

Operator's Manual

HE200

Power Grapple





500 Venture Drive
Orrville, OH 44667
www.ventrac.com

To the Owner Contact Information and Product Identification

If you need to contact an authorized Ventrac dealer for information on servicing your product, always provide the product model and serial numbers.

Please fill in the following information for future reference. See the picture(s) below to find the location of the identification numbers. Record them in the spaces provided.

Dealer _____ Date of Purchase: _____

Dealer Address: _____

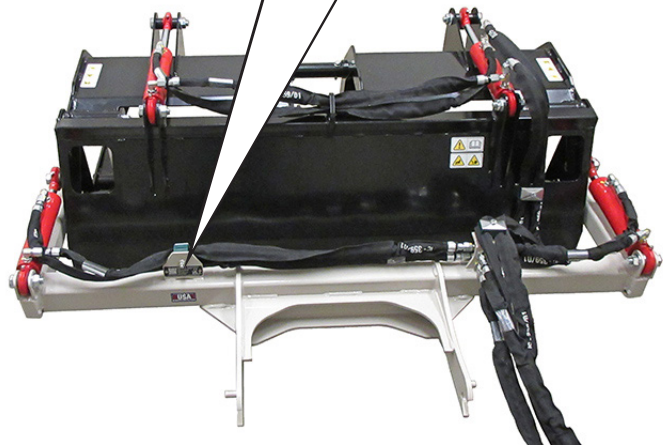
Dealer Phone Number: _____ Dealer Fax Number: _____

With your mobile device, you can scan the QR code on the serial number plate to access manuals, warranty, and other product information.



Model # _____

Serial # _____



Venture Products Inc. reserves the right to make changes in design or specifications without obligation to make like changes on previously manufactured products.

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INTRODUCTION



Venture Products Inc. is pleased to provide you with your new Ventrac power grapple! We hope that Ventrac equipment will provide you with a ONE Tractor Solution.

Please visit our website, or contact your authorized Ventrac dealer for a complete list of items available for your new power grapple.

Accessories	Item Description	Part Number
	Side Plate Kit	70.8203

Product Description

The Ventrac HE200 power grapple has a versatile layout to transport anything from whole logs to loose debris. It will sift large rocks from dirt and surrounding material. The independent grapples effectively trap odd-shaped materials, grasping the load with multiple clamping points for transport.

The grapple claws can also be locked together with an interlock bar if desired.

Optional side plates can be installed to help contain rocks and smaller debris.

Why Do I Need an Operator's Manual?

This manual has been created to help you gain the important knowledge of what is needed to safely operate and maintain your machine, and to avoid injury and product damage. It is divided into chapters for convenient reference of the appropriate information.

You must read and understand the operator's manual for each piece of Ventrac equipment you own. Reading the operator's manual will help you become familiar with each specific piece of equipment. If this manual becomes damaged or unreadable, it should be replaced immediately. Contact your local Ventrac dealer for a replacement.

When using a Ventrac attachment, be sure to read and follow the safety and operating instructions of both the power unit and the attachment being used to ensure the safest operation possible.

The information in this manual provides the operator with the safest procedures to operate the machine while getting the maximum use out of the unit. Failure to follow the safety precautions listed in this manual may result in personal injury and/or damage to the equipment.

INTRODUCTION

Using Your Manual

This manual identifies potential hazards and safety concerns to help you, as well as others, avoid personal injury and/or damage to the equipment.

Safety should always be the first priority when working on or operating equipment. Accidents are more likely to occur when proper operating procedures are not followed or inexperienced operators are involved.

SYMBOL DEFINITIONS



This symbol identifies potential health and safety hazards. It marks safety precautions. Your safety and the safety of others is involved.

There are three signal words that describe the level of safety concern: Danger, Warning, and Caution.

SIGNAL WORD DEFINITIONS

DANGER

Indicates an imminently hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury. This signal word is limited to the most extreme cases.

WARNING

Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

CAUTION

Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury and/or property damage. It may also be used to alert against unsafe practices.

This manual also uses two words to highlight information. **ATTENTION** calls attention to special mechanical information to prevent equipment damage and/or best practices for equipment service and care.

NOTE emphasizes general information that is worthy of special attention.

