



# **QUICK ATTACH BUCKET FORKS**

**Operation, Service  
& Parts Manual For  
1,200 to 22,000 lb.  
Capacity**

**November 1996 (Rev. 3-2009)**

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Date of Purchase: \_\_\_\_\_

Model Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_


# INTRODUCTION

*We welcome you as an owner of a set of Gearmore Quick Attach Bucket Forks. Please read the following instructions and refer to them when required:*











These forks are intended to convert your loader into a forklift for limited use. Since your loader was not specifically designed as a forklift, extra care must be taken when operating, such as the following:

1. Know the capacity and limitations of the forks.
2. Know your machines characteristics and operating procedures.
3. Study and know the safety procedures in this manual and the manual provided with your tractor.
4. When in the field, refer to the safety decals on the forks (*Ref. A*). If at any time, over the life of the forks, your safety decal becomes damaged, contact your dealer or Gearmore for free replacement (909) 548-4848.

**Ref. A**



## CAUTION

-  ***USE OF FORKS CAN BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS! YOU OR OTHERS CAN BE HURT BY:***  
***☐ TIPPING THE MACHINE ☐ LOSING THE LOAD***
-  ***KNOW YOUR SAFETY RULES!***  
Before operating fork equipped loader, read your fork owner's manual! Use extreme caution when operating!
-  ***ALWAYS KEEP LOAD CENTERED ON TINES AND MACHINE!***
-  ***PROTECT YOURSELF!***  
Never roll back forks so that the load can fall on you or others!
-  ***BEFORE DISMOUNTING MACHINE PLACE FORKS ON GROUND!***  
Never leave machine with a raised load! Always follow machine manufacturers recommendations for dismounting and parking machine.
-  ***USE OF FORKS WILL REDUCE MACHINE STABILITY!***  
Use extreme caution when lifting and transporting loads! Follow machine manufacturers recommendations for use of counterweights and other ballast!
-  ***KNOW YOUR MACHINE!***  
Never lift or transport more than your machine can handle!
-  ***RAMPS, GRADES, AND BUMPY OR SOFT GROUND WILL GREATLY REDUCE YOUR MACHINE'S STABILITY!***  
Lifting and transporting loads under these conditions is extremely dangerous! Use Extreme Caution!
-  ***KEEP FORKS AS LOW AS POSSIBLE DURING OPERATION!***
-  ***KNOW YOUR SAFETY RULES!***

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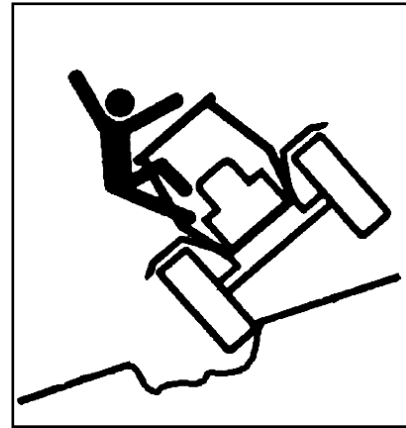
# PLAN YOUR WORK

Before you operate, know how and where you will travel, turn and pickup, lift and place loads.

Choose a smooth level route to prevent possible tipover or loss of load. If possible, avoid crossing:

- Ruts
- Ditches
- Curbs
- Exposed Railroad Tracks

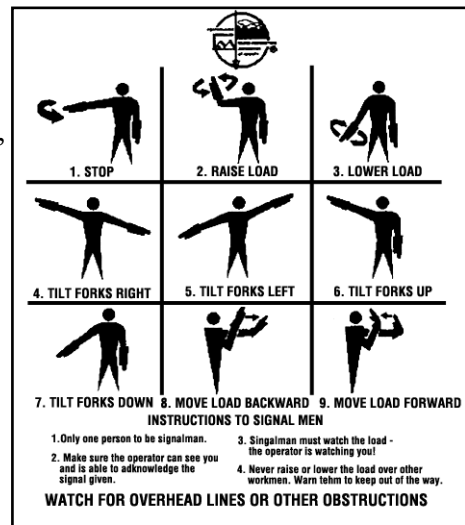
When these conditions cannot be avoided, keep the load as low as possible and travel very slowly and with extreme caution.



Know where there are any blind corner conditions on the worksite. Before turning a blind corner, stop, sound your horn, and proceed slowly.

Always maintain safe distances between your tractor and other equipment that may be on the worksite.

