

Honey Bee Manufacturing Ltd. P.O. Box 120 Frontier, Sask. SON 0W0 Phone (306) 296-2297 Fax (306) 296-2165 Email: alton.norheim@honeybee.ca

SERVICE BULLETIN

INFORMATION ONLY MANDATOR FAILURE

Ref: SRV-022-002

Date: 7-7-22

Product: AirFlex, SDX, RDX

Re: Knife Speed

Problem:

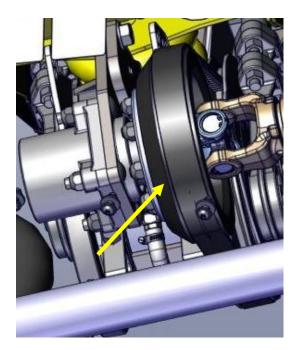
The header input drive from combines can vary between brands. The speed read-out on the combine monitor may not be the feeder shaft speed. If the jackshaft speed is not correct the head may run too fast which can cause additional wear or knife failure. If the head is running too slow the knife will not cut properly. This will cause poor header performance and higher loads on the cutting system causing drive belt slippage.

Solution:

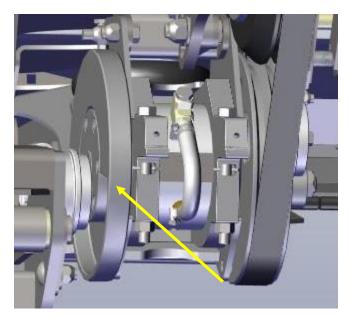
- The head has drive pulleys for each brand of combine that will operate the knife and drapers at the proper speed. If the combine has a variable speed feeder house the speed must be correct in order for the header to operate at the proper speed. Some combines lock the speed when a draper head is selected in the configuration and other combine models do not.
- The knife drive pulley Figure 1, was changed on MY2018 and above headers. The knife drive pulley was changed from 8.65 inch pulley to a 9.88 inch pulley. This larger pulley increases the speed of the knife on all units. The following charts show the knife speed for each brand of combine.
- When the header is installed on the combine for the first time the knife speed of the header needs to be checked. This is done by using a photo tach on the knife drive flywheel. The optimum speed is between 575 to 615 RPM (9.88inch Drive Pulley, the speeds for the 8.65 inch pulley will be slower). The head should never be operated above 620 RPM.
- To check the speed, place the photo tach tape on or use the 1/4" X 3/4" bolt in the flywheel of the lower knife drive flywheel opposite the drive belt, Figure 2.
- Note: Use caution when checking the speed. It is best to raise the header so that the combine feeder house safety locks can be installed. The flywheel can then be checked from the underside without removing the shields.

Operate the combine and drives at high idle. Check the speed of the flywheel

If the knife is running between 595 and 615 RPM, per the charts below, check the feeder house speed on the combine monitor, (if feeder speed is available note the speed of the feeder house). That is the speed the feeder house should be set each time the header is attached to the combine.









Headers with 9.88 Knife Drive Pulley	
Combine	Knife Speed (RPM)
AGCO	613
Lexion	609
CNH	604
JD 490	602
JD 520	612
Rostselmash	579
CIH 2X88	593

Headers with 8.65 Knife Drive Pulley	
Combine	Knife Speed (RPM)
Gleaner	536
Lexion	597
CNH	552
JD Feeder Speed 520	559
JD Feeder Speed 490	527
Massey	536

Ordering Information: No parts are needed

Labor Allowance: N/A None this is part of predelivery NOTE: