

TIMBERDISC

OPERATOR'S MANUAL MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS



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1. INTRODUCTION



READ CAREFULLY THIS MANUAL



To properly start, operate and service your equipment, follow all instructions given in this manual.

THIS MANUAL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A PART OF THE EQUIPMENT AND SHOULD FOLLOW IT WHEN YOU SELL IT.

LEFT HAND SIDE AND RIGHT HAND SIDE, FRONT AND REAR are determined looking from equipment towards tractor when in work.

ALL INFORMATIONS, PICTURE, SPECIFICATIONS in this manual are based on the newer information available at the time of publication. Pictures and drawings might not represent standard equipment and show optional attachments.

Manufacturer reserves right to make any changes at all time **without any obligation to notice or to modify any delivered or already sold machine.**

If the machine has been modified in any way from the original design without written agreement from GREGOIRE-BESSON, the manufacturer does not accept any liability for injury or warranty. Warranty would become void.



This symbol is used in the following manual to **catch your attention on warnings concerning your safety.**

So please when you see it in this manual or on the equipment, **strictly follow given information.**

GREGOIRE-BESSON Timberdisc is exclusively designed to be used for regular farm tillage in farmed fields or for forestry using. Manufacturer shall not be responsible for damage or injury resulting from any other use.

PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Please record here purchasing date, model and serial number of your equipment (refer to identification plate on hitch). Always refer to these information to get prompt and good service.

Purchasing date :

Model :

Serial number :

Salesman's phone :

2. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

2.1. SAFETY STICKERS



READ OPERATOR'S MANUAL

Read operator 's manual and safety instructions before starting the use of your equipment and follow them while using.



Reference : UI 129



UNFOLDING AREA

Stay clear of equipment when folding or unfolding.

Reference : UI 126



MOVE AWAY FROM THE MACHINE

Danger in the working area, stay clear from the machine.

Reference : UI 127



SECURE THE MACHINE BEFORE ACTION

Always install all lockup devices to secure machine before any intervention on it.

Reference : UI 131



HYDRAULIC LEAK AND MAINTENANCE

Caution, high pressure fluids can cause injury. Follow safe practices.

Reference : UI 128



2.2. SAFETY WHILE ATTACHING AND DETACHING



- Do not let **anyone to stand between the machine and the tractor** when you back up to hitch.
- Before leaving the tractor to hitch or unhitch, set tractor parking brakes.
- Do not try to hitch the machine if you do not have the right size pins (diameter and length shall be compatible between both tractor and machine).
- Completely lower the machine to the ground before unhitching. Make sure it is on a level and firm surface.
- Remove pressure from hydraulic lines before disconnecting them.
- Before leaving the machine for storage, make sure it is in a safe place and that there is no risk to damage whether anything or anyone.

2.3. SAFETY WHILE CONNECTING HYDRAULIC LINES



- Hydraulic circuit might be highly pressurised.
- **Never use your hands to locate a hydraulic leak.** Hydraulic fluids escaping under pressure have sufficient force to penetrate the skin, causing severe injury. In case of any injury, **see a doctor immediately.**
- For equipments loaded with several hydraulic connectors, **make logical and appropriated connections.**
- Before connecting hydraulic circuit, **make sure that there is no pressure on both sides (tractor and machine).**
- Regularly check hydraulic lines and connections. **Replace any damaged or leaking component** by an original part with the same specifications.
- Before any intervention on hydraulic circuit, **lower machine to the ground and release pressure moving control lever in the tractor's cab.**

2.4. SAFETY WHILE OPERATING MACHINE

- **Never attempt** any intervention on the machine while it is in motion.
- Wear close **fitting clothing** and **appropriate safety devices** for the job you have to do (heavy leather gloves, safety shoes, earplugs, ...).
- Do not allow anyone to stand close to the machine.
- Do not attempt to do any adjustment if you have not perfectly understood its procedure.
- Always use tools or equipments appropriate to the job you are doing. All GREGOIRE-BESSON equipments are metric standards.
- Learn how to operate your machine and how to use its controls. Do not let anyone operate without instruction.
- Only one person (the operator) should be in the tractor's cab when it is in operation. **No one on the machine while working or travelling on the road.**