Know the weights of all loads you may be expected to transport before attempting to lift them. Avoid loads of loose material if possible. Check that loads are properly banded or strapped together.



If you will be placing loads at high elevations, remember your depth perception is decreased because of distance. Use a signal person near the point where the load is to be placed.

Know the rules for movement of people and forklifts on the worksite. Slow down and sound your horn, making sure that your approach has been acknowledged by those in your path. Stop your forklift until your presence has been recognized or until the path is clear.

Insure that adequate clearance is provided between both rear tail swing and front fork swing of the forklift to avoid injury to personnel or damage to objects nearby.

## REMEMBER:

- *Be Alert* - Knowing that conditions can change.
- *Use Common Sense* - Showing that you are a responsible operator.
- *Be a Defensive Operator* - Preventing accidents before they happen.

# KNOW THE WORK AREA

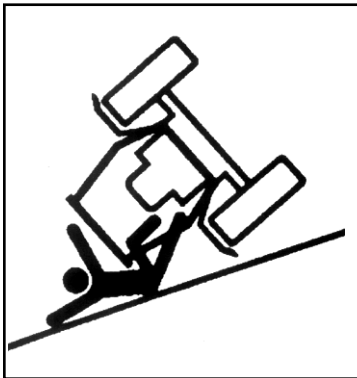
Before you operate, learn as much as possible about the work area.

Walk around the worksite and inspect the surface(s) over which you will be expected to travel.

## AVOID:

- ⇒ Holes
- ⇒ Drop-offs
- ⇒ Obstacles
- ⇒ Rough Spots
- ⇒ Soft Soil
- ⇒ Deep Mud
- ⇒ Standing Water
- ⇒ Oil Spills
- ⇒ Wet Spots
- ⇒ Slippery Surfaces

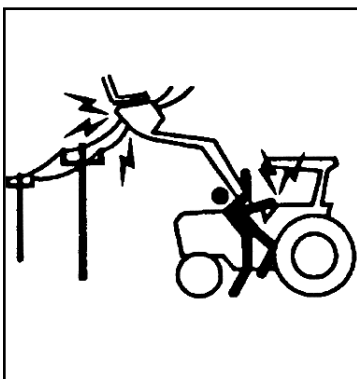
If any of the above listed conditions exist in the work area, correct the condition before operating. If the condition cannot be corrected, avoid operating in the problem area.



When operating on docks, ramps or floors, check for weak spots. Clear away trash and debris. Pick up anything that could puncture a tire.

Watch for any condition that could cause:

- ◆ Loss of Control
- ◆ A Collision
- ◆ Tipover



Check overhead clearances. Know the size of doorways and canopies. Know exactly how much clearance you have under power lines and telephone lines.

**IMPORTANT:** *DO NOT* approach power lines, overhead or underground cables or other power sources with any part of your forklift unless all local, state/provincial and federal regulations have been met and the appropriate utility company or digger's hotline has been contacted to de-energize the lines.

# OPERATING/SAFETY PROCEDURES

- Keep in mind that the lift capacity of the machine can be greatly reduced by a number of factors, including:
  1. Operating on a grade, especially across a grade.
  2. Operating on uneven, soft, bumpy or rough terrain.
  3. Under-inflated tires.
- Double-tiered loads are hard to control and should ***not*** be lifted.
- If there is any question about being able to lift the load, stop and separate the load into smaller lifts.
- Remember that the weight of the forklift attachment is the same as carrying a partial load. In this case, operate the machine as if you were transporting a partial load.
- Carry the load ***low*** - always at the lowest possible bucket height recognizing the irregularities in the surface of the working area.
- Keep your speed low enough so that you are in complete control at all times.
- Operate your machine only from the operator's seat.
- Sudden stops, starts, turns, or changes in direction can cause the load to fall or the machine to overturn.
- Keep others away from your operation. **NEVER** allow anyone to stand or pass under a raised load.
- NEVER** drive a fork equipped machine up to someone standing in front of a fixed object.
- If overload causes the machine to tip - lower the load immediately.
- If loads are to be re-handled, place stacking blocks under the load.

