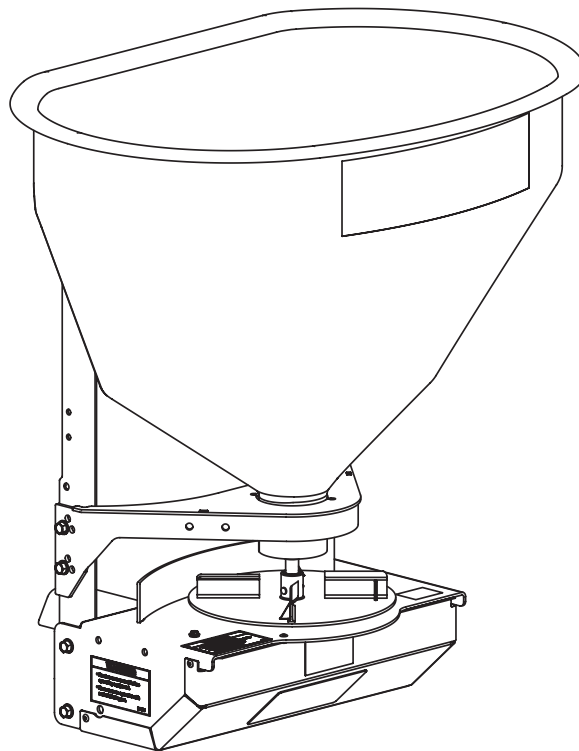




# LOW-PRO 300 Tailgate Spreaders

**#30860**

**Owner's Manual and Installation Instructions**  
*Original Instructions*



**⚠ CAUTION**

**Read this manual before installing or  
operating the spreader.**

This manual is for WESTERN® LOW-PRO 300 tailgate spreaders with  
serial numbers beginning with 210801 and higher.

**This document supersedes all editions with an earlier date.**



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## INTRODUCTION

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This manual has been prepared to acquaint you with the safety information, operation, and maintenance of your new tailgate spreader. Please read this manual carefully and follow all recommendations. This will help ensure profitable and trouble-free operation of your spreader. Keep this manual accessible. It is a handy reference in case minor service is required.

When service is necessary, bring your spreader to your distributor. They know your spreader best and are interested in your complete satisfaction.

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**NOTE: This spreader is designed to spread snow and ice control materials only. Do not use it for purposes other than those specified in this manual.**

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Register your spreader online at [www.westernplows.com](http://www.westernplows.com)

### OWNER'S INFORMATION

Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Purchased: \_\_\_\_\_

Distributor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Distributor Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Spreader Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Serial #: \_\_\_\_\_

Spreader Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lb/kg

# SAFETY

## SAFETY DEFINITIONS

### **⚠ WARNING**

Indicates a potentially hazardous situation that, if not avoided, could result in death or serious personal injury.

### **⚠ CAUTION**

Indicates a potentially hazardous situation that, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury. It may also be used to alert against unsafe practices.

**NOTE:** Indicates a situation or action that can lead to damage to your spreader and vehicle or other property. Other useful information can also be described.

## WARNING/CAUTION LABELS

Please become familiar with the warning and caution labels on the spreader.

**NOTE:** If labels are missing or cannot be read, see your sales outlet.

**⚠ WARNING**

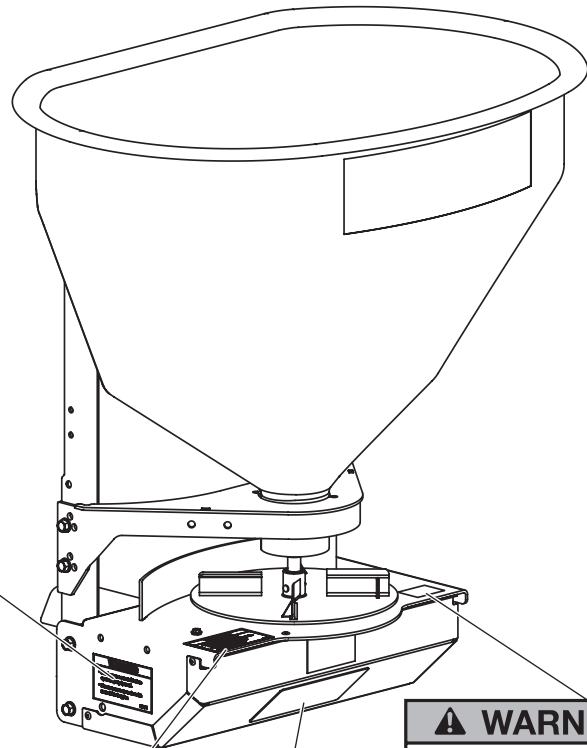
- Read owners manual before operating equipment.
- Never remove spreader with material in hopper.

D6194

**⚠ WARNING**

- Keep hands, feet & loose clothing away from moving parts.
- Disconnect power before servicing equipment.

