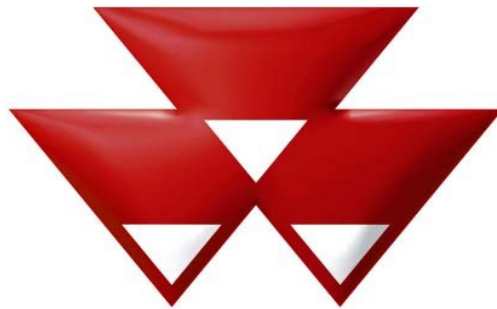


Maximising the Output of your MF 555 Planter



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This guide has been produced to provide useful information and tips on how to maximise profit potential through proper adjustment and maintenance of the MF 555 planter.

This is not a complete maintenance guide, and is designed as a reference to give the MF 555 user an idea and general overview of some adjustments and settings. Please refer to the operator's manual for complete adjustment and maintenance instructions.

Step 1: Safety!

Read the operator's manual before taking your MF 555 into the field. It is your responsibility to read the operator's manual and comply with the safety guidelines and correct operating procedures and to lubricate and maintain the planter according to the maintenance schedule. Read the instructions carefully to acquaint yourself with the equipment. Working with unfamiliar equipment can lead to accidents. Please take time to check your planter for proper operation before you get to the field.

- A. Be safe. Never clean, lubricate, or adjust the planter whilst it is in motion. Always install lockup mechanisms before servicing.
- B. Familiarise yourself with the machine and how to adjust it as field conditions change.
- C. Be in control. Don't hurry. Your life depends on it.
- D. Remember that accidents can be prevented.



Maintenance and Row Unit Inspection

Look for wear on closing wheel

Check Seed Hoppers

Check Hydraulic Functions



Check Tyre Pressure

Inspect linkage arms for wear

Inspect seed tubes, opener blades, and gauge wheels

Clean and check metering unit adjustment

Step 2: Maintenance!

You cannot afford to operate a planter that is not properly maintained! You are responsible for inspecting the planter and having parts repaired as needed.

- A. Be safe. Ensure the machine is not in motion and that all moving components are stopped.
- B. Check and ensure that all nuts and bolts are tight on the machine
- C. Tyre pressure – Make sure that the tyres are adequately inflated per the recommendations in the operator's manual.
 - 1. Proper inflation keeps the toolbar level to the soil surface.

Proper inflation keeps all drive tyres turning at the same speed; an under-inflated/low drive tyre will do all the driving and increase the seeding population rate due to a smaller circumference



Ensure all nuts and bolts on the machine are tight

Check Tyre Pressure and inspect for wear

Step 3: Planter Row Unit Inspection

A. Parallel linkage arms – Worn parts can cause the row unit to operate in an unbalanced manner, affecting seed placement, closing wheel spring pressure, and row unit spring pressure.

1. Inspect the parallel arms for wear (eg bushings, bolts, and elongated holes in the parallel arms).
2. Look for bent, broken, and twisted parallel arms.
3. Replace parts as necessary.



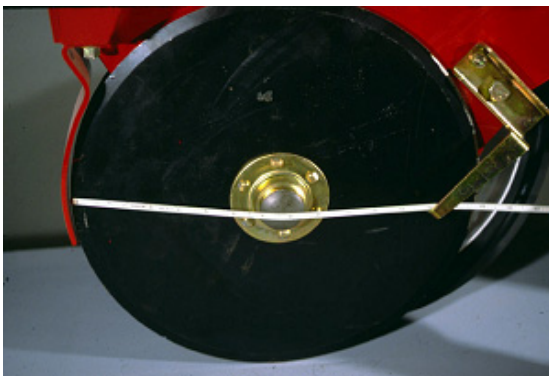
B. Seed tubes – Worn or broken seed tubes can affect seed depth and spacing.

1. Check the seed tubes for wear (eg split ends, holes, or cracks).
2. Inspect the seed tube guard (ie inside scraper) for wear. A worn out guard is the leading cause of seed tube wear. The guard should be replaced when it has a width of less than 1.5 cm.
3. Bend the clip to centre the tube between the opener discs.



