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John Deere AFH216812

John Deere Original Equipment Cutterbar Wear Plate

Model: AFH216812

User Manual

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, function, maintenance, and troubleshooting of the John Deere Original Equipment Cutterbar Wear Plate, model AFH216812. This component is designed to ensure optimal performance and longevity of your agricultural machinery's cutterbar system. As an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) part, it is engineered to meet John Deere's precise specifications and quality standards.



Figure 1: Front view of the John Deere Cutterbar Wear Plate AFH216812. This image shows the overall shape and green finish of the wear plate, designed to protect the cutterbar.

2. Compatibility

The AFH216812 Cutterbar Wear Plate is compatible with the following John Deere models:

- **Platform Windrower:** 500R, 990, 994, 995
- **Conditioner Mower:** 625, 630, 635, 830, 835, 946, 956, C300, C350, C400, C450, C500, S250, S300, S350
- **Platform:** R400, R500

Always verify compatibility with your specific machine's operator's manual before installation.

3. Installation

Proper installation of the cutterbar wear plate is crucial for safety and optimal machine performance. Refer to your main equipment's service manual for detailed, model-specific instructions. The following are general guidelines:

1. **Safety First:** Ensure the machine is turned off, the engine is cool, and all power sources are disconnected. Engage parking brakes and block wheels if necessary. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves and eye protection.
2. **Access the Cutterbar:** Depending on your machine model, you may need to raise the header or remove protective covers to gain access to the cutterbar assembly.
3. **Remove Old Wear Plate:** Locate the existing wear plate. It is typically secured with bolts or other fasteners. Carefully remove these fasteners and detach the old wear plate. Note its orientation for correct installation of the new part.
4. **Clean Mounting Area:** Thoroughly clean any debris, rust, or residue from the mounting surface on the cutterbar. A clean surface ensures proper seating and prevents premature wear.
5. **Install New Wear Plate:** Position the new John Deere AFH216812 wear plate onto the cutterbar, ensuring it aligns correctly with the mounting holes.
6. **Secure Fasteners:** Install the appropriate fasteners (bolts, nuts, washers) to secure the wear plate. Tighten them to the torque specifications provided in your machine's service manual. Overtightening or undertightening can lead to damage or premature failure.
7. **Final Inspection:** After installation, visually inspect the wear plate to ensure it is securely mounted and properly aligned. Check for any loose components or obstructions.



Figure 2: Top view of the wear plate, showing the part number label (AFH216812) and mounting holes. This view is helpful for identifying the correct orientation during installation.

4. Operating Function

The cutterbar wear plate serves a critical function in agricultural harvesting equipment. It is designed to:

- **Protect the Cutterbar:** The primary role of the wear plate is to absorb abrasive forces and impacts during operation, protecting the more critical and expensive cutterbar components from direct wear.

- **Maintain Cutting Efficiency:** By providing a smooth, consistent surface, the wear plate helps maintain the proper alignment and spacing of cutting elements, contributing to efficient and clean cutting of crops.
- **Reduce Friction:** It helps reduce friction between moving parts and the ground or crop material, which can improve fuel efficiency and reduce strain on the machine's engine.

Ensure that the wear plate is always in good condition to prevent damage to other parts of the cutterbar assembly and maintain optimal harvesting performance.



Figure 3: Angled view of the wear plate, highlighting its contoured design for integration into the cutterbar system.

5. Maintenance

Regular inspection and timely replacement of the wear plate are essential for the longevity and efficiency of your John Deere equipment.

- **Routine Inspection:** During routine machine inspections, visually check the wear plate for signs of wear, cracks, bending, or other damage. Pay close attention to areas that experience high friction or impact.
- **Wear Indicators:** Some wear plates may have wear indicators. If present, replace the plate when wear reaches the indicated limit. If no indicators are present, replace the plate when its thickness is significantly reduced or when it shows signs of structural compromise.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the area around the wear plate free of accumulated crop residue, dirt, and debris, which can accelerate wear.
- **Replacement Schedule:** The replacement interval for wear plates varies depending on operating conditions, crop type, and hours of use. Consult your machine's operator's manual for recommended inspection and replacement schedules. Replace the wear plate immediately if significant damage is observed.



Figure 4: Bottom view of the wear plate, showing the underside and structural elements. This view can be useful during inspection for signs of wear or damage.

6. Troubleshooting

Issues related to the cutterbar wear plate often manifest as reduced cutting performance or unusual machine behavior.

- **Symptom: Increased Vibration or Noise from Cutterbar.**
  Possible Cause: Severely worn, damaged, or improperly installed wear plate. Loose fasteners.
- **Symptom: Poor Cutting Quality or Uneven Stubble.**
  Possible Cause: Worn wear plate affecting cutterbar alignment or allowing excessive play.
- **Symptom: Damage to Other Cutterbar Components.**
  Possible Cause: A failed wear plate has exposed other parts to direct wear or impact.

Action: In any of these cases, immediately stop the machine and perform a thorough inspection of the cutterbar assembly, including the wear plate. Replace the wear plate if it shows signs of excessive wear or damage. Ensure all fasteners are tightened to specifications.



Figure 5: Another angled view of the wear plate, providing a different perspective of its contours and the visible part number label.

7. Specifications

Part Number	AFH216812
Manufacturer	John Deere
Product Dimensions (Approximate)	0.1 x 0.1 x 0.1 inches (This is a placeholder dimension, actual dimensions may vary slightly)
Material	Durable metal alloy (typical for wear plates)
Type	Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Part

Note: The provided product dimensions (0.1 x 0.1 x 0.1 inches) appear to be generic. For precise dimensions, please refer to official John Deere documentation or measure the part directly.



Figure 6: Side profile of the wear plate, illustrating its thickness and structural integrity.

8. Warranty and Support

As an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) part, the John Deere Cutterbar Wear Plate AFH216812 is backed by John Deere's standard warranty for genuine parts. Specific warranty terms and conditions may vary by region and purchase date. Please retain your proof of purchase.

For detailed warranty information, technical support, or assistance with installation and maintenance, please contact your authorized John Deere dealer or visit the official John Deere website. Always use genuine John Deere parts to ensure compatibility and maintain the integrity of your equipment.



Figure 7: Another angled view of the wear plate, providing a comprehensive look at its design from a different perspective.

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