D6192



**⚠ WARNING**

**Maximum Weight Capacity  
240 lbs.**

D6402

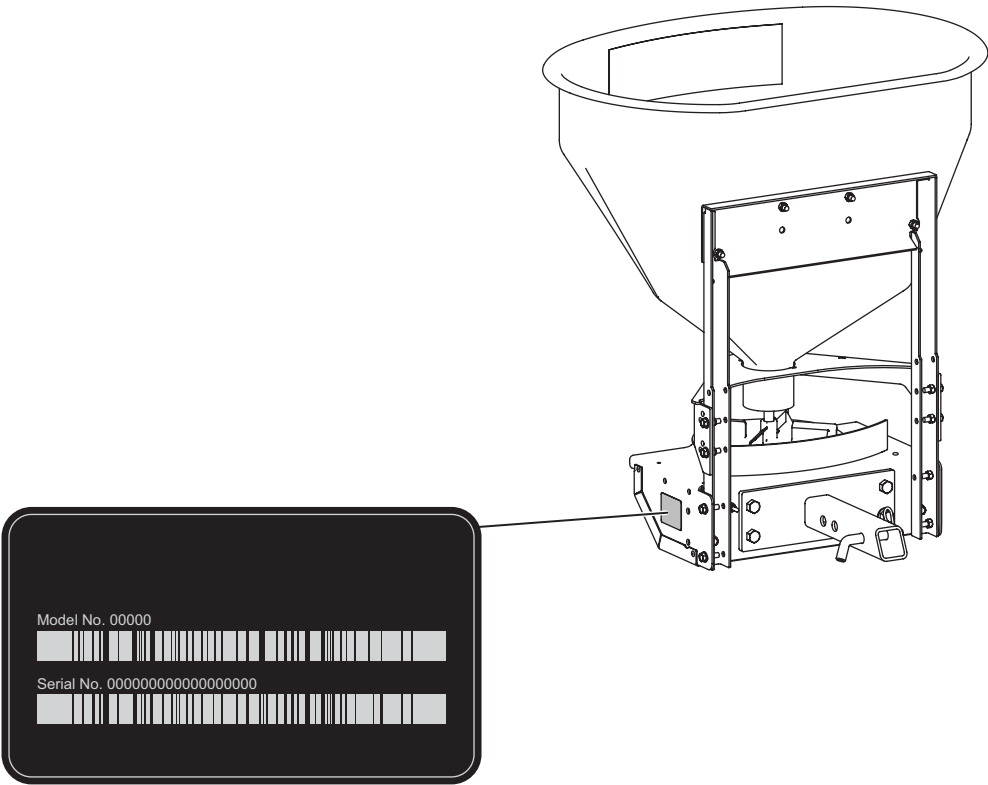
**⚠ WARNING**

**Vehicles <10,000 lb GVWR**

Obstructing the visibility from the vehicle's rear camera could result in serious injury or damage. An auxiliary camera system shall be installed if the vehicle's rear camera is removed or blocked.

11100-00

SERIAL NUMBER LABEL



| Code  | Definition                |
|-------|---------------------------|
| YY    | 2-Digit Year              |
| MM    | 2-Digit Month             |
| DD    | 2-Digit Day               |
| LL    | 2-Digit Location Code     |
| XXXX  | 4-Digit Sequential Number |
| ZZZZZ | Assembly Part Number      |

# SAFETY

## SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Improper installation and operation could cause personal injury and/or equipment and property damage. Read and understand labels and the Owner's Manual before installing, operating, or making adjustments.

### ⚠ WARNING

- Driver to keep bystanders minimum of 25 feet away from operating spreader.
- Before working with the spreader, secure all loose-fitting clothing and unrestrained hair.
- Before operating the spreader, verify that all safety guards are in place.
- Before servicing the spreader, wait for auger and spinner to stop.
- Do not climb into or ride on spreader.

### ⚠ WARNING



Overloading could result in an accident or damage. Do not exceed GVWR or GAWR ratings as found on the driver-side door cornerpost of the vehicle. See Loading section to determine maximum volumes of spreading material.

### ⚠ WARNING

Vehicles <10,000 lb GVWR: Obstructing the visibility from the vehicle's rear camera could result in serious injury or damage. An auxiliary camera system shall be installed if the vehicle's rear camera is removed or blocked.

### ⚠ CAUTION

If rear directional, CHMSL light, or brake stoplights are obstructed by the spreader, the lights shall be relocated, or auxiliary directional or brake stoplights shall be installed.

### ⚠ CAUTION

During the spreader installation we recommend the addition of an OSHA compliant backup alarm. This alarm is required for OSHA governed employers.

### ⚠ CAUTION

Disconnect electric and/or hydraulic power and tag out if required before servicing or performing maintenance.

### ⚠ CAUTION

- Do not operate a spreader in need of maintenance.
- Before operating the spreader, reassemble any parts or hardware removed for cleaning or adjusting.
- Before operating the spreader, remove materials such as cleaning rags, brushes, and hand tools from the spreader.
- While operating the spreader, use auxiliary warning lights, except when prohibited by law.
- Tighten all fasteners according to the Torque Chart. Refer to Torque Chart for the recommended torque values.

### ⚠ CAUTION



DO NOT leave unused material in hopper. Material can freeze or solidify, causing unit to not work properly. Empty and clean after each use.

## FUSES

The electrical system may contain several automotive-style fuses. If a problem should occur and fuse replacement is necessary, the replacement fuse must be of the same type and amperage rating as the original. Installing a fuse with a higher rating can damage the system and could start a fire. Fuse Replacement is located in the Maintenance section of this Owner's Manual.

## PERSONAL SAFETY

- Remove ignition key and put the vehicle in PARK or in gear to prevent others from starting the vehicle during installation or service.
- Wear only snug-fitting clothing while working on your vehicle or spreader.
- Do not wear jewelry or a necktie, and secure long hair.
- Wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from battery acid, gasoline, dirt, and dust.
- Avoid touching hot surfaces such as the engine, radiator, hoses, and exhaust pipes.
- Always have a fire extinguisher rated BC handy, for flammable liquids and electrical fires.



# SAFETY

## FIRE AND EXPLOSION

### ⚠ WARNING

Gasoline is highly flammable and gasoline vapor is explosive. Never smoke while working on vehicle. Keep all open flames away from gasoline tank and lines. Wipe up any spilled gasoline immediately.

Be careful when using gasoline. Do not use gasoline to clean parts. Store only in approved containers away from sources of heat or flame.

## CELL PHONES

A driver's first responsibility is the safe operation of the vehicle. The most important thing you can do to prevent a crash is to avoid distractions and pay attention to the road. Wait until it is safe to operate mobile communication equipment such as cell phones, text messaging devices, pagers, or two-way radios.

## VENTILATION

### ⚠ WARNING

Vehicle exhaust contains lethal fumes. Breathing these fumes, even in low concentrations, can cause death. Never operate a vehicle in an enclosed area without venting exhaust to the outside.