If your machine is equipped with a hydraulic folding mechanism, **always use it from tractor's cab, once you are sure that folding area is free from spectators or obstacles.**

2.5. SAFETY FOR MAINTENANCE



During maintenance operation, comply with the following rules

- Maintenance area shall be **clean, dry, with enough light and ventilation.**
- For any intervention on the machine in raised position, **always securely support all components** before starting maintenance.
- After servicing remove all tools, components and parts you used.
- Regularly check tightness of wheel studs, tine bottom studs, and other bolts and nuts.
- **Always use genuine parts corresponding to manufacturer's technical specification requirements.**

2.6. SAFETY FOR ON HIGHWAY TRANSPORT

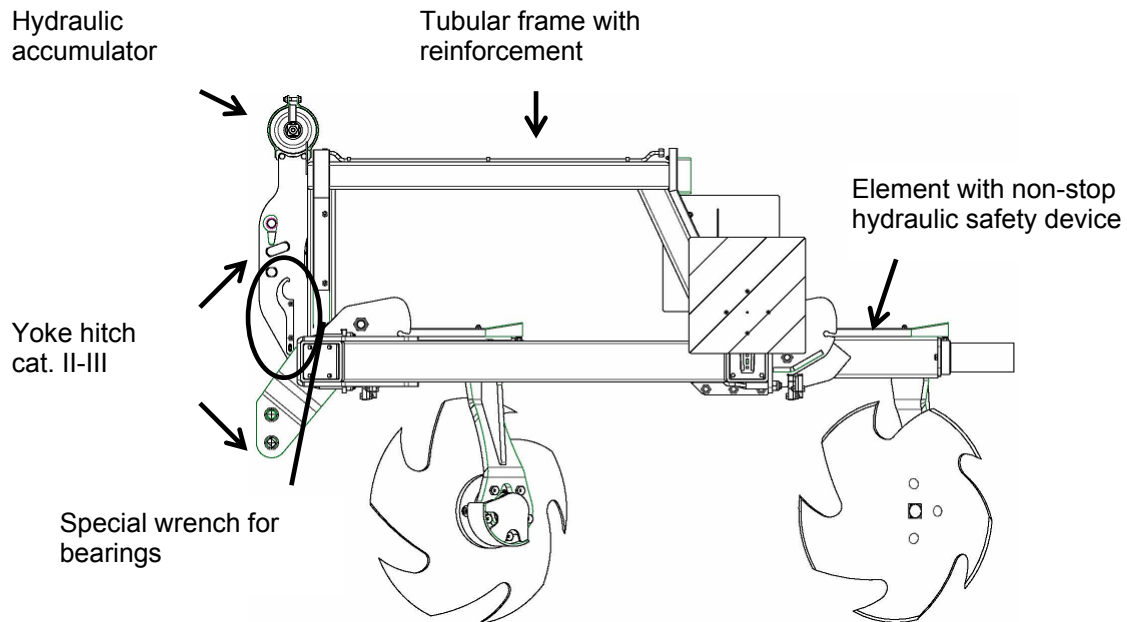


FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY AND THE ONE OF THE OTHER, RESPECT THE FOLLOWING RULES :

- All GREGOIRE-BESSON equipments shall be used **complying with area's current rules and laws** concerning **safety instructions, accident prevention** and **provision of Highway Code.**
- Always **check for wheels studs tightness before road transport.**
- **Use all devices required by your area's current laws** (lights, reflectors, signs, ...). You might remove them in during field operation to prevent from any damage. It is the operator's responsibility to comply with current law and to follow its evolutions.
- Regularly check hitching pins, change them if necessary. Tractor's ball joint may also wear, do not hesitate to replace them with new ones having at least Waltersheid fabrication quality.
- Drive **at reasonable speed** complying with local laws **to always keep control** of tractor and equipment. Pay special attention on irregular or rough roads. **Do not attempt to drive down a hill faster than it could be possible to drive it up.**
- **Never attempt any manoeuvre if area is not free from spectators.**
- If your machine is equipped with a **folding mechanism** (manual or hydraulic), **use it making sure folding area is free from spectators** and obstacles.
- Follow all **safe driving practices** when travelling, moreover **on corners, rough or narrow roads.**
- When **leaving tractor** even for a short period, **shut off engine, remove ignition key and set parking brakes.**
- Forbid anyone to stand between tractor and machine or on the machine travelling on the road.