NOTE: Right-Hand and Left-Hand orientations may be referred to at different places throughout this manual. Right-Hand and Left-Hand is determined as if facing forward from the operator station.

Manual Glossary

Machine	A Ventrac tractor or other Ventrac engine powered device that may be operated by itself or with an attachment or accessory.
Attachment	A piece of Ventrac equipment that requires a Machine for operation.
Accessory	A device that attaches to a Machine or Attachment to extend its capabilities.

SAFETY



General Safety Procedures for Ventrac Power Units, Attachments, & Accessories



Training Required

- The owner of this machine is solely responsible for properly training the operators.
- The owner/operator is solely responsible for the operation of this machine and for the prevention of accidents or injuries occurring to him/herself, other people, or property.
- Do not allow operation or service by children or untrained personnel. Local regulations may restrict the age of the operator.
- Before operating this machine, read the operator's manual and understand its contents.
- If the operator of the machine cannot understand this manual, then it is the responsibility of this machine's owner to fully explain the material within this manual to the operator.
- Learn and understand the use of all the controls.
- Know how to stop the power unit and the attachments quickly in the event of an emergency.

Requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- The owner is responsible for ensuring that all the operators use the proper PPE while operating the machine. Whenever you use the machine, use the following PPE:
- Certified eye protection and hearing protection.
- Closed toe, slip resistant footwear.
- Long pants or trousers.
- A dust mask for dusty conditions.
- Additional PPE may be required. Refer to the product safety procedures for any additional requirements.

Operation Safety

- Secure long hair and loose clothing. Do not wear jewelry.
- Inspect the machine before operation. Repair or replace any damaged, worn, or missing parts. Be sure the guards and shields are in proper working condition and are secured in place. Make any necessary adjustments before operating the machine.
- Some pictures in this manual may show shields or covers opened or removed in order to clearly illustrate the instructions. Under no circumstance should the machine be operated without these devices in place.
- Alterations or modifications to this machine can reduce safety and could cause damage to the machine. Do not alter the safety devices or operate with the shields or covers removed.
- Before each use, verify that all the controls function properly and inspect all the safety devices. Do not operate if the controls or safety devices are not in proper working condition.
- Check the parking brake function before operating. Repair or adjust the parking brake if necessary.
- Observe and follow all of the safety decals.
- All the controls are to be operated from the operator's station only.
- Always wear a seat belt if the machine has a roll cage/bar installed and in the upright position.
- Ensure the attachment or accessory is locked or fastened securely to the power unit before operating.
- Ensure that all bystanders are clear of the power unit and the attachment before operating. Stop the machine if someone enters your work area.

SAFETY



General Safety Procedures for Ventrac Power Units, Attachments, & Accessories



- Always be alert to what is happening around you, but do not lose focus on the task you are performing. Always look in the direction the machine is moving.
- Look behind and down before backing up to be sure of a clear path.
- If you hit an object, stop and inspect the machine. Make any necessary repairs before operating the machine again.
- Stop operation immediately at any sign of equipment failure. An unusual noise can be a warning of equipment failure or a sign that maintenance is required. Make any necessary repairs before operating the machine again.
- If equipped with a high/low range feature, never shift between high and low range while on a slope. Always move the machine to level ground and engage the parking brake before shifting range.
- Do not leave the machine unattended while it is running.
- Always park the machine on level ground.
- Always shut off the engine when connecting the attachment drive belt to the power unit.
- Never leave the operator's station without lowering the attachment to the ground, engaging the parking brake, shutting off the engine, and removing the ignition key. Make sure all moving parts have come to a complete stop before dismounting.
- Never leave the machine unattended without lowering the attachment to the ground, engaging the parking brake, shutting off the engine, and removing the ignition key.
- Only operate in well-lit conditions.
- Do not operate when there is a risk of lightning.
- Never direct the discharge of any attachment in the direction of people, buildings, animals, vehicles, or other objects of value.
- Never discharge material against a wall or obstruction. The material may ricochet back toward the operator.
- Use extra caution when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may obscure your vision.
- Do not run the engine in a building without adequate ventilation.
- Do not touch the engine or the muffler while the engine is running or immediately after stopping the engine. These areas may be hot enough to cause a burn.
- Do not change the engine governor settings or over-speed the engine. Operating the engine at excessive speeds may increase the hazard of personal injury.
- To reduce the hazard of fire, keep the battery compartment, engine, and muffler areas free of grass, leaves, excessive grease, and other flammable materials.
- Clear the working area of objects that might be hit or thrown from the machine.
- Keep people and pets out of the working area.
- Know the work area well before operation. Do not operate where traction or stability is questionable.
- Reduce speed when you are operating over rough ground.
- Equipment can cause serious injury and/or death when improperly used. Before operating, know and understand the operation and safety of the power unit and the attachment being used.
- Do not operate the machine if you are not in good physical and mental health, if you will be distracted by personal devices, or if you are under the influence of any substance which might impair your decisions, dexterity, or judgment.