## BATTERY SAFETY

### ⚠ CAUTION

Batteries normally produce explosive gases which can cause personal injury. Therefore, do not allow flames, sparks, or lit tobacco to come near the battery. When charging or working near a battery, always cover your face and protect your eyes, and also provide ventilation.

- Batteries contain sulfuric acid which burns skin, eyes, and clothing.
- Disconnect the battery before removing or replacing any electrical components.

## NOISE

Airborne noise emission during use is below 70 dB(A) for the spreader operator.

## VIBRATION

Operating snowplow vibration does not exceed 2.5 m/s<sup>2</sup> to the hand-arm or 0.5 m/s<sup>2</sup> to the whole body.





## TORQUE CHART

### ⚠ CAUTION





Read instructions before assembling. Fasteners should be finger tight until instructed to tighten according to torque chart. Use standard methods and practices when attaching spreader including proper personal protective safety equipment.

#### Recommended Fastener Torque Chart

##### Inch Fasteners Grade 5 and Grade 8

| Size    | Torque (ft-lb)  |   | Size    | Torque (ft-lb)  |   |
|---------|---|---|---------|---|---|
|         |  Grade 5 |  Grade 8 |         |  Grade 5 |  Grade 8 |
| 1/4-20  | 8.4   | 11.9  | 9/16-12 | 109   | 154   |
| 1/4-28  | 9.7   | 13.7  | 9/16-18 | 121   | 171   |
| 5/16-18 | 17.4  | 24.6  | 5/8-11  | 150   | 212   |
| 5/16-24 | 19.2  | 27.3  | 5/8-18  | 170   | 240   |
| 3/8-16  | 30.8  | 43.6  | 3/4-10  | 269   | 376   |
| 3/8-24  | 35.0  | 49.4  | 3/4-16  | 297   | 420   |
| 7/16-14 | 49.4  | 69.8  | 7/8-9   | 429   | 606   |
| 7/16-20 | 55.2  | 77.9  | 7/8-14  | 474   | 669   |
| 1/2-13  | 75.3  | 106.4   | 1-8     | 644   | 909   |
| 1/2-20  | 85.0  | 120.0   | 1-12    | 704   | 995   |

##### Metric Fasteners Class 8.8 and 10.9

| Size       | Torque (ft-lb)  |  | Size       | Torque (ft-lb)  |  |
|------------|---|--|------------|---|--|
|            |  Class 8.8 |  Class 10.9 |            |  Class 8.8 |  Class 10.9 |
| M6 x 1.00  | 7.7   | 11.1   | M20 x 2.50 | 325   | 450  |
| M8 x 1.25  | 19.5  | 26.9   | M22 x 2.50 | 428   | 613  |
| M10 x 1.50 | 38.5  | 53.3   | M24 x 3.00 | 562   | 778  |
| M12 x 1.75 | 67  | 93   | M27 x 3.00 | 796   | 1139   |
| M14 x 2.00 | 107   | 148  | M30 x 3.50 | 1117  | 1545   |
| M16 x 2.00 | 167   | 231  | M33 x 3.50 | 1468  | 2101   |
| M18 x 2.50 | 222   | 318  | M36 x 4.00 | 1952  | 2701   |

These torque values apply to fasteners except those noted in the instructions.

## LOADING

This manual covers vehicles which have been recommended for carrying the spreader. Please see your local dealer for proper vehicle applications.

### CERTIFICATION

#### WARNING

New untitled vehicle installation of a spreader requires National Highway Traffic Safety Administration altered vehicle certification labeling. Installer to verify that struck load of snow or ice control material does not exceed GVWR or GAWR rating label and complies with FMVSS.

### APPROXIMATE MATERIAL WEIGHTS

#### WARNING

Overloading could result in an accident or damage. Do not exceed GVWR or GAWR as found on the driver-side cornerpost of vehicle.

#### WARNING

Do not overload vehicle. Use chart below to calculate weight of material. Weights of material are an average for dry materials.

#### CAUTION

Never use wet materials or materials with foreign debris with any of these spreaders. These units are designed to handle dry, clean, free-flowing material.

#### CAUTION



Read and adhere to manufacturer's ice-control material package labeling including Safety Data Sheet requirements.

| Material        | Density<br>(lb/ft <sup>3</sup> ) |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Rock Salt (dry) | 80–90                            |

*Material densities are approximate and are based on dry, loose material. It is the responsibility of the operator to know the weight of the material to be spread and the vehicle carrying capacity.*

Weight of spreader and mount must be added to struck material weight to determine total spreader weight. Do not exceed maximum material capacity as shown on the safety label (see Safety section).

Use only bagged rock salt with the spreader. Other forms of spreading material are not compatible with the tailgate spreader.

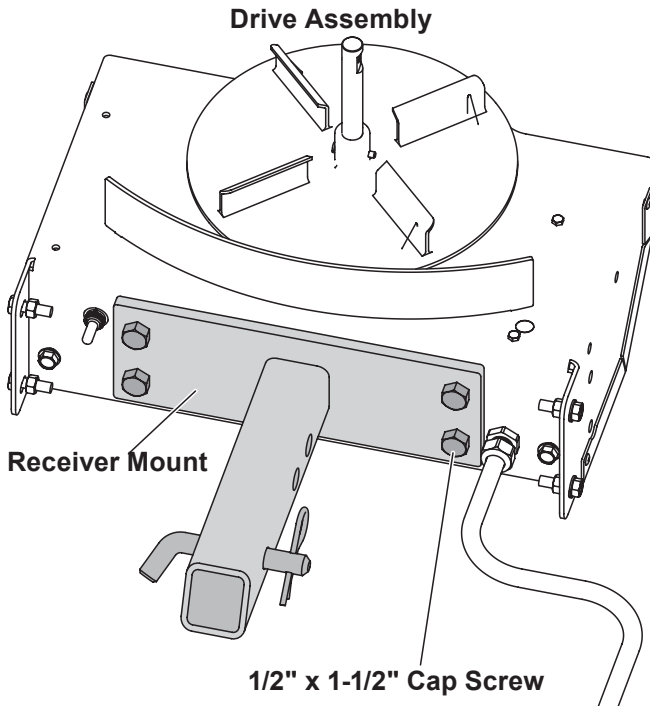
**NOTE:** If spreader and ice control material loading is in doubt, weigh vehicle for compliance with vehicle ratings.