3. MACHINE DESCRIPTION

3.1. IDENTIFICATION VIEW



3.2. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Standard equipment
Hitch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yoke hitch Ø II-III, width II-III
Frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tubular frame 150 x 150 thick. 10 mm • Reinforcement 100 x 100 thick. 10 mm • Frame 8 elements with possible extension to 9 • No bumps (to avoid plants injury) • Fully protection for all hydraulic lines
Element	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U bolt fixing on beam • Non-stop hydraulic safety device • Maximum disc raising : 750 mm • Discs notched Ø 660 mm thick. 8 mm notched Ø 710 mm thick. 10 mm flail Ø 810 mm thick. 10 mm

A large choice of options is available to improve machine's job. Grégoire-Besson authorized dealers know area and working conditions. They may give information according to technical choices and latest equipments evolutions. Grégoire-Besson is also represented on farm equipment shows.

3.3. DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHTS

Nb of elements	Working width	Transport width	Over all length	Indicative weight
8	2.20 m	2.55 m	2.75 m	2 220 kg
9	2.50 m	2.80 m	2.75 m	2 400 kg

Dimensions and weights are indicative and subject to variations according to equipments and options.

NOTE : after use, ground or residue accumulations may increase machine's weight.

4. PREPARING THE TRACTOR

Follow recommendations given in the safety section of this manual. They are not restrictive.

4.1. REQUIRED HORSE POWER

Tractor requirements may vary according to ground and working conditions (type of soil, type of tractor, type of tyres, ...). Following data are only indicative. Ask an authorized Grégoire-Besson dealer for any further information.

Number of elements	Working width	Required horse power
8	2.20 m	110 HP
9	2.50 m	150 HP

4.2. TRACTOR WHEELS

4.2.1. Tractor tyres

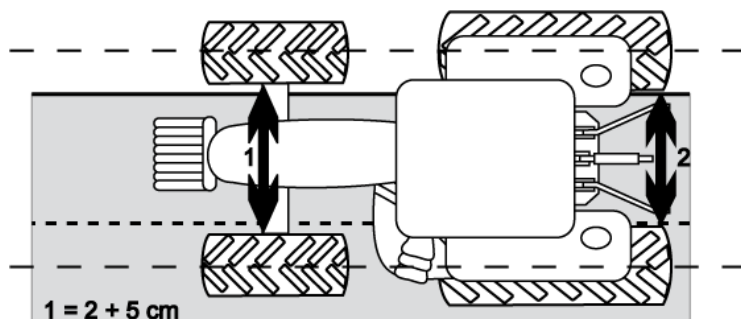
Check tractor tyres general state and pressure. Pressure should be the same on both sides of the tractor for a nice drivability in the field and on the road.



IMPORTANT : inflate tyres following manufacturer's recommendations.

4.2.2. Distance between tractor tyres

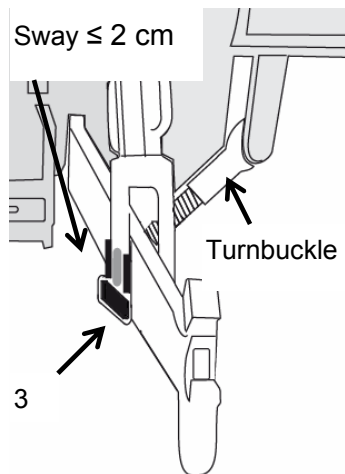
Generally, using a large tillage equipment, the wider is the distance between tyres, the better is the drivability.



To be able to steer the tractor, the middle of the front axle shall be lined up with the middle of the rear axle.

In sloping fields, a large distance will provide good stability.