# OPERATING/SAFETY PROCEDURES

- Approach the load slowly and squarely. Keep fork tips straight and level.
- Engage the load by moving the machine carefully into position.
- Make sure the load is *evenly distributed* between both forks.
- Be sure that the forks are *centered* on the bucket.
- When the load is up against the fork back rest, tilt the forks back to the "carry" position.
- Tilt the load only enough to clear obstacles while moving.
- Adjust the width between the forks to the *widest* setting allowed by the load.
- Be certain that the load is secure.
- DO NOT** drag a load.
- When carrying a suspended load, avoid sudden starts, stops, and turns. Use a tether to restrict the movement of a suspended load.



## WARNING!

- When carrying drums, cylinders, reels, pipe, or other round objects, tilt forks back and use a tie down, or tether if necessary, to secure the load.
- Use extra care when handling long, high, or wide loads. Be particularly watchful to avoid any contact with power lines.
- ALWAYS** watch your overhead and side clearance.
- ALWAYS** come to a gradual stop before reversing direction.

# OPERATING/SAFETY PROCEDURES

- ❑ Whenever possible, two people should work together - one to operate the machine and the other to direct and watch for danger and hazards.
- ❑ **NEVER** travel down grade with loaded forks pointing down grade.
- ❑ Make sure that the place where you will put the load can take the weight of the load.
- ❑ Use **extreme caution** when placing or stacking a load overhead. This practice is extremely dangerous. When carrying high, remember:
  1. Use **extreme caution** because there may be workers or others in the area that you cannot see.
  2. Keep the load as low as possible while maneuvering the machine into position.
  3. **DO NOT** lift the load until the machine is as close as possible to the place where the load will go.
  4. **DO NOT** raise the load if the forks are tilted to one side or bent.
  5. If your machine is equipped with out-riggers, these should be lowered into position.
  6. Use a signal person if necessary to help you safely place the load.
  7. If there is any sign of **instability**, immediately lower the load and:
    - ⇒ Re-stack the load on the pallet or break it down into smaller loads.
    - ⇒ If necessary, move the machine to a more stable, level position.



## WARNING!

- ❑ The machine will become less stable as loads are raised higher.
- ❑ **DO NOT** ram a hydraulic cylinder to the end of its stroke. The resulting jolt could spill the load.



# OPERATING/SAFETY PROCEDURES

- DO NOT** apply the full down pressure of the machine to the forks; it could cause damage to the tines, rod and/or mounting brackets.
- The fork attachment will not withstand any substantial side loading as could result from letting the tines contact a solid object while turning.
- NEVER** let anyone near the pinch points of the machine, including:
  1. The pivot point of an articulated machine.
  2. The loader lift arms.
  3. The loader bucket.
- NEVER** carry a rider.
- NEVER** use the bucket or forks as a man lift.
- NEVER** lift a load over the heads of other people.
- Before you backup, look to be sure everyone is clear of the machine.
- Make sure your backup alarm is working.
- ALWAYS** keep any signal person in view.

# OPERATION

To install the forks, make sure they are placed in working position with the rod in place. Curl forward your loader bucket and slowly drive into the forks. when fork rod is directly over the bracket slot, stop the tractor and slowly curl back the bucket until the rod is in the base of the bracket.

## **IMPORTANT:**

Your forks are held in place with an exclusive "self-locking" bracket. Take special care that this safety rod locking bracket is always in good working condition.

Know the capacity of the forks you are using. Check the serial number plate, which shows the capacity. Remember, the forks rated capacity is at the center point of the tine.

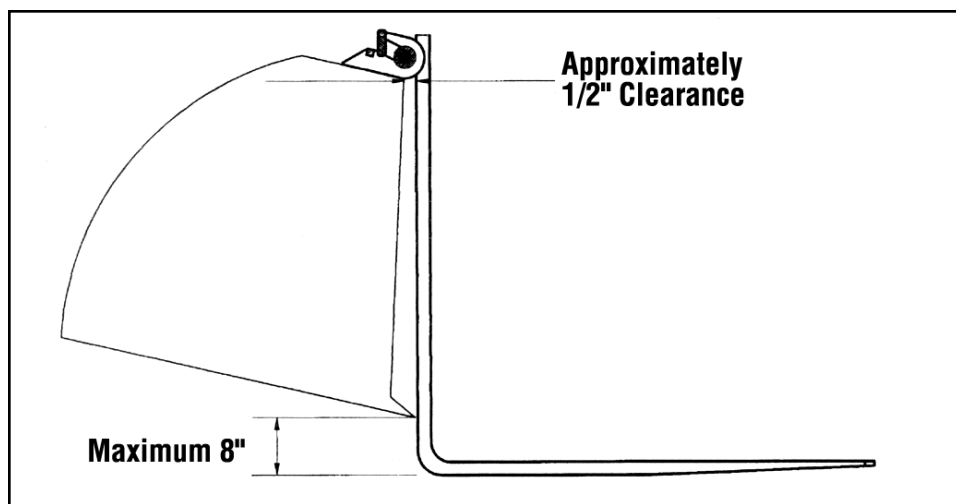
The tines can slide sideways to adjust the spread. The maximum spread should be utilized whenever possible to provide maximum load stability. However, the tines must be centered on the axis of the machine to prevent any tendency of the machine to slip sideways.