# MOUNTING THE SPREADER

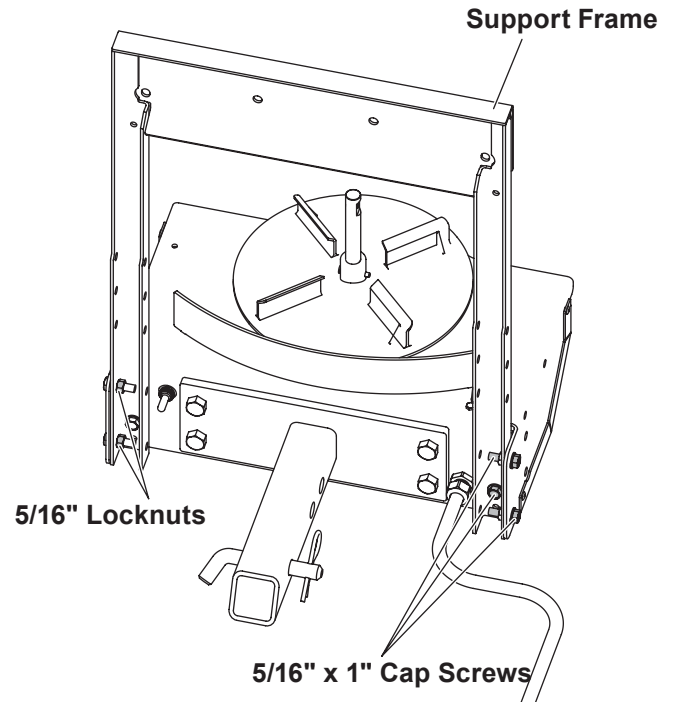
## ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

The spreader shall be installed according to instructions supplied. Your local outlet is trained to provide this service and service your spreader with factory original parts.

1. Place the drive assembly on a flat, level surface. Attach the receiver mount to the drive assembly as shown using four  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " cap screws. Tighten according to the torque chart.

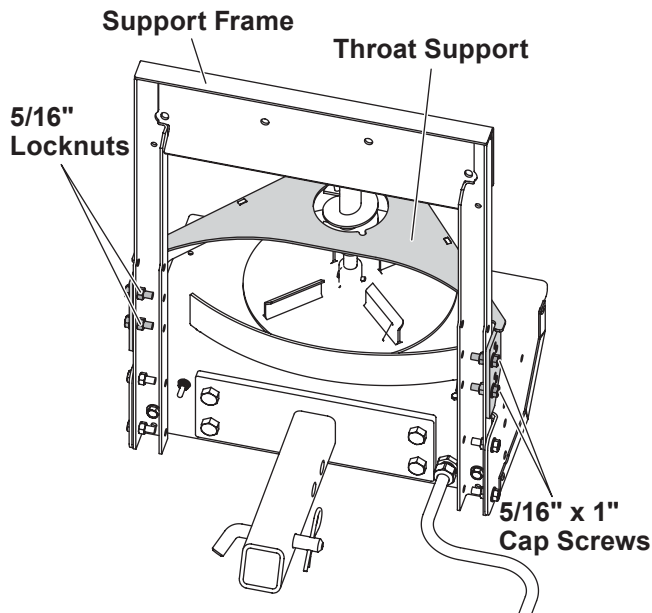


2. Mount the support frame to the drive assembly using the six supplied  $\frac{5}{16}$ " x 1" cap screws and the four supplied  $\frac{5}{16}$ " locknuts. Tighten the fasteners according to the torque chart.



## MOUNTING THE SPREADER

3. Mount the throat support to the support frame at the two lower holes by using the four supplied 5/16" x 1" cap screws and 5/16" locknuts. Tighten the fasteners according to the torque chart.



### ⚠ CAUTION

Before drilling holes, check to be sure that no vehicle wiring or other components could be damaged.

4. Mount the throat support to the support frame at the two lower holes by using the four supplied 5/16" x 1" cap screws and 5/16" locknuts. Tighten the fasteners according to the torque chart.

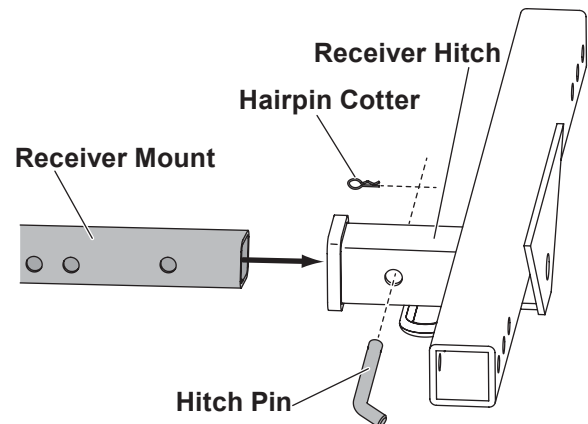
## RECEIVER MOUNT SPREADER

### ⚠ CAUTION

During removal or mounting, securely grip spreader to avoid dropping.

The spreader shall be installed according to instructions supplied. Your local outlet is trained to provide this service and service your spreader with factory original parts.