4.3. POSITIONING STABILIZERS

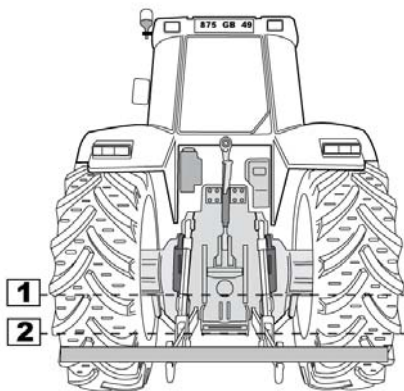


To hitch any tillage equipment on lower link arms, stabilizers shall be set so that arms have minimum lateral sway (≤ 2 cm) and are centred with tractor traction line. This will both prevent from any risk of shock during manoeuvre or road transport and keep machine lined up behind tractor at work.

Note : it is easier to adjust and / or service stabilisers bolts and threads before hitching the machine.

Horizontal lift links pins (3) shall be in fixed position to avoid any loose and / or damageable shock.

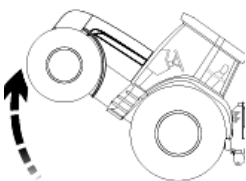
4.4. LIFT LINKS LENGTH



Lift link arms length determines tractor hitch levelling and lift cylinder position at working depth.

- Set lift links length so that tractor hitch is level (refer to picture).
- Set lift links length to have at least 30 mm clearance on lift cylinder rod when machine is working at desired depth. This will give adjustment possibilities for front gang depth from tractor's cab and allow efficient tractor draft control

4.5. FRONT END WEIGHTING



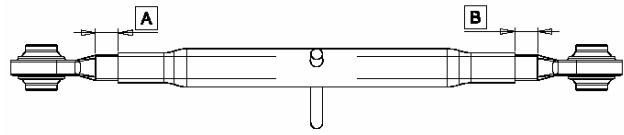
Wheels weights (front and rear) and front end weights may be required to avoid excessive slippage and to increase stability in rough and sloppy grounds.

Weights shall not be added once all slippage is eliminated. Refer to tractor operator's manual and to tractor's dealer. Follow tyre manufacturer's recommendations.

4.6. TOP LINK

Before attaching the machine, make sure that thread length is the same on both sides of top link. Refer to picture, A shall equal B.

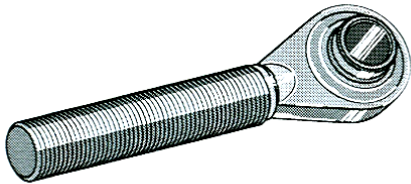
Top link length will be adjusted in the field.



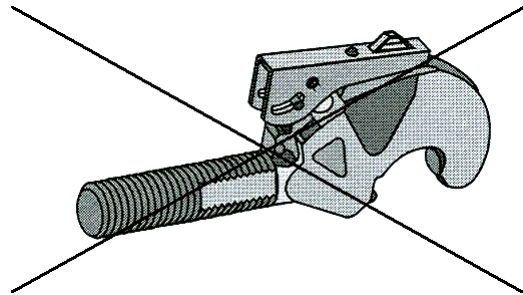
NOTE : an excess of grease inside top link tube may make it impossible to shorten. Remove grease fitting to let grease free to go out.

IMPORTANT : connection between machine and top link shall be done through a tie rod and never through an automatic hook.

- Automatic hooks sizes and designs change according to models and manufacturers and may cause interference with machine hitch in particular conditions.
- Spring shutter may block hitch ball which may wear or break. This is particularly true for hitches cat III : pin diameter is larger giving less quantity of matter for the ball becoming less strong.



Example of tie rod
CORRECT



Example of automatic hook
DO NOT USE

Do not hesitate to contact an authorized Grégoire-Besson dealer for any further information.

5. ATTACHING AND DETACHING

Follow recommendations given in the safety section of this manual. They are not restrictive.

IMPORTANT : always make sure that hitching never leads to :

- overload : respect maximum admissible hitch load,
- unbalance: load tractor front end if necessary. Refer to point 4.5.

5.1. ATTACHING MACHINE TO TRACTOR

Before any manoeuvre, check for diameter and length compatibility between hitch pins and tractor tie rods.