SAFETY



General Safety Procedures for Ventrac Power Units, Attachments, & Accessories



- Children are attracted to machine activity. Be aware of children and do not allow them in the work area. Turn off the machine if a child enters the work area.
- Power units, attachments, and accessories are not designed or intended for travel on public roadways. Never operate or travel on public roads or highways.
- Operate with safety lights when operating near roadways.
- Slow down and be careful of traffic when operating near or crossing roadways. Stop before crossing roads or sidewalks. Use care when approaching areas or objects that may obscure vision.

Keep Riders Off

- Only allow the operator on the power unit. Keep riders off.
- Never allow riders on any attachment or accessory.

Operating On Slopes

- Slopes can cause loss-of-control and tip-over accidents, which can result in severe injury or death. Be familiar with the emergency parking brake, along with the power unit controls and their functions.
- If the power unit is equipped with a fold down roll bar, it must be locked in the upright position when operating on any slope.
- Use low range (if equipped) when operating on slopes greater than 15 degrees.
- Do not stop or start suddenly when operating on slopes.
- Never shift between high and low range while on a slope. Always move the power unit to level ground and engage the parking brake before shifting range or placing the power unit in neutral.
- Variables such as wet surfaces and loose ground will reduce the degree of safety. Do not drive where the machine could lose traction or tip over.
- Keep alert for hidden hazards in the terrain.
- Stay away from drop-offs, ditches, and embankments.
- Sharp turns should be avoided when operating on slopes.
- Pulling loads on hills decreases safety. It is the responsibility of the owner/operator to determine loads that can safely be controlled on slopes.
- Transport the machine with the attachment lowered or close to the ground to improve stability.
- While operating on slopes, drive in an up and down direction whenever possible. If turning is necessary while driving across slopes, reduce your speed and turn slowly in the downhill direction.
- Ensure a sufficient supply of fuel for continuous operation. A minimum of one-half tank of fuel is recommended.

Truck Or Trailer Transport

- Use care when loading or unloading the machine into a truck or trailer.
- Use full width ramps for loading the machine into a truck or trailer.
- The parking brake is not sufficient to lock the machine during transport. Always secure the power unit and/or attachment to the transporting vehicle securely using straps, chains, cables, or ropes. Both the front and rear straps should be directed down and outward from the machine.

SAFETY



General Safety Procedures for Ventrac Power Units, Attachments, & Accessories



- Shut off the fuel supply to the power unit during transport on a truck or trailer.
- If equipped, turn the battery disconnect switch to the Off position to shut off electrical power.