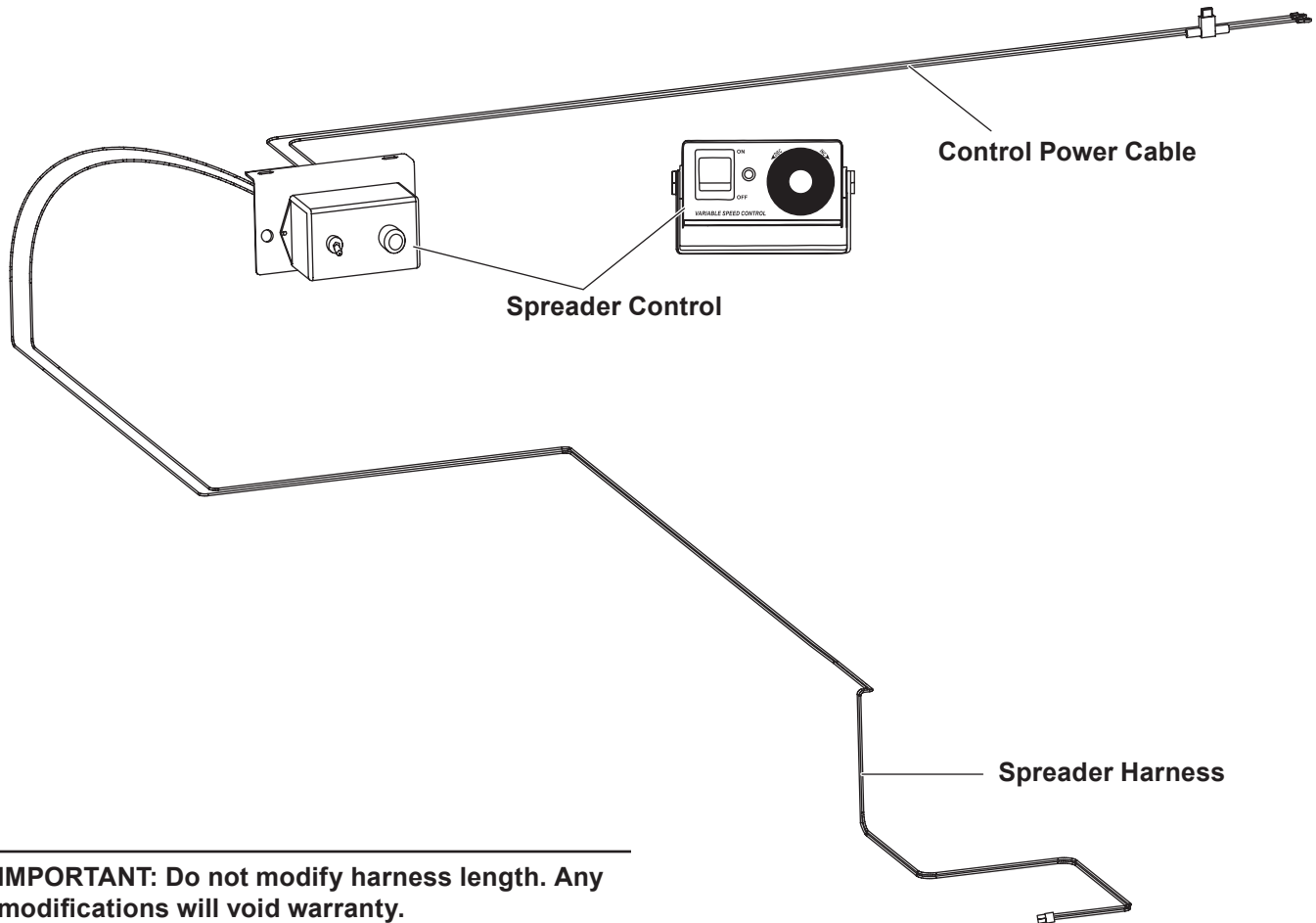
Insert the assembled unit into the receiver hitch and secure with the supplied hitch pin and hairpin cotter.



# ELECTRICAL DIAGRAM – WIRED CONTROL

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## 300 ELECTRICAL DIAGRAM



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**IMPORTANT: Do not modify harness length. Any modifications will void warranty.**

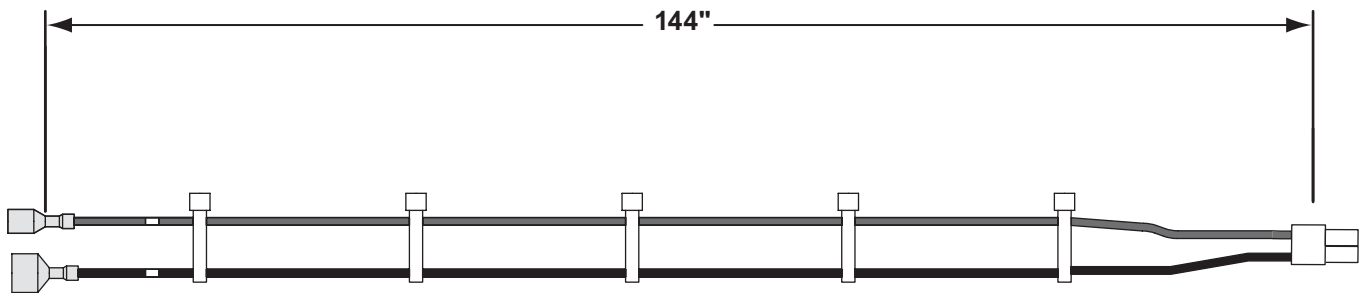
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1. All external connections must have dielectric grease.
2. Read lead labels before attaching to power source or ground.
3. No other devices may be spliced into wiring harness.
4. Any repairs to wiring harness must be done with heat shrink butt connectors.

