

Where can I obtain DECALS for Colt, Case and Ingersoll Tractors?

Decals for Colt, Case and even some Ingersoll tractors often cannot be bought from any of the Case or Ingersoll dealers because many of those decals have been out of production for years. Ingersoll has stated to me that they have no intention of commissioning and stocking any decals for Colt or Case branded tractors. Decals for Ingersoll branded tractors that are more than ten model years old will not be re-stocked once existing inventory is exhausted.

This is not to say that "new old stock" (NOS) decals are not to be found gathering dust on some dealer's shelf. However, freshly made decals are superior to decals that have been laying around for twenty-years.

However, there are people who are in the business of re-creating decals as close to OEM as reasonably possible. One of the best suppliers is:

Tony Giletto
Maple-Hunter Lawn & Garden Tractor Decals
P.O. Box 9891
College Station, TX 77842
Phone & Fax: 979-693-3619
www.pullmapa.com/maplehunter_lawn_.htm

Tony makes decals for a large number of garden tractor brands besides Case. As such, he can get very busy at times and slow to respond to email inquiries. Those who form the belief that decal

making is a high profit business are in error. Tony holds down a full-time job to support his family.

The decal making is purely a part-time occupation for Tony and a way for him to support the hobby. As such, I suggest that you exercise patience if you do not get a response as fast as you think you should.

Tony uses the highest quality vinyl that is specifically designed for exposure to the elements. Be careful. There are people out there who are not as discerning in their choice of material either due to ignorance or just old-fashioned greed. In addition, the thickness of the material is not the criteria one should use when determining vinyl quality. Ask anyone in the sign-making business about that issue.

All in all, Tony's prices are very fair and even Eastman/Ingersoll recommends Tony.

If you are intending to restore your tractor, begin by taking close-up photos of all the various decals and then make some sketches that record the true measurements as to where the decals were positioned on the tractor or implement. Having those photos available plus the sketches will allow you to place each decal in the correct position on your restored tractor or implement.

Obtain a copy of the correct parts manual for the serial and model number of your tractor because all the decals you need are displayed in the final pages. Check with Tony's website to see what decals he has. Tony may not have every decal you need but he's willing to work with you to come up suitable replacements. However, what Tony makes will only be as good as the information you provide him.

Keep in mind that over the years, Case changed the decal designs. Do not rely on what you have on your tractor. Those decals might not be 100 percent correct. Once again, this is where the parts manual comes into play because it is not out of the realm of possibility that some previous owner switched hoods.

Another possibility is that a past owner blasted everything off the original hood to repaint it and then accepted whatever decals the local dealer had on his shelf. If you are striving for a totally correct restoration, then don't embarrass yourself by neglecting to carry out some research. Also, Tony may require you to send him photos of your decals so that he is absolutely sure that he is sending you what you are asking for. Good communication up front makes for a happy transaction.

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