

SEE...

HERE'S THE SCOOP!



STAY UP ON BUCKET PM ...



...WHEN IT COMES TO THE SMALL EMBLEMMENT EXCAVATOR'S FRONT SCOOP LOADER.

Back to Basics

Use the front bucket **only** for loading and backfilling loose dirt. Never use it to excavate banked or compacted soil. It doesn't have the digging power of a bulldozer or an M9 ACE. Hydraulic system and bucket failure are the sure results if you try to dig.

Busted Bucket

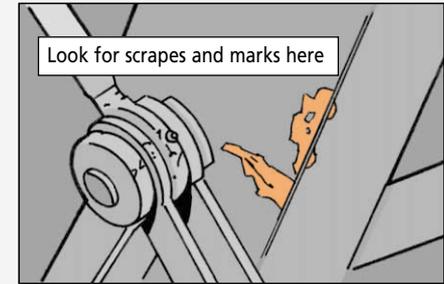
A front loader that sways left and right when loading probably has a bent connecting link. The connecting links connect the hydraulic cylinder to the bucket and get damaged from digging in rocky or compacted soil.

So get down on your hands and knees and grab the upper connecting link to see if it moves left or right—away from the loader's swing arm. If you spot any movement, report it to your mechanic.



CAN YOU MOVE THE UPPER CONNECTING LINK?

Other clues to a bent connecting link are dents or scrape marks on the loader's swing arm next to the link's bushing pin. Any marks mean a connecting link is bent. If links are bent, the bushing pin hits the swing arm when the front loader's bucket is retracted or elevated during construction operation. Report any marks or scrapes to your mechanic.



Look for scrapes and marks here

Use Travel Locks

Before traveling long distances, make sure you install the loader's travel locks.

They hold the bucket boom arms in place about a foot above the ground. That way the bucket's weight won't ride on the hydraulic cylinders—which can blow seals or hydraulic lines—and the bucket won't hit the ground if the cylinders let it drop.

The locks also keep the bucket teeth pointed up and out of the way of ground obstacles. Pages 2-87 and 2-88 in TM 5-2420-224-10 show how to install and remove the travel lock's spring clips.



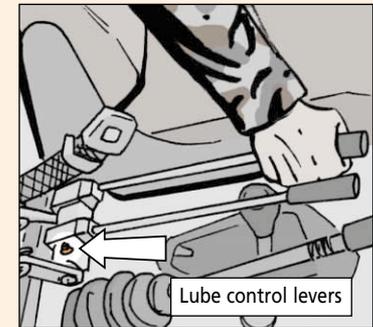
WHEN YOU'VE GOT A WAYS TO TRAVEL, DON'T FORGET TO INSTALL TRAVEL LOCKS.

Control Levers Need Lube

Control levers for the front loader's boom and bucket get a continuous workout during operation. When a lever gets hard to pull or push, it's because its linkage needs lube.

The grease fitting for both levers is next to your right hand when you're sitting in the driver's seat. It gets skipped over simply because it's inside the cab.

To put some ease back into operating those levers, be sure to lube them during scheduled services.



Lube control levers