5.1.1. Tractor equipped with tie rods lower links

- Remove safety bolts and hitch pins.
- Back up tractor to line up tie rods and machine hitch holes.
- Install pins and secure them with their safety clips.
- If holes are difficult to line up : extend telescopic arms as indicated in tractor operator's manual. Once hitch pins are inserted and secured with their safety clips, slowly back up tractor to lock back lift arms. Check for lift arms locking.
- Hitch top link.

5.1.2. Tractor equipped with automatic hooks lower links

- Remove safety bolts and hitch pins.
- Remove balls from tractor lift link automatic hooks.
- Install balls on pins through lower machine hitching holes. Secure with safety bolts.
- Slowly back up tractor till automatic hooks are lined up underneath hitch balls.
- Raise tractor hitch about 5 cm above ground surface till automatic hooks are locked.
- Check for automatic hooks latch handles good locking.
- Hitch top link.



IMPORTANT : make sure to have enough clearance between machine yoke hitch and tractor lower lift links to avoid any possibility of contact from working to raised position. A second verification shall be done once machine is in the field in truth working conditions.

5.1.3. Hitching top link

Connexion between top link and machine has to be done through a tie rod (refer to previous section).

Once tractor lift links are correctly hooked up, check top link general state and compatibility with tie rod. Then attach top link in one of the three available holes :

- fixed hole for transport,
- slot or fixed hole for operation.

Raise machine to the maximum and make sure there are no interference with tractor. Final top link adjustments (length and position) will be made in the field.

Do not forget to install safety clip back.



IMPORTANT : make sure to have enough clearance between machine yoke hitch and top link to avoid any contact from working to raised position. A second verification shall be done once machine is in the field in truth working conditions.

Connect hydraulic hoses.

5.2. DETACHING THE MACHINE

Before detaching, make sure that ground is flat and firm enough to support the machine. Use safety blocks to support machine components and / or parking stand if necessary.



DANGER : do not let any part of your body underneath the machine when lowering it to the ground. Crushing may lead to death.

Proceed in the logical attaching opposite way :

- 1) Completely lower the machine to the ground,
- 2) Detach top link and lower lift links.

Always operate with care.

6. HYDRAULIC CONNEXIONS

Follow recommendations given in the safety section of this manual. They are not restrictive.

6.1. REQUIRED HYDRAULIC REMOTES

- 1 SA for hydraulic Non-Stop safety device.

6.2. HYDRAULIC CONNECTIONS

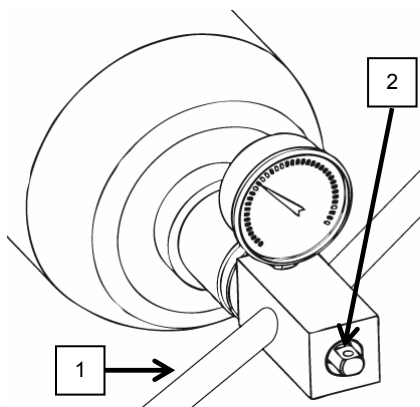
- Always wipe hydraulic couplers with a clean rag on both tractor and machine sides before connecting circuits.
 - Always check for machine hydraulic connectors and tractor remotes compatibility.
 - Logically connect hydraulic lines for the user :
- ⇒ Put most frequently used functions on closest lever
- ⇒ Watch for the way hydraulic flow is delivered : pull the lever to put machine in transport position (raise up / fold), push it to put machine in working position (lower / unfold).
- Check for hydraulic hoses length : too short they may break during sharp turns, too long they may interfere with tractor lift arms or tyres.

In case of any problem, do not hesitate to contact an authorized Grégoire-Besson dealer.

6.3. HYDRAULIC PRESSURE IN NON-STOP SAFETY DEVICE

In regular conditions, pressure in hydraulic circuit shall be set from **40 to 100 bars** which corresponds to the green area on the pressure gauge. **Always stay in this window.**

Adjustment procedure :



- Correctly connect hydraulic hose (1) to the tractor.
- Open valve (2) situated on the front of the machine.
- To **increase safety device resistance**, increase hydraulic pressure in the system **adding oil**.
- To **decrease safety device resistance**, decrease hydraulic pressure in the system **removing oil**.
- Once desired pressure is reached, shut valve (2). Then hydraulic hose (1) may be disconnected.