Maintenance

- Keep the safety decals legible. Remove all grease, dirt, and debris from the safety decals and instructional labels.
- If any decals are faded, illegible, or missing, contact your dealer promptly for replacements.
- When new components are installed, be sure that the current safety decals are affixed to the replacement components.
- If any component requires replacement, use only original Ventrac replacement parts.
- Always turn the battery disconnect to the Off position or disconnect the battery before performing any repairs. Disconnect the negative terminal first and the positive terminal last. Reconnect the positive terminal first and the negative terminal last.
- Keep all bolts, nuts, screws, and other fasteners properly tightened.
- Always lower the attachment to the ground, engage the parking brake, shut off the engine, and remove the ignition key. Make sure all moving parts have come to a complete stop before cleaning, inspecting, adjusting, or repairing.
- If the power unit, attachment, or accessory requires repairs or adjustments not instructed in the operator's manual, the power unit, attachment, or accessory must be taken to an authorized Ventrac dealer for service.
- Never perform maintenance on the power unit and/or attachment if someone is in the operator's station.
- Always use protective glasses when handling the battery.
- Check the fuel lines for tightness and wear on a regular basis. Tighten or repair them as needed.
- To reduce the hazard of fire, keep the battery compartment, engine, and muffler areas free of grass, leaves, and excess grease.
- Do not touch the engine, the muffler, or other exhaust components while the engine is running or immediately after stopping the engine. These areas may be hot enough to cause a burn.
- Allow the engine to cool before storing and do not store near an open flame.
- Do not change the engine governor settings or over-speed the engine. Operating engine at excessive speeds may increase the hazard of personal injury.
- Springs may contain stored energy. Use caution when disengaging or removing springs and/or spring loaded components.
- An obstruction or blockage in a drive system or moving/rotating parts may cause a buildup of stored energy. When the obstruction or blockage is removed, the drive system or moving/rotating parts may move suddenly. Do not attempt to remove an obstruction or blockage with your hands. Keep your hands, feet, and clothing away from all power-driven parts.

SAFETY



General Safety Procedures for Ventrac Power Units, Attachments, & Accessories



Fuel Safety

- To avoid personal injury or property damage, use extreme care in handling gasoline. Gasoline is extremely flammable and the vapors are explosive.
- Do not refuel the machine while smoking or at a location near flames or sparks.
- Always refuel the machine outdoors.
- Do not store the machine or fuel container indoors where the fumes or fuel can reach an open flame, spark, or pilot light.
- Only store fuel in an approved container. Keep out of the reach of children.
- Never fill containers inside a vehicle or on a truck or trailer bed with a plastic liner. Always place the containers on the ground away from your vehicle before filling.
- Remove the machine from the truck or trailer and refuel it on the ground. If this is not possible, refuel the machine using a portable container, rather than from a fuel dispenser nozzle.
- Never remove the fuel cap or add fuel with the engine running. Allow the engine to cool before refueling.
- Never remove the fuel cap while on a slope. Only remove the fuel cap when parked on a level surface.
- Replace the fuel tank cap and the container cap securely.
- Do not overfill the fuel tank. Only fill to the bottom of the fuel neck, do not fill the fuel neck full. Overfilling of the fuel tank could result in engine flooding, fuel leakage from the tank, and/or damage to the emissions control system.
- If fuel is spilled, do not attempt to start the engine. Move the power unit away from the fuel spill and avoid creating any source of ignition until the fuel vapors have dissipated.
- If the fuel tank must be drained, it should be drained outdoors into an approved container.
- Check the fuel lines for tightness and wear on a regular basis. Tighten or repair them as needed.
- The fuel system is equipped with a shut-off valve. Shut off the fuel when transporting the machine to and from the job, when parking the machine indoors, or when servicing the fuel system.

Hydraulic Safety

- Make sure the hydraulic connections are tight and all hydraulic hoses and tubes are in good condition. Repair any leaks and replace any damaged or deteriorated hoses or tubes before starting the machine.
- Hydraulic leaks can occur under high pressure. Hydraulic leaks require special care and attention.
- Use a piece of cardboard and a magnifying glass to locate suspected hydraulic leaks.
- Keep your body and hands away from pinhole leaks or nozzles that eject high pressure hydraulic fluid. Hydraulic fluid escaping under high pressure can penetrate the skin causing serious injury, leading to severe complications and/or secondary infections if left untreated. If hydraulic fluid is injected into the skin, seek immediate medical attention no matter how minor the injury appears.
- The hydraulic system may contain stored energy. Before performing maintenance or repairs on the hydraulic system, remove any attachments, engage the parking brake, disengage the weight transfer system (if equipped), shut off the engine, and remove the ignition key. To relieve pressure on the auxiliary hydraulic system, shut off the power unit engine and move the hydraulic control lever left and right before disconnecting the auxiliary hydraulic quick couplers.

