Miscellaneous Tractor Parts - Production Line Finishes & Colors

By Phil Fenner & Paul Nelson

One of the dilemmas facing anyone who wishes to restore a Ferguson tractor authentically is what to paint and what not to paint. We have labeled these questionable items as "miscellaneous parts."

Among restorers there has always been a degree of confusion as to which of these miscellaneous parts were painted and which were not. In addition, the unpainted parts often had different kinds of finishes (chrome, zinc, or yellow cadmium plated). When replacing some of these parts with currently available copies, the finish may be different. For example, it is increasingly difficult to find parts that are plated in yellow cadmium. Today, most of these parts are plated with zinc.

Additional confusion arises because of differences between pre-production paint schemes and actual production line paint schemes. Prototype tractors, which were hand-assembled, were often used in promotional films, brochures, and owner manuals. These prototype units usually had a few parts that were either unpainted or were painted different colors than assembly line units. For example, manifolds were sometimes painted aluminum (silver) color in promotional material but normally painted the color of the chassis in production line units. Three point linkage chains and pins were often left unpainted in prototypes.

Production line assembly procedures were designed to provide the most efficient and cost-effective sequences. These assembly sequences determined whether or not certain parts were painted or left unpainted. Assembly sequences were somewhat different when dual-color TO-35s were introduced, resulting in some parts left unpainted that were previously painted when all-gray units were the norm. In addition, production sequences may have been modified in mid-production.

Some of components listed in the following matrices were optional items on some models and should not be

construed to mean that all models should have these components (tractormeters, for example).

The data in the accompanying matrices reflect what is reasonably believed to be production line characteristics for these various parts. A photo of a newly-imported production-line TE-20 was available to assist in this determination. A never-used and never repainted production line 1955 TO-35, owned by Wengers of Myerstown, was used to determine much of the above data for the TO-35 and the F-40, both of which used very similar assembly sequences. In addition, promotional films, brochures, owner manuals, and knowledgeable people were consulted in putting this data together. Owners of original, unrestored tractors were consulted. We make no claim that this information is fully inclusive of all such miscellaneous parts or that it is 100% accurate. The data does, however, reflect a general consensus, based on the best available information. It is intended to be a helpful guide for the discriminating restorer.

Some restorers may prefer the schemes from the promotional films and literature rather than the production line variations. The purpose of this explanation is not to indicate which approach the restorer should follow but is an attempt to help you understand why production line paint schemes may be different than those shown in promotional materials. Either approach is valid.

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See pages 2 & 3.

Codes: PC - color of castings BP - Black paint

NP - no paint NPC - no paint, yellow cadmium plated NPZ - No paint, zinc plated BN - black natural rubber

CP - Chrome plated

Part	TE/TO-20/TO-30	TO-35	F-40
Air cleaner attaching bolts	PC	NPC	NPC
Air cleaner decal	TE-20 - none TO-20/30 - White letters & border with blue back- ground	White letters & border with green background for a green chassis; white letters & border with red background for those painted flint metallic gray chassis.	White letters & border with green background for green chassis; white letters & border with red background for flint metallic gray chassis.
Air cleaner hose	BN	BN	BN
Air cleaner hose clamps	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Battery hold down bracket	PC	PC	PC
Battery hold-down bracket hardware	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Cable from battery to starter switch	BN	BN	BN
Cable from starter switch to starter	BN	BN	BN
Carburetor	PC	PC	PC
Carburetor adjusting screws & inlet elbow	NP	NP	NP
Center disc to rear rim bolts & nuts	NPC	NPC	NPC
Choke knob	BN w/white letters	BN w/white letters	BN w/white letters
Choke rod/nut & throttle rod	NPC	NPC	NPC
Coil	BP	BP	BP
Coil bracket & mounting hardware	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Distributor cap & wires	BN	BN	BN
Distributor hold clamp	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Electrical terminals - hardware	NP	NP	NP
Fan belt	PC	BN	BN
Fender bracket to axle housing bolts	PC	NPC	NPC
Fender to fender frame - attaching rivets, bolts & nuts	PC	NPC	NPC
Fuel & oil lines	NP	NP	NP
Fuel shut-off valve assembly	NP	NP	NP
Fuel tank access door push button or knurled round knob	PC	СР	СР
Fuel tank cap	NP	NP	NP
Grill attaching nut		СР	СР
Headlight mounting bracket plates and bolts (inside hood)	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Headlight wiring - metal tube along left side of engine pan	PC	PC	

Part	TE/TO-20/TO-30	TO-35	F-40
Hood latch lever or hold-down hardware	PC	NPZ	СР
Hood latch mounting hardware	NPC	NPC	NPC
Hood to chassis mounting bolts	PC	NPC	NPC
Hood to grill hardware			NPZ
Hose clamps	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Ignition switch plate background	TO-30 only - BP	BP	BP
Instrument bezels	СР	СР	СР
Instrument panel to steering column/ battery platform/hood side pieces to in- strument console - attaching hardware	PC	NPZ	NPZ
Light switch knob	TE/TO-20 - PC		
Lug nuts (front and rear)	PC	NPC	NPC
Manifold	PC	PC	PC
Oil filter cap bolt	NPC	NPC	NPC
Radiator cap	NP	NP	NP
Radiator hoses	BN	BN	BN
Radiator support rod	PC	PC	PC
Radiator shroud attaching screws	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Rear wheel center disc nuts & bolts	TE/TO-20 - PC TO-30 - NPC	NPC	NPC
Seat (bucket) thumbscrews & bolts		NPC or NPZ	NPC or NPZ
Seat to differential mounting hardware	PC	NPC	NPC
Shift lever boot	TE/TO-20 - PC 30 - BN	BN	BN
Shift lever knob	TE/TO-20 - CP 30 - BN (hard rubber)	BN (hard rubber)	BN (hard rubber)
Starter solenoid	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Steering column dust cap	СР	СР	СР
Steering wheel nut & washer	СР	СР	СР
Temperature gauge line	NP	NP	NP
Temperature gauge line brackets	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Three-point adjusting crank	PC	PC	PC
Three-point pins, chains & hardware	PC	PC	PC
Throttle lever	СР	СР	СР
Throttle linkage hardware	NPC	NPC	NPC
Tire tube valve caps	BN	BN	BN
Tractormeter cable	BN	BN	BN
Voltage regulator	BP	BP	BP
Wiring harness clips - front/rear lights	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ
Wiring harness loom - lights	BN	BN	BN