MERCURY MerCruiser **service bulletin**

No. 99-12

☐ WARRANTY INFORMATION ☑ SERVICE INFORMATION

Water Drain Plugs Installed

Models

All Stillwater produced gasoline engines.

NOTE: *This does not apply to diesel engines or Mercury Racing produced gasoline engines.*

Situation

In June 1999, MerCruiser started to install all the water drain plugs. This was done to stop the discoloration in the returnable carton because of a slight water seepage from the engine during shipment. An additional benefit to installing the drain plugs is that boat builders or dealers will not have to install these plugs before running the engine.

If you remove one of these drain plugs (before running the engine), a small amount of water may come out of the drain hole. It is not enough to cause freeze damage.

If the engine is tested, all water drain plugs must be removed to prevent freeze damage. Follow the recommended cold storage (winterization) methods outlined in the owners manuals. An orange colored card with five languages is placed inside the literature bag. It says,
“ATTENTION All water was drained from this engine prior to shipment, and new drain plugs were installed. If you test run this engine, you are responsible for completely draining the water to prevent freeze damage.”

Mercury MerCruiser will warrant freeze damage to Stillwater OK produced MerCruiser gasoline engines that have the sea water drain plugs installed in production if:

a) The engine is still in the original shipping carton.

b) The engine has not been started and ran at the boat builder or the dealership.

This warranty does not apply to engines that are test ran at the boat builder or the dealer. It is the builder’s or dealership’s responsibility to drain the sea water completely out of the engine after test running to prevent freeze damage to the engine.

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