SAFETY



HE200 Safety Procedures



- The attachment hydraulic system may contain stored energy. Before performing maintenance or repairs on the hydraulic system, the attachment's auxiliary hydraulic hoses must be disconnected from the machine. Lower the attachment to the ground, shut off machine's engine, relieve auxiliary hydraulic pressure, and disconnect the auxiliary hydraulic quick couplers.
- Use very slow ground speeds when digging or moving materials. If the power grapple engages a lodged rock or other object with the machine moving at a fast speed, a sudden deceleration of the machine could cause injury to the operator and/or damage to the equipment.
- To balance the machine and keep all the wheels securely on the ground while using the power grapple, adequate rear ballast or an appropriate implement mounted on a 3-point hitch is necessary. If you are using the power grapple on an optional 3n1 attachment for the rear 3-point hitch, adequate front ballast or an appropriate attachment mounted on the front hitch is necessary.

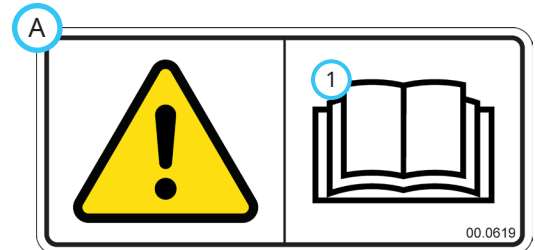
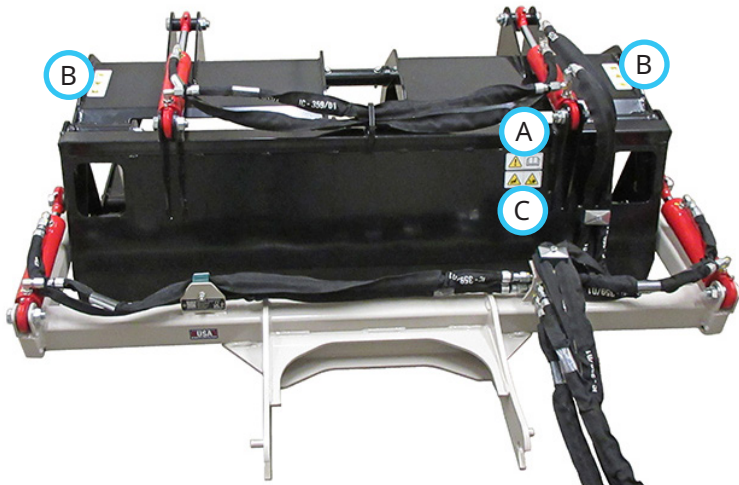
SAFETY

Safety Decals

The following safety decals must be maintained on your attachment.

Keep all safety decals legible. Remove all grease, dirt, and debris from safety decals and instructional labels. If any decals are faded, illegible, or missing, contact your dealer promptly for replacements.

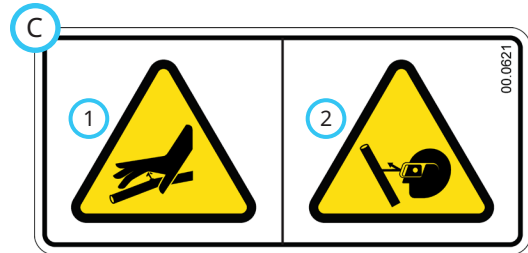
When new components are installed, be sure that current safety decals are affixed to the replacement components.



1. Read the operator's manual.



1. Pinching or crushing hazard.



1. Keep your body and hands away from suspected hydraulic leaks.
2. Wear eye protection when inspecting the hydraulic system for leaks.

Decal	Description	Part Number	Quantity
A	Read Operator's Manual	00.0619	1
B	Pinching or Crushing Hazard	00.0620	2
C	High Pressure Fluid Hazard	00.0621	1

OPERATIONAL CONTROLS

Operational Controls

The raise and lower function of the power grapple is controlled by the machine's front hitch. The tilt/dump function and the grapple claw function is controlled by the auxiliary functions* on the machine.

Refer to the machine operator's manual for more details on using these functions.

*The machine must be equipped with two sets of auxiliary hydraulic quick couplers.

GENERAL OPERATION

Daily Inspection

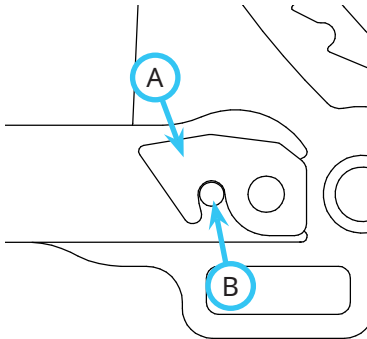
⚠ WARNING

Always engage the parking brake, shut off the machine's engine, remove the ignition key, and ensure that all moving parts have come to a complete stop before inspecting the components, or attempting any repair or adjustment.