C. Disc opener blades – Worn, cracked, or warped blades will affect seed placement, depth and spacing. Consult the operator’s manual for proper adjustment procedures.

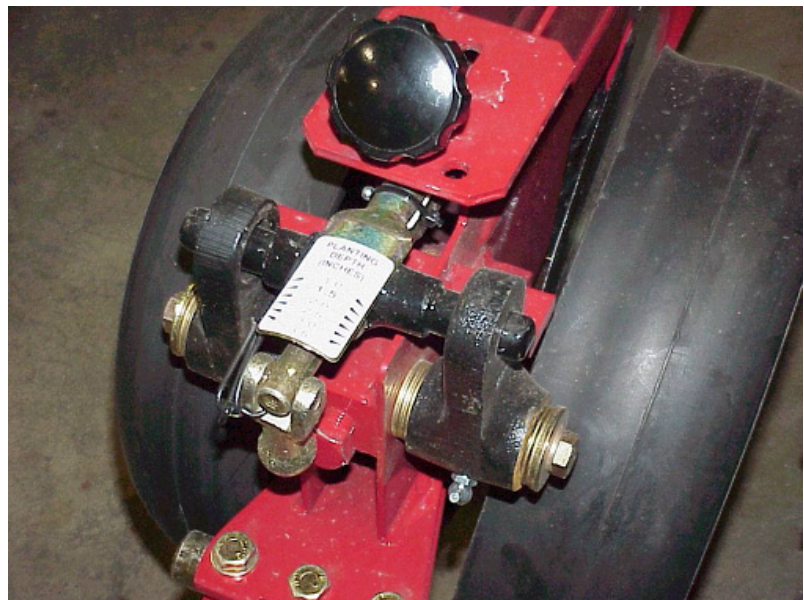
1. Blades worn too small need to be replaced because they cannot be adjusted to have contact with each other.
2. Adjust the blades to contact with each other for 3.8 to 5 cm. Add or remove shims from both blades as equally as possible. Adjusting only one blade will cause uneven seed placement and facilitate wear on the seed tube.



3. Replace the blade if it is warped or cracked.
4. Replace the bearing or the complete blade and bearing assembly if the bearing is worn or loose. Failure to replace the bearing can cause uneven seed placement.

D. Gauge wheels – Worn or improperly adjusted wheels will allow soil to fall into the seed furrow ahead of the seed causing uneven seed depth.

1. Inspect the tyre for wear or cracks. If any part of the tyre is worn away the tyre cannot be properly adjusted and should be replaced.
2. Inspect the bearings. The wheel must maintain continuous contact with the disc blade. If the bearings are loose they should be replaced.
3. Inspect the depth control arms. The arms must be able to pivot and adjusted so that the wheel makes either light continuous contact with the disc blade or so that they just clear one another. Make sure the grease fitting will take grease. Remove and clean the gauge wheel arm pivot as necessary.