Clever way for an operator alone in the field :

- Connect hydraulic hose (1), open valve (2) and add more pressure than required in the circuit. Shut valve (2).
- In tractor's cab, put hydraulic control lever on "Float position".
- Slightly open valve (2) so that oil slowly goes back to tractor.
- Once desired pressure is reached, close valve (2). Then hydraulic hose (1) may be disconnected.

7. TRANSPORTING

Follow recommendations given in the safety section of this manual. They are not restrictive.

7.1. CHANGING TO TRANSPORT POSITION

Before driving on a public road with the machine, put it in transport position :

- **Attach top link in a fixed hole.**
- Raise machine to the maximum.
- **In the cab lock all control levers** (hydraulic remotes, hitch, ...), to prevent any unforeseen movement and potential accident.
- **Install all lights, reflectors and signs required by current applicable law.**

7.2. CHANGING TO WORKING POSITION

Follow here above described procedure in the opposite way.

Remove lights and signalisation kits if necessary.

7.3. DRIVING ON PUBLIC ROAD

Before driving on a public road :

- **Be sure all signs, reflectors and lights required by local current law are in place, clean and visible to traffic.**
- Make sure there are no interferences between tractor and machine.
- Adopt a gentle attitude towards other public road users.

On public road, comply with local applicable laws :

- Tractor required for road transport shall equal the size and the horse power rating of the tractor used to work in the field.
- Do not drive over 25 km/h (= 15 mph).
- Drive at a reasonable speed to maintain complete control of both tractor and machine.
- Reduce speed on corners and on rough grounds.
- Do not drive down a hill faster than it could be possible to drive it up.
- Do not apply the tractor brakes to attempt a sharp turn.
- Always check wheel studs tightness before driving on a public road. They may get loose because of vibrations.
- Respect authorized maximum size for transport load (width, weight, length). For over sized loads, comply with current law taking all necessary precautions (signs, lights, escort, authorizations, ...).
- Respect the maximum wheel axle load and the maximum total driving load. Make sure front axle carries at least 20% of tractor's tare. Use front end weights if necessary.

ATTENTION : driving on public roads, operator is responsible for both tractor and equipment. He has to comply with current applicable law (getting in conformity with it and following its evolutions).

8. ADJSUTMENTS

Follow recommendations given in the safety section of this manual. They are not restrictive.

8.1. UTILIZATION

Operating speed shall not exceed 5 (= 3.5 mph).

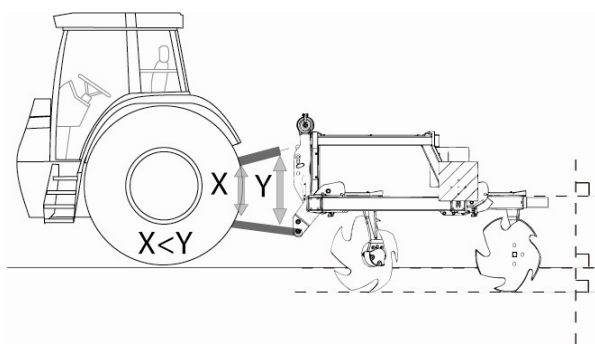
Always lift up machine before manoeuvring on headlands.

Never attempt a sharp turn with the machine in working position.

Slow down before manoeuvring or crossing any obstacle (ditch, ridge, rocky spot, ...).

8.2. ADJUSTING THE MACHINE

8.2.1. Depth control and front to rear levelling



Top link shall be positioned in fixed hole.
To have a constant working depth, set tractor hydraulic lift on control position or on minimum draft control (10% to 20% max).