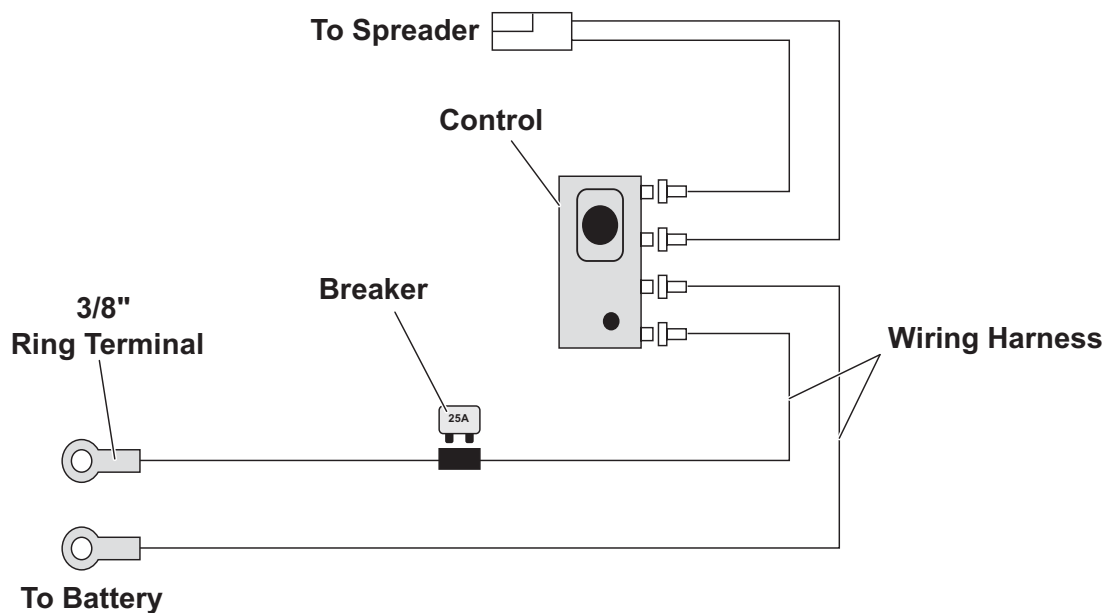
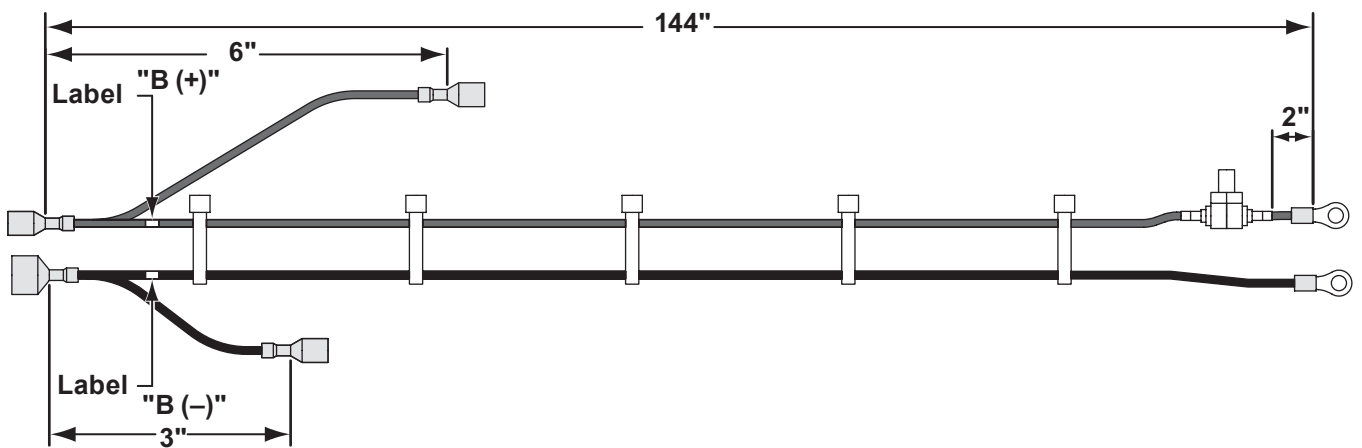
# CONTROL AND HARNESS DIAGRAM