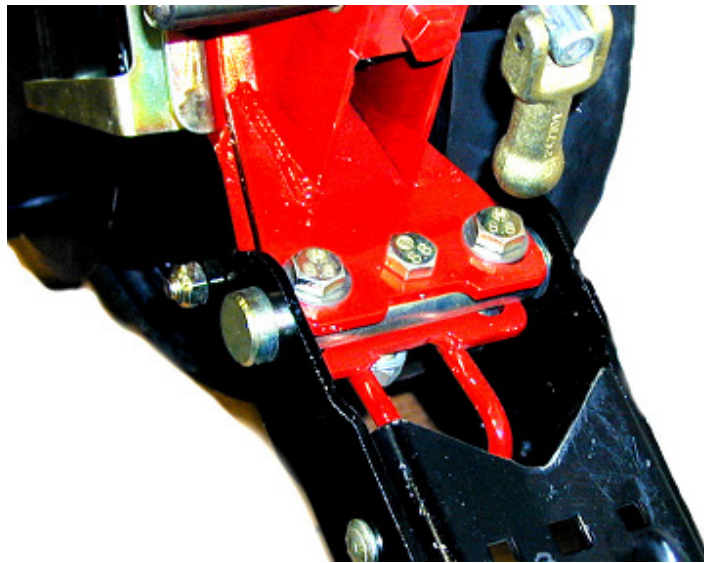


E. Seed Hoppers – A misaligned seed hopper will cause the meter to drop seed into the seed tube.

1. Check the seed hopper for holes or cracks.
2. Inspect the seed hopper for cleanliness. Make sure it is free of debris (eg plant residue, paper, string and buildup of seed treatments) which can obstruct seed flow to the meter.
3. Seed hoppers need to be evenly filled for even weight distribution across the planter.

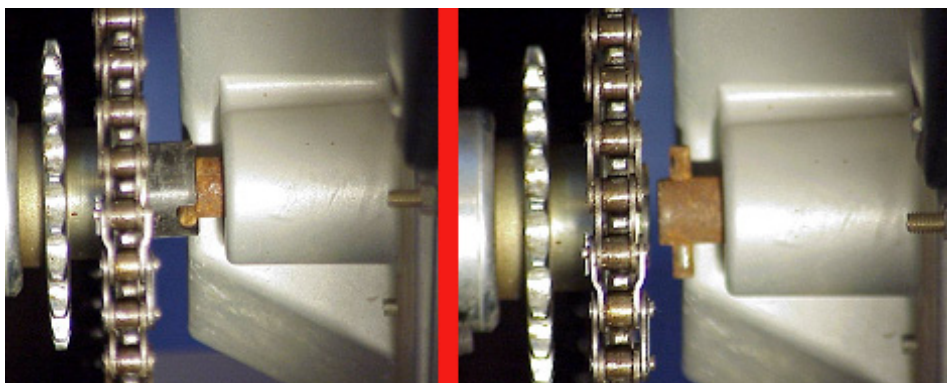
F. Closing wheels – It is important that the seed is covered with soil that is free of air pockets and compaction.

1. Inspect for good seed-to-soil contact.
2. Check the closing wheel arm and pivot bushings. The parts must be in good condition to prevent the closing wheels from moving from side to side.
3. Inspect the wheel. If it wobbles replace the wheel or the bearing.



G. Metering Unit

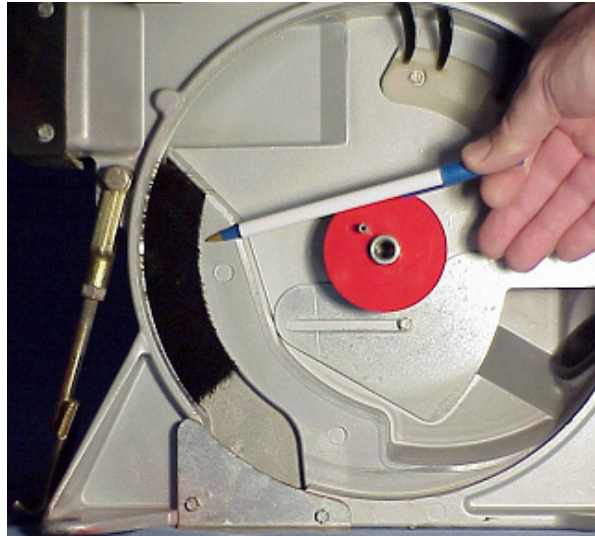
1. Clean seed disc of chemical buildup.
2. Inspect disc for damage and wear.
3. Check meter clutch alignment to ensure clutch hub slides freely on and off of the shaft.