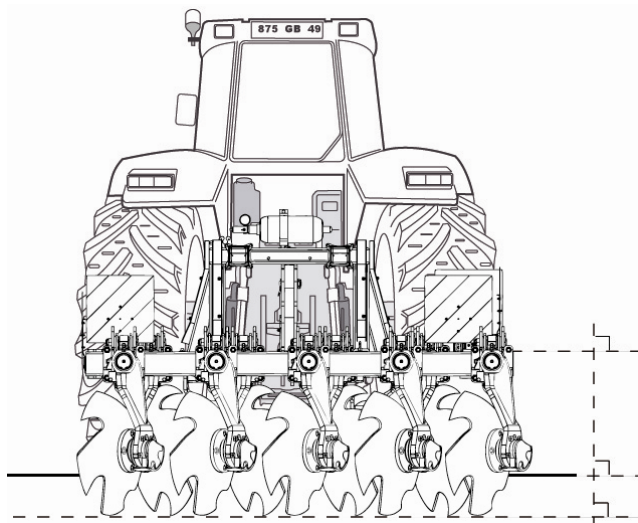
- **Working depth** is set by height of tractor hydraulic lift.
- **Top link length** shall be adjusted so that working at desired depth machine main frame runs level (refer to picture).

Note : in sloping fields, attach top link in the slot.

8.2.2. Weight transfer

Top link shall always be positioned higher on machine side than on tractor side. This will allow a good weight transfer on front axle. Refer to picture, $X < Y$.

8.2.3. Side to side levelling



In working conditions, machine shall run level side to side (= from left to right), main frame strictly parallel to the ground.

It happens most of the time when tractor's preparation has been correctly done (same tyre pressure on both sides, tractor hitch levelled, stabilization system positioned ...).

Note : when machine works at desired depth, take a few meters back to check its good levelling.

9 MAINTENANCE

Follow recommendations given in the safety section of this manual. They are not restrictive.

9.1. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS



Operator and owner are responsible for good machine maintenance.



Inspect machine before and after each use. Repairs and service have to be done immediately so that they are not forgotten. Always leave the machine in a good state.

Cleaning the machine facilitates inspection. Check general state of machine, weldings, wheels studs, tyres, ...

Be careful with hydraulic lines : frictions may lead to excessive wearing and lines may leak. Never search a leak with your hands. Immediately replace any defective component. Spare components shall have the same characteristics.

Parts working in the ground may be sharpened and cause severe injury. Take particular care and use heavy leather gloves to remove them.

Never attempt any intervention on the machine while tractor engine is running.

Always properly secure all components before starting any maintenance operation underneath the machine.

Before using the machine for the first time, check all bolts tightness. Verify after 50 working hours and then at the beginning of each season. Pay special daily attention on wearing parts bolts and nuts tightness (lots of vibrations).

Wrong waste management is a danger for environment : collect waste oil, paint removers, accumulators, worn tyres ... Bring them back to a distributor or to an authorized collector. Do not let them in the nature.

9.2. LUBRICATION

A good lubrication of all moving parts will both allow the machine to work fine and insure its long-lasting.

Grease fittings are installed on all pivot points. Grease both lubricates moving parts and chases away abrasive dust or water that could come into pivot points.

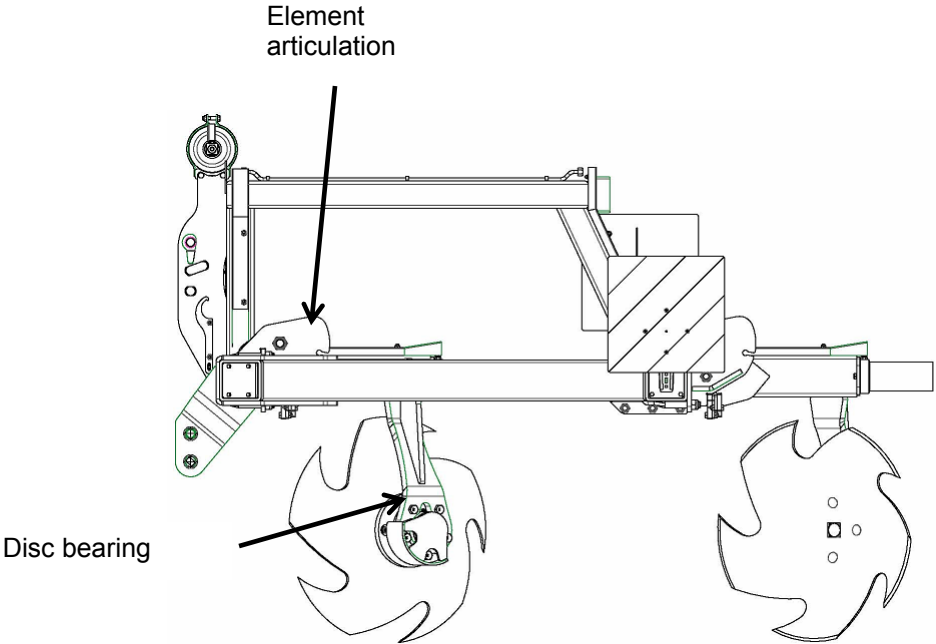
Use quality grease, type Unil – Opal MS02 or equivalent.

