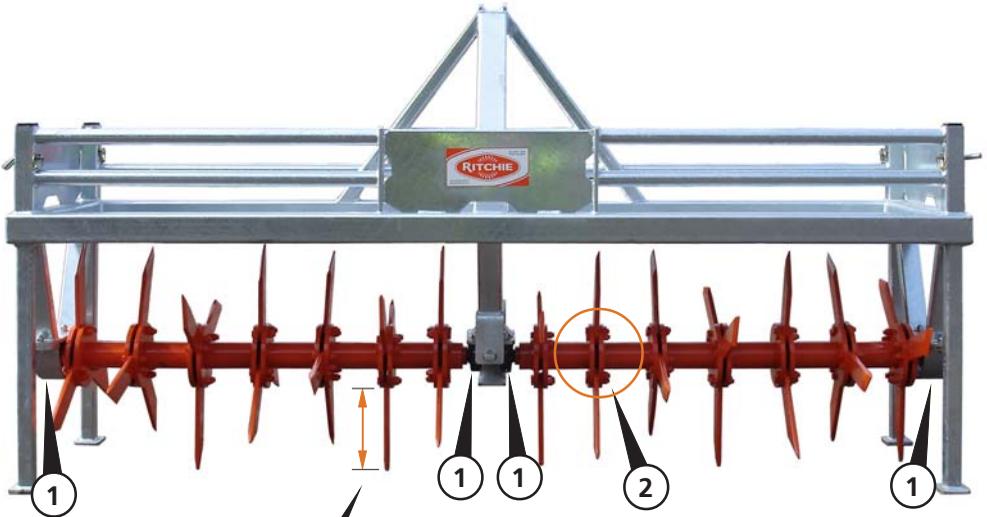


Fig 2

Replace Blades when working depth reduces to 100mm

Grease **Daily** during operation:-

- ① Shaft Bearings (4 off)

Check **Daily** during operation:-

- ② Blade Bolts - Torque when necessary to 122 Nm (90 lbs/ft.)

Spare Parts



Blade

Part No. 852/41A



Eccentric Bearing

Part No. BEARSY35WF

(Fitted to outer ends of Rotor Shafts)

2 per machine



Grub Screw Bearing

Part No. BEARSY35TF

(Fitted to Rotor Centre Bracket)

2 per machine





the perfect partner

David Ritchie (Implements) Ltd,
Carseview Road, Forfar, Scotland, DD8 3BT
Tel: 01307 462271 fax: 01307 464081
e-mail: agrisales@ritchie-uk.com
www.ritchie-uk.com