1. Park the machine on a level surface, with the engine shut off and all fluids cold.
2. Perform a visual inspection of both the machine and the attachment. Look for loose or missing hardware, damaged components, or signs of wear.
3. Inspect the hydraulic hoses and the hydraulic fittings to ensure tight, leak free connections.

Attaching

1. Drive the machine slowly forward into the hitch arms of the attachment. Align the lift arms of the power unit with the attachment hitch arms by raising or lowering the front hitch and complete the engagement.
2. Once completely engaged, move the front hitch latch lever* to the locked position. The latch (A) must lock over the attachment's hitch arm pin (B).
3. Engage the parking brake* and shut off the engine.
4. Wipe the hose ends clean and connect to the machine's hydraulic quick couplers. If equipped, connect the hoses and the quick couplers so the colored indicators are paired together (red to red, etc.).



Detaching

1. Park the machine on a level surface and engage the parking brake.*
2. Lower the attachment to the ground.
3. Shut off the engine.
4. Disconnect the hydraulic quick couplers from the machine and store the hose ends looped over the top of the frame.
5. Disengage the front hitch locking lever.*
6. Restart the machine and slowly back away from the attachment. A side to side movement of the steering wheel may aid in disengagement.

Operating Procedure

Before operation, perform the daily inspection and shift the machine into low range.

Open the grapple claws, lower the bucket, and drive forward slowly into the material. Do not use high speed to ram the material. Close the grapple claws to clamp the material in the bucket and then roll the bucket back. When using the bucket for rocks or shorter brush and debris, optional side plates are recommended to help contain the material.

While hauling the loaded material to another location, use speeds that are safe for the terrain and surface conditions. Carry the load as low as possible to keep the center of gravity low for maximum stability. When carrying logs or brush, be aware of the width of the load and make sure your travel path is wide enough to accommodate your load.

When you reach the desire location, tip the bucket forward and open the grapple claws to release the material.

Transport of the Attachment

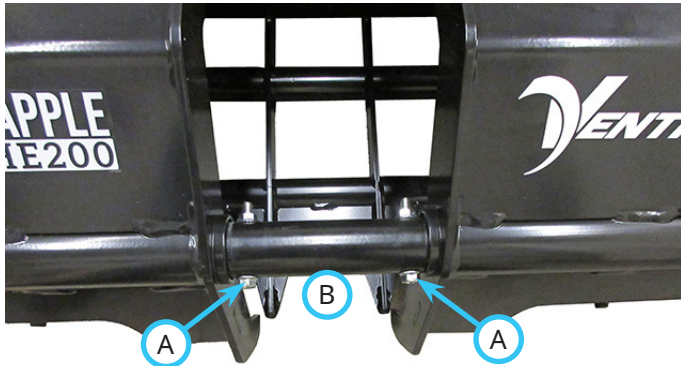
Transport the attachment with the power unit front hitch and attachment fully raised to reduce wear of the equipment. Travel slowly when transporting over undulating and rough surfaces to maintain control of the power unit and to reduce the shock to the power unit and the attachment.

*Refer to power unit operator's manual for operation of power unit controls.

GENERAL OPERATION

Removing the Grapple Claw Interlock

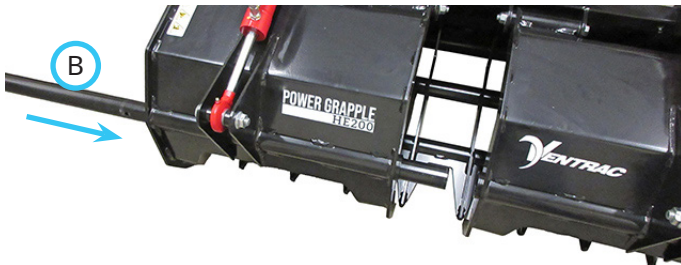
1. Remove the two bolts (A) and nuts from the center holes in the grapple claw interlock (B).



