

# STORING AND HOUSING YOUR TRACTOR

## Storing and Housing Your Tractor

When your tractor is not to be used for a period of time, it should be stored in a dry and protected place. To leave equipment outdoors, exposed to the elements, will result in materially shortening the life of the machine.

Follow the procedure outlined below when your tractor is placed in storage, and repeat the lubrication precautions every six months thereafter. We also recommend caution to be practiced in starting an engine that has been in storage.

1. Wash or clean and completely lubricate the tractor (*refer to "Lubrication Guide"*).
2. Drain and flush the cooling system.
3. Tractors with magneto: Oil the magneto impulse coupling liberally with kerosene.
4. After the engine has cooled off, remove the spark plugs and pour one tablespoon of SAE-50 lubricating oil of a good grade into each cylinder. Crank the engine 2 or 3 times to distribute oil over the cylinder walls.
5. Remove valve cover; flush valves and push rods with SAE-50 oil. (If any evidence of rust is found, remove it before lubricating.) Replace the valve cover.
6. Plug up the end of the exhaust pipe.
7. Remove the oil filter element. (If any evidence of rust is found on the center stud, clean it thoroughly.) Replace the old filter element with a new one and flush out any sludge from filter base *as instructed on page 15*.
8. Drain the fuel from the fuel tank and carburetor, and clean out the fuel strainer glass bowl.

**Caution:** Gum will eventually form in tanks, lines and carburetor if unit is not used. Gum in carburetor jets and passages affects engine starting. Gum can be dissolved with acetone or a 50-50 mixture of alcohol and benzol.

9. If the tractor is equipped with a storage battery, remove the battery and place it on a rack in a cool room and check the battery at least once a month for water level and specific gravity. *See page 43.*

## Starting Engines That Have Been in Storage

1. Remove the spark plugs and pour a mixture of one-half gasoline and one-half light lubricating oil into each cylinder (2 tablespoonfuls per cylinder is enough).
2. Remove the valve cover, and flush the valve and valve operating mechanism with the same mixture.
3. Crank the engine rapidly until excess oil has been blown out of the spark plug holes. This operation will loosen any tight piston rings and wash old gummy oil from valves and pistons.
4. Tractors with magneto: Flush out the impulse coupling with kerosene and lubricate as specified.
5. Drain the crankcase and flush out with kerosene or flushing oil and fill with the specified lubricating oil. *See "Lubrication Guide."*
6. Be sure the lubricating oil filter has a new element before starting the engine.
7. Remove the exhaust pipe plug.
8. Install the spark plugs after cleaning and setting gaps.
9. Fill the water cooling system.
10. Fill the fuel tank.
11. Install a fully charged battery (if used) and be sure the proper connections are made.
12. Clean the air cleaner and refill the oil cup.
13. Start the engine and let it run slowly; observe if any valves are sticking. If so, pour a small quantity of kerosene on the valve stem until loose.
14. Assemble the valve cover.

**Caution!** Do not accelerate the engine rapidly or operate at high speed immediately after starting.