FLEX DRAPERS

Settings

One of the most important settings is the feederhouse for aft. If it is adjusted too far back it will run on the rear of the frame. It will cause the center of the head to be pushed up. The rear of the frame will drag and push and it will not cut efficiently. You want to adjust the feederhouse fore/aft so the rear of the draper frame doesn't drag on the ground. One indication that your feederhouse is not set right will occur when you lower the head to the ground. You will notice the center of the cutter bar will have a bump in it. As you can see in the picture the head is running on the front of the skid shoes and there is plenty of clearance on the rear of the frame.

Speeds

On variable speed feederhouses you will want to run the head at 510-530. If your head will not run at that speed, you will have to adjust the variable speed feederhouse drive belt. If you have a 5-speed feederhouse drive, you will only be able to run in first gear.
When you adjust the side belt speed you will want to run at 180 rpm or higher at first, at least until the oil warms up.

How do I know what speed to run the side belts?
The best time to determine at what speed to run the belts is when the crop comes to the center belt and doesn't stop on the center belt. You are looking for two even streams of crop coming in. You may have to adjust the belt speed as conditions change.

Reel Settings

In tall standing crops you will want to have the reel over the cutter bar with only the teeth of the reel hitting the crop and have the reel running a little faster than ground speed. In downed or damp crops you may want to move the reel closer to the cutter bar so it will feed smoothly. The reel position on drapers tends to be further forward than on auger headers.

Note: If you use reel resume to lower the reel down when you lift the head up to turn, it will help you from losing crop off the cutter bar.

Flip Over Reel Option

The flip over reel is handy in crops that tend to wrap the reel. How the flip over reel works is, in one rotation the fingers will rotate 360 degrees. This allows any straw to fall off. This can be added to 600FD heads as a field installed kit.

Crop Feed Belts

On 635FD and 640FD heads there are five separate belts and on 630FD heads there are three belts. On the two larger heads are three places to adjust belts. The outside belts are adjusted together with the same bolt, and the center one is adjusted by itself.

Outer Crop Feed Belt Adjustment

This is the belt adjustment bolt and the belt tension gauge for the outside draper belts. When you adjust these it will tighten both of the outside belts on the side you are adjusting. When you adjust these belts you do not want the gauge to be outside the green.

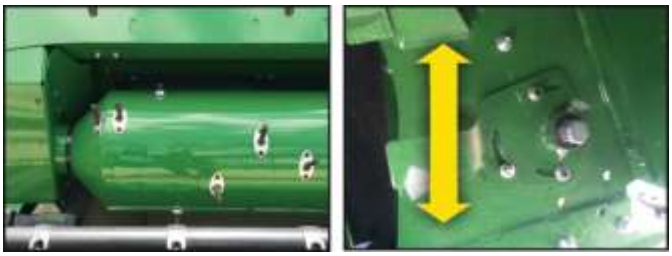
Note: Never over-tighten the draper belts. It will cause the belts to track wrong.

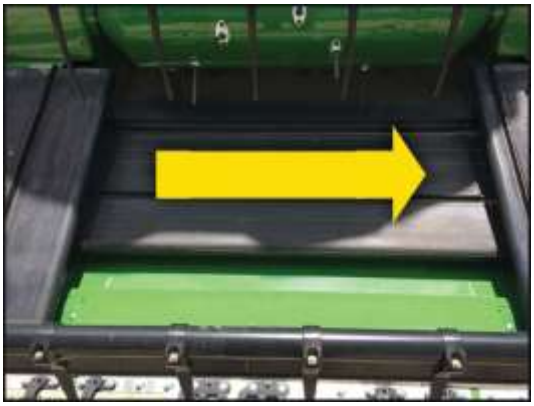
Center Crop Feed Belt Adjustment

This adjustment can be made on the right side of the center belt clean out door, under the head. When you adjust this belt you will want the top of the adjustment bolt flush with the support sheet.

Drum Adjustment

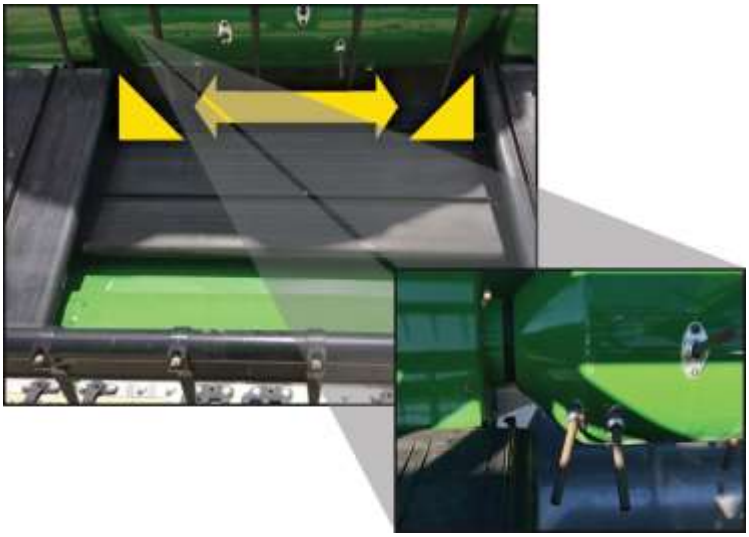
You can adjust the finger timing on the feed drum by moving the handle on the right side of the feed drum. If changing finger times make sure the fingers don't hit the floor or the draper belts.





Under Feeding

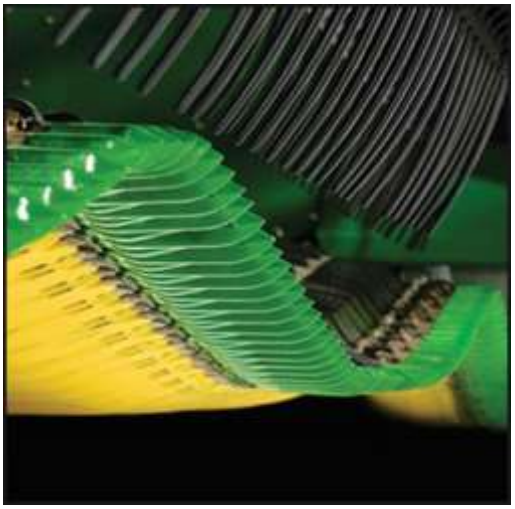
Under feeding is when crop gets pulled back under the side belts. This may occur if you are cutting with only half the head. It is always better to keep the crop centered coming into the head. If you can't feed through the center you can slow the belts to keep the crop from getting pulled under the other side belt. With a draper head you need crop coming from both sides of the center belt to keep it in the center of the center belt.



Crop Stalling

Crop stalling is when you get crop that builds up in the inside corners of the inner belts. We see this sometimes in green stem beans.

On 2014 model heads, a retractable finger has been added to help with this.



Hydro Flex Pressure

A good starting point when it comes to hydro flex pressure is around 1000-1300 psi. In terms of pressure, the higher the hydro flex pressure the lighter the cutter bar is on the ground. The lower the pressure the heavier the cutter bar is on the ground. If you are in damp conditions you will want to increase the hydro flex pressure so the head will not push. If you are running in dryer ground you can decrease the pressure so the cutter bar will flex better.