Since these forklift attachments are designed to be attached to existing loader buckets, visibility is restricted and special care is required in picking up and placing a load. The assistance of another individual, standing to the side during such positioning would be helpful.

# INSTALLATION

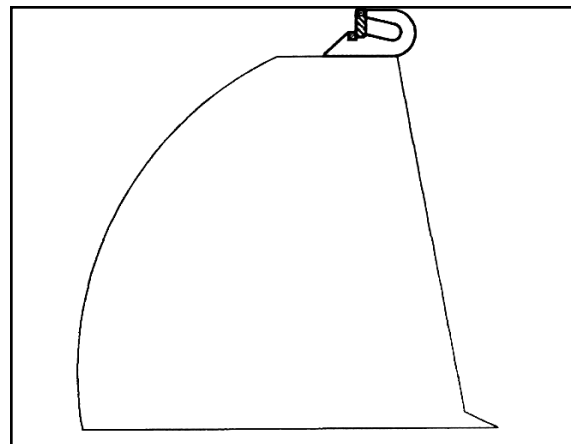
1. Slide the tines onto the rod.
2. With the tines sitting upright on a hard level surface in normal operating position, use the rod as a fixture to locate the brackets on the top of the bucket.

**NOTE:** The gap between the top of the bucket and the top of the forks should be approximately  $1/2"$ . The fork should not stick more than 8" below the bucket cutting edge.



3. Hook the brackets over the rod and position them equally spaced across the top of the bucket within the length of the rod. If there are only three brackets, one must be located in the center. Check with your customer as to the widest fork position they will require, and weld on the 2 outside brackets accordingly. Thus, by placing the brackets as close together as possible you reduce the stress on the rod.

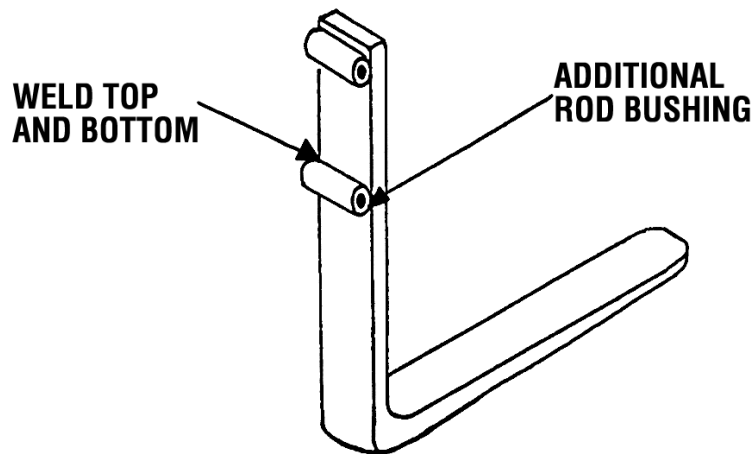
**NOTE:** The tops of loader buckets vary greatly from manufacturer to manufacturer, thus it may be necessary to trim or notch the brackets to fit the bucket. The bracket should be positioned as close as possible to parallel to the ground when loader bucket is in level position. **DO NOT** angle more than  $15^\circ$  each way.



# INSTALLATION (Continued)

4. Tack weld the positioned brackets to the bucket. Roll the bucket forward to check alignment. Then roll back into working position to make sure the rod "bottoms out" in all brackets.

**NOTE:** If the forks extend more than 8" below the bucket, it will be necessary to order new rod bushings to weld on the forks in a lower position.



5. Complete the welding of the brackets to the bucket. The weld should cover the full length and both sides of the bracket.