## 300 HARNESS DIAGRAMS

### Vehicle Harness



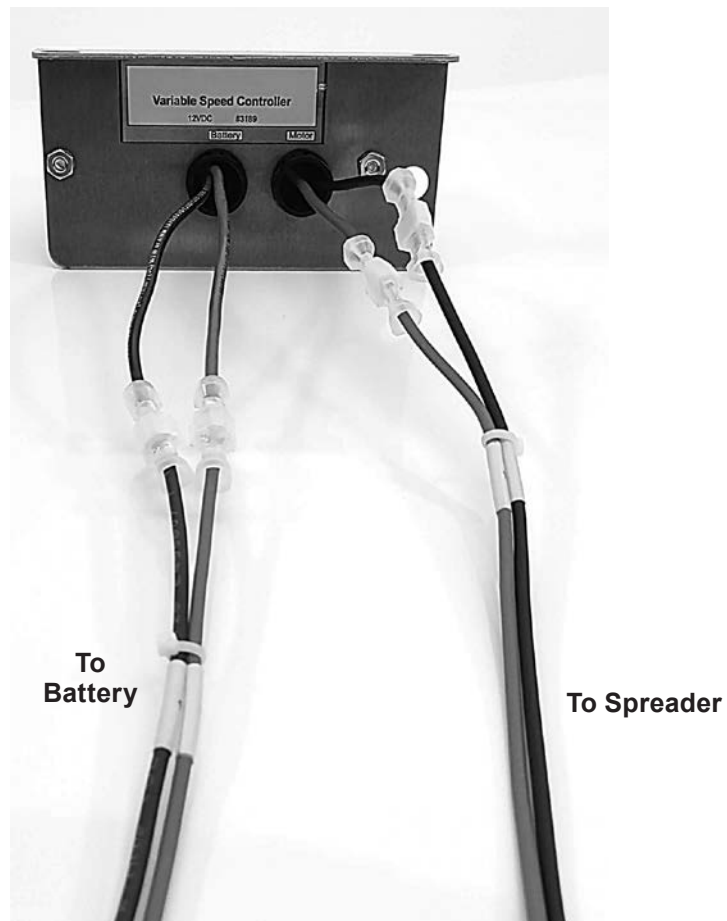
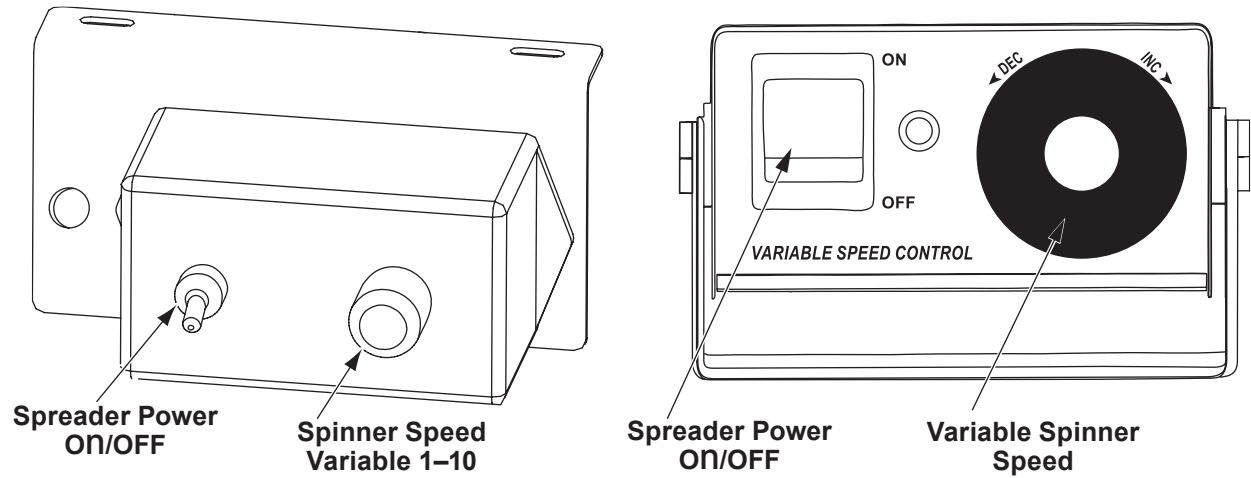
### Battery Harness



## CONTROL AND HARNESS DIAGRAM

### 300 CONTROL

Control



# OPERATING THE SPREADER

## CONTROL

### WARNING

Never operate equipment when under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medications that might alter your judgment and/or reaction time.

### WARNING

Never exceed 45 mph (72 km/h) when loaded spreader is attached to vehicle. Braking distances may be increased and handling characteristics may be impaired at speeds above 45 mph (72 km/h).

### WARNING

Never allow children to operate or climb on equipment.

### WARNING

Before starting the spreader, the driver shall verify that all bystanders are a minimum of 25 feet away from operating spreader.

**NOTE:** The vehicle ignition must be ON to start the spreader.

**NOTE:** If vehicle ignition is turned OFF while spreader is running, the motor will stop.

**NOTE:** The spinner motor is not designed for continuous duty. Allow the motor to cool between long cycle times.

## REMOVING THE SPREADER

### CAUTION

Empty the hopper before removing the spreader.

### CAUTION

During removal or mounting, securely grip spreader to avoid dropping.

1. Unplug the spreader harness from the vehicle harness.
2. Remove the hitch pin from the receiver hitch.
3. Remove the spreader from the vehicle and stand it upright. This may require additional support.

## Spreader Power

The tailgate spreader comes standard with an ON/OFF switch.

**To start the spreader:** Turn the power ON. Material will begin to flow through the feed auger.

**To stop the spreader:** Switch the power OFF. Material will cease to spread.

## Adjusting Spinner Speed

The tailgate spreader comes standard with a variable speed dial. Spinner speed can be adjusted to get desired spread distance.

1. Turn the speed dial clockwise to increase speed, resulting in a wider spread pattern. When the POWER switch is set to the ON position, the spreader will accelerate to the speed set on the dial.
2. Turn the speed dial counterclockwise to decrease speed, resulting in a narrower spread pattern.



# OPERATING THE SPREADER

---

## DRIVING AND SPREADING ON SNOW AND ICE

### WARNING

**Drinking and then driving or spreading is very dangerous. Your reflexes, perceptions, attentiveness, and judgment can be affected by even a small amount of alcohol. You can have a serious or even fatal collision if you drive after drinking. Please do not drink then drive or spread ice-control materials.**

Follow your vehicle owner's manual instructions for driving in snow and ice conditions. Remember, when you drive on snow or ice, your wheels will not get good traction. You cannot accelerate as quickly, turning is more difficult, and you will need longer braking distance. Wet and hard packed snow or ice offer the worst tire traction. It is very easy to lose control. You will have difficulty accelerating. If you do get moving, you may have poor steering and difficult braking, which can cause you to slide out of control.

Here are some tips for driving in these conditions:

- Drive defensively.
- Do not drink, then drive or spread ice-control materials.
- Spread or drive only when you have good visibility for operating a vehicle.
- If you cannot see well due to snow or icy conditions, you will need to slow down and keep more space between you and other vehicles.
- Slow down, especially on higher-speed roads. Your headlamps can light up only so much road ahead.
- If you are tired, pull off in a safe place and rest.
- The spreader's size and location reduce driver visibility to the rear of the vehicle. We recommend an OSHA compliant backup alarm for all governed employers.
- Keep your windshield and all glass on your vehicle clean to see around you.
- Dress properly for the weather. Wear layers of clothing; as you get warm, you can take off layers.

## SPREADING TIPS

- Spread ice melters with the storm to prevent unmanageable levels of ice.
- Never exceed 10 mph (16 km/h) when spreading.
- For a heavier pass, drive slower.
- Never operate spreader near pedestrians.
- Calculate spread pattern when near vegetation.

## MAINTENANCE

---

### WARNING

Never remove the spreader with material in the hopper.

