

Ted Soenksen, Wilmette Golf Club



10 Year Old John Deere 3215A Fairway Mower

Problem:

Operator stipulates the rear cutting units do not come on consistently. Once they are "on" and cutting they stay "on." Next swath cutting units may or may not come "on."

Solution:

After inspecting the wiring around the rear mow valve, I found a break in the power supplied to the solenoid. Upon further inspection, I discovered the wiring was faulty where the wiring harness was zip-tied to the adjacent hydraulic hose, (see image: blue wire being split to supply both solenoids). After stripping back the insulation and the rubber sealed shrink-wrap, I found that corrosion from 10 years of moisture was trapped in this area. The actual break was pinpointed at the factory spliced connection that supplies voltage to both the mow solenoid and the back lap circuit.

Repair:

Simply, properly splice the wire and protect it with weatherproof connectors and seal with fusion tape.

Tools used:

Volt/ohm meter, a utility knife, John Deere technical manual, wire strippers.



Labor:

Clean machine before inspection	15 minutes
Diagnosis (with volt/ohm meter)	5 minutes
Repair time	10 minutes
Down time total	30 minutes

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President TETA

Have you figured out a better way to do things? Have you found an answer to a chronic problem on a specific piece of equipment? Have you developed, modified, or created a tool to make your job easier? If so, share your knowledge. Send technical tips to *On Course*, please email them to luke@magcs.org. If you are able, send photos as well.