



# L.T. Rich Products, Inc.

## 46" De-Thatch Rake Installation Instruction Sheet

Date: September 14th, 2011

Bulletin #: 016

Subject: De-Thatch Rake Installation Instruction Sheet

Model(s): All Z-Plug (3 wheeled and 4 wheeled units)

L T Rich Products has designed an instruction sheet to install and adjust the 46" De-Thatch Rake (designed for both the 3 wheeled Z-Plug units and the 4 wheeled Z-Plug units). This instruction sheet will assist you and/or your staff to install the Z-Plug De-Thatch Rake Attachment to your Z-Plug unit.

If at any time you have questions about the De-Thatch Rake attachment installation, feel free to call us at **765-482-2040** or **877-482-2040**.

Remove any current mid-mount attachment that is currently on the unit (Aerator head, 18 gallon spray tank, Slit Seeder or Snow Blade). This can be done by removing the chain linkages, hydraulic ball swivel linkage, front pins and/or front ball swivel pins to remove all linkages to attachment(s). Drive unit to the left or to the right to move unit away from current attachment (*pictured below is the aerator head being removed from traction unit*)



Once the traction unit is free of any attachments (in the under carriage area), drive the aerator traction unit to the rear of the De-Thatch Rake attachment (*pictured below*). Position the rear wheel that is next to the De-Thatch Rake approximately to the middle of the rear end. Turn the front of the unit to position the aerator traction unit over the De-Thatch Rake (*pictured below*) and turn off the engine.



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Bring the lift arms to the lowest position (picture # 1) to allow easy attachment to the ball & chain rear linkage. Lift the ball to the pull pin and install. Repeat this process on the other side of the unit (picture # 2) and position yourself to connect the front ball swivel to the pull pin located under the front of the Z-Plug (picture # 3)



(picture # 1)



(picture # 2)



(picture # 3)

Your De-Thatch Rake is now attached to your Aerator. To adjust the rakes, use a 5/32 Allen Wrench to loosen both the left and the right of each row of rakes (picture #4). Adjust the rake so that it is less than 90 degrees toward the back of the Z-Plug (picture #5). If the rakes are 90 degrees or greater (picture #6), the De-Thatch Rake will hop and/or swing. This is caused due to the aggression of the rakes. If setup is causing the rake to hop and/or swing, adjust the rakes the vertical position with the rake tips more toward the rear of the unit.



(picture # 4)



(picture # 5)



(picture # 6)

If the yard or turf area that you are de-thatching has never had this application completed, there may be a thick layer of thatch. This will result in good amounts of thatch being pulled up and needing to be removed. Pull and set aside thatch as needed to allow good exposure for the rake to work properly. This may require for the operator to remove thatch at every, every other or every 3<sup>rd</sup> pass on the turf if thatch layer is thick.

Once completed, less de-thatching and thatch build up will be present in the turf. The turf wants 1/2" of thatch layer; anything more will limit the ability for water and oxygen to reach down to the root system.

**\* If you have questions about this update kit bulletin, please call us at L T Rich Products, Inc \***

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