### CAUTION

Disconnect electric power at spreader electrical wiring harness connection and tag out if required before servicing or performing maintenance.

### CAUTION

- When replacing parts use only original manufacturer's parts. Failure to do so will void warranty.
- The control is a solid-state electronic unit and is not serviceable. Any attempt to service will void warranty.
- There are no serviceable parts in the motor/transmission assembly. Any attempt to service will void warranty.
- When pressure washing motor enclosure area, keep spray at least 36" away from motor enclosures.

## LUBRICATION

To keep your spreader running smoothly, observe the following recommendations:

- Lubricate bearings after every 20 hours of use.
- Apply a small amount of light oil to latches as needed.

## AFTER EACH USE

### CAUTION



**DO NOT** leave unused material in hopper. Material can freeze or solidify, causing unit to not work properly. Empty and clean after each use.

- Wash out the hopper and rinse off all external surfaces.
- Apply dielectric grease on all electrical connections to prevent corrosion.

## AT THE END OF EACH SEASON OR AFTER EXTENDED STORAGE

- Wash out the hopper and rinse off all external surfaces.
- Apply dielectric grease on all electrical connections to prevent corrosion.
- Lubricate all grease fittings with good quality multipurpose grease.
- Oil or paint all bare metal surfaces.
- If motor cover is removed for any reason, use silicone sealant to ensure weatherproofing of enclosure.

## FUSE REPLACEMENT

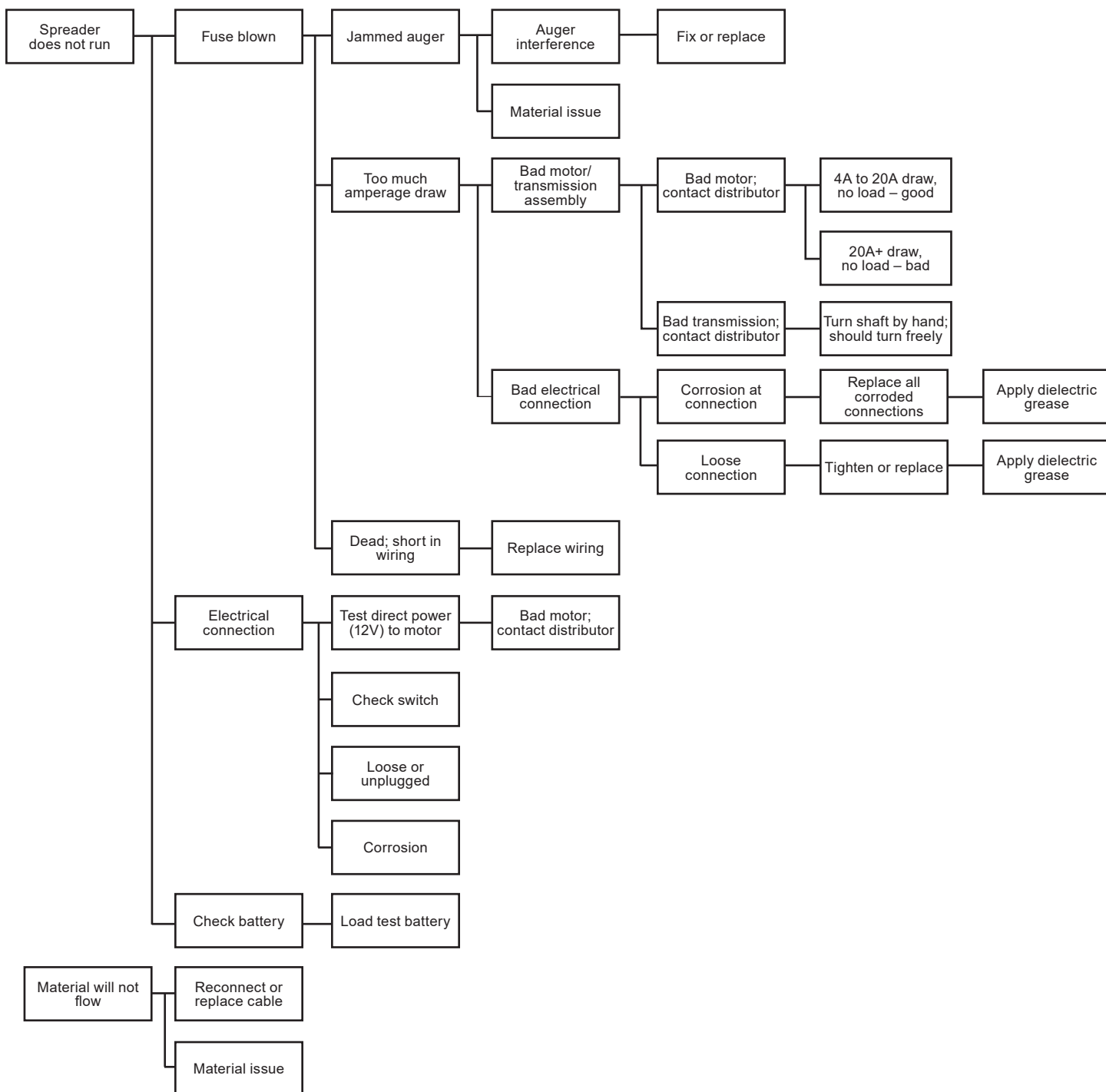
If a problem should occur and fuse replacement is necessary, the replacement fuse must be of the same type and amperage rating as the original. Installing a fuse with a higher rating can damage the system and could start a fire.

## STORAGE

Store the spreader in a clean, dry location and away from direct sunlight.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

## TAILGATE SPREADER





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[www.westernplows.com](http://www.westernplows.com)

 A DIVISION OF DOUGLAS DYNAMICS, LLC



*This product conforms to EU Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC and Directive 2011/65/EC (RoHS2).*



*This product conforms to UK Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008 and 2012 (RoHS2).*

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