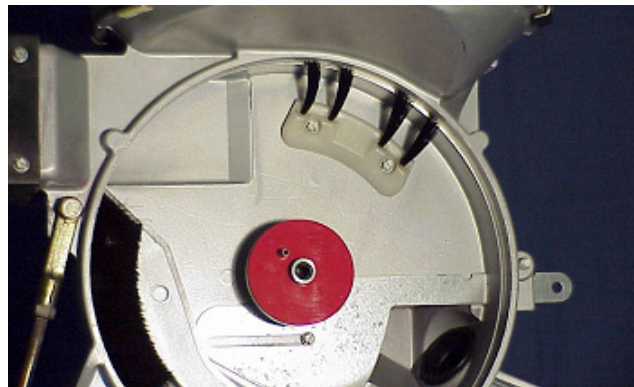
on shaft

off shaft

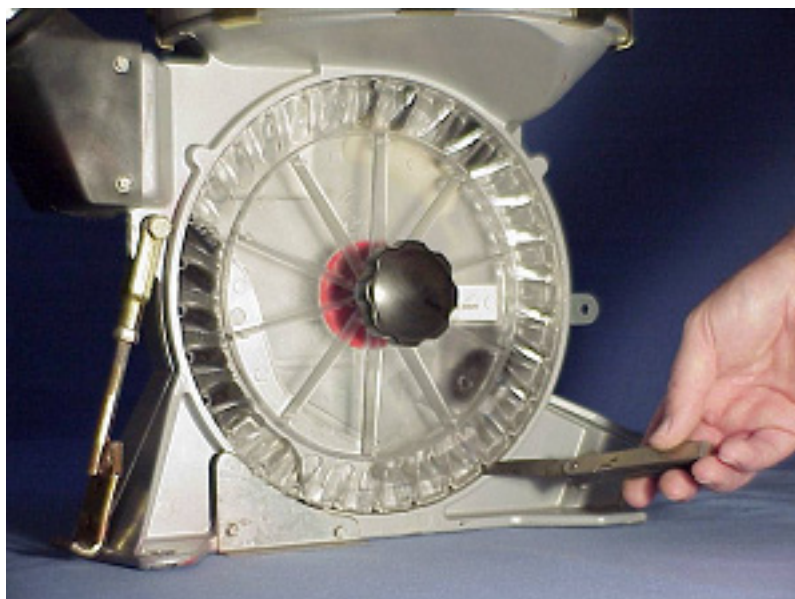
3. Check cutoff brush length and if it doesn't extend past the shelf by at least 3 mm it should be replaced.



4. Check that bristles extend 3 to 6 mm beyond the machined surface.

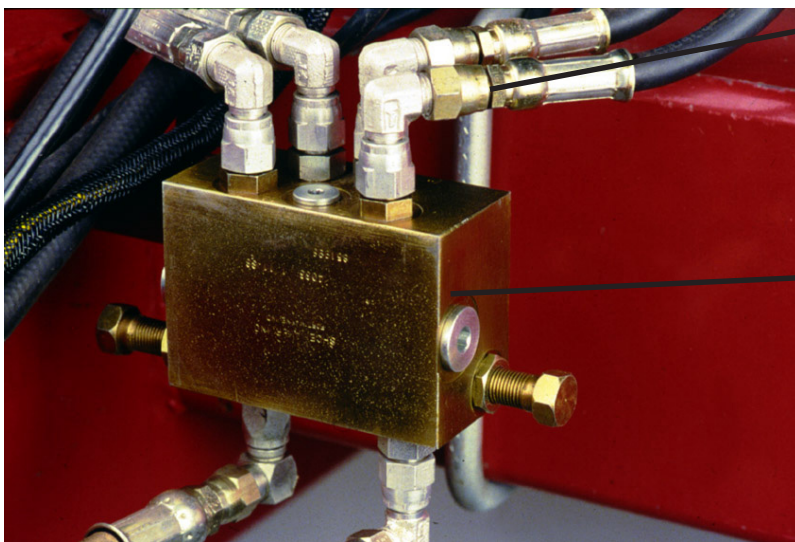


5. Check clearance between seed disc and meter at several locations. Clearance should be a minimum of 0.1 mm.



H. Hydraulic System - Check Hydraulic Functions

1. Check pump oil levels
2. Check hoses and connections
3. Check selector valve
4. Check system for correct operation
5. Change PTO pump oil annually
6. Change blower fan filter annually



Check hoses and connections

Check selector valve

Check pump oil levels