The side of the fillet weld should be:

- ⇒ 3/8" thick brackets - 1/4" fillet weld
- ⇒ 1/2" & 3/4" thick brackets - 3/8" fillet weld

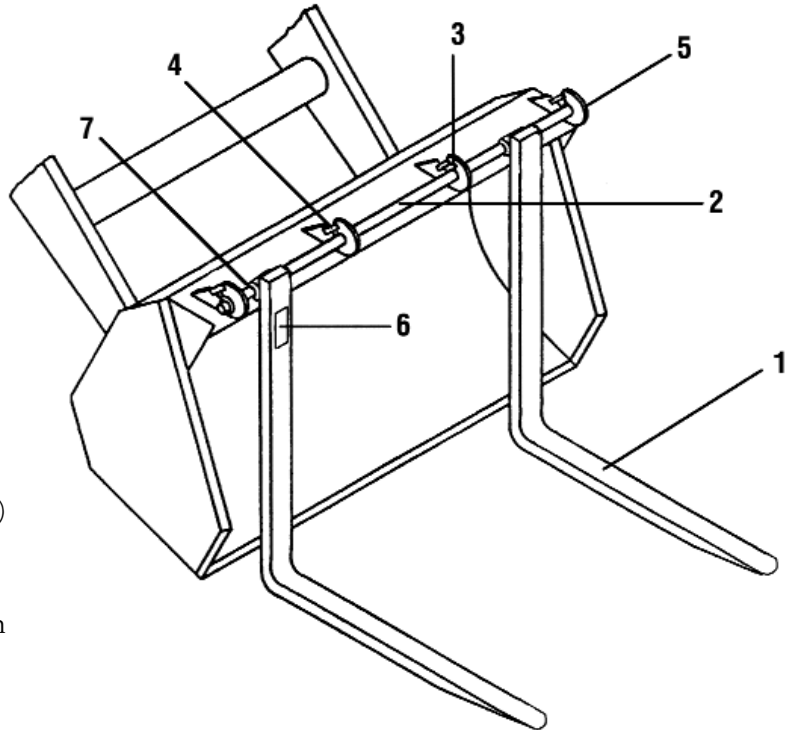
6. Install the rod locking collar on the open rod end.

# PARTS BREAKDOWN

## SPARE PARTS

### ITEM # DESCRIPTION

- 1 Tines
- 2 Rod
- 3 Mounting Bracket
- 4 Locking Latch
- 5 Rod Locking Collar
- 6 Safety Decals - (no charge)
- 7 Rod Bushing



When ordering parts, simply state item number, model number and quantity required.

<u>MODEL NO.</u>	<u>NO. OF TINES</u>	<u>LOAD CAPACITY</u>	<u>NO. OF BRACKETS</u>	<u>FITS BUCKET OPENING</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>
12 UNIV	2	1,200 lbs.	3	17" to 25"	185#
25 UNIV	2	2,500 lbs.	3	24" to 32"	255#
40 UNIV	2	4,000 lbs.	4	32" to 40"	320#
60 LB	2	6,000 lbs.	4	32" to 40"	410#
60 UNIV	2	6,000 lbs.	4	41" to 49"	460#
80 UNIV	2	8,000 lbs.	4	46" to 54"	720#
110 UNIV	2	11,000 lbs.	4	59" to 67"	950#
165 UNIV	3	16,500 lbs.	6	59" to 67"	1355#
220 UNIV	4	22,500 lbs.	8	59" to 67"	1740#

# WARRANTY



GEARMORE, INC., warrants each new Gearmore product to be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of twelve (12) months from date of purchase to the original purchaser. This warranty shall not apply to implements or parts that have been subject to misuse, negligence, accident, or that have been altered in any way.

Our obligation shall be limited to repairing or replacement of any part, provided that such part is returned within thirty (30) days from date of failure to Gearmore through the dealer from whom the purchase was made, transportation charges prepaid.

This warranty shall not be interpreted to render us liable for injury or damages of any kind or nature, direct, consequential or contingent, to person or property. This warranty does not extend to loss of crops, loss because of delay in harvesting or any other expenses, for any other reasons.

Gearmore in no way warrants engines, tires, or other trade accessories, since these items are warranted separately by these respective manufacturers.

Gearmore reserves the right to make improvements in design or changes in specification at any time, without incurring any obligations to owners or units previously sold.

GEARMORE, INC.  
13477 Benson Ave.  
Chino, CA 91710

Always refer to and heed machine operating warning decals on machine.

The serial number of this product is stored in our computer database, thus submitting a warranty registration card is not required.