Always wipe grease fittings with a clean rag before introducing grease. Do not hesitate to change any worn or broken grease fitting. Check for good grease course.

Remove all grease accumulation around grease fittings or moving parts.

Refer to grease fittings placement and frequency on the following drawing. Hard or intense conditions would require more.

The best is to grease regularly with regular quantity. Do not over grease.



Grease fitting placement	Frequency
Element articulation (1 grease fitting)	1 grease gun shot per day
Disc bearing (1 grease fitting)	4 to 5 grease gun shots per day

9.3. SPARE PARTS

Genuine Grégoire-Besson parts have been specially designed and developed. Only the use of these parts will ensure proper fit, longevity and field quality work of the machine.



Using any other spare part than certified from Grégoire-Besson will void warranty.

Changing wearing parts too late may be source of poor quality work (penetration troubles, poor mixing ...) and may damage structure parts°.

9.4. BEARING TIGHTENSS

Bearing tightness shall be verified once a year : once machine is correctly attached, raise it and check that discs are tight enough. If not, correct it using special wench situated on left hand side on top link yoke hitch.

- Remove bearing protection plate (if machine is equipped, bolts are stuck at the manufacture).
- Remove the 4 Chc carriage bolts holding bearing cover.
- Remove Hc screw.
- Tight bearing using provided special wrench.
- Install Hc screw back.
- Install back bearing cover and its 4 Chc carriage bolts.
- Install back bearing protection plate (if machine is equipped).

9.5. STORAGE SAFETY

- Before detaching the machine for storage, make sure ground is clean, flat and firm enough.
- Use parking stand and all other locking devices to prevent from any unforeseen movement during detachment or later on.
- Always store machine in working position.
- NEVER detach machine in raised position.
- Store machine away from human activity.
- Store machine in a dry and dust free area (shed). Protect ram rods that cannot be retracted from rust using grease or oil.

CAUTION : never let children play around farm equipment.

10. QUICKLY STARTING - TIMBERDISC

Take all precautionary measures. Respect safety recommendations.

PREPARING THE TRACTOR

- 1. Check tyre pressure**
It should be the same on both sides on each axle.
Always follow tyre manufacturer recommendations.
- 2. Adjust tractor hitch levelling**
Set lift links length for tractor hitch to be perfectly level with the ground.
Arms shall be long enough so that working at desired depth there is still 30 mm chrome visible on lift ram.
- 3. Adjust lift links sway**
Lateral sway minimum (≤ 2 cm)
- 4. Check top link**
Connexion between top link and machine must be done through a tie rod and not through an automatic hook.

HITCHING

- 5. Attach lower link arms and top link**
- 6. Make sure there are no interferences between machine and tractor from raised position to working position**
Machine shall never come in contact with tractor.
There should be no contact between tractor lift links and machine yoke hitch.
- 7. Connect hydraulic line**
- 8. Transport / working positions**

Transport position	top link in a fixed hole
Working position	top link in a fixed hole or in a slot, higher on machine side than on tractor side

ADJUSTMENT

- 9. Machine shall be parallel with the ground at desired depth and speed**

Side to side levelling	tractor hydraulic lift arms length
Front to rear levelling	tractor hydraulic lift height and top link length

MAINTENANCE

- 10. Follow recommendations given in this manual according to lubrication and maintenance of the machine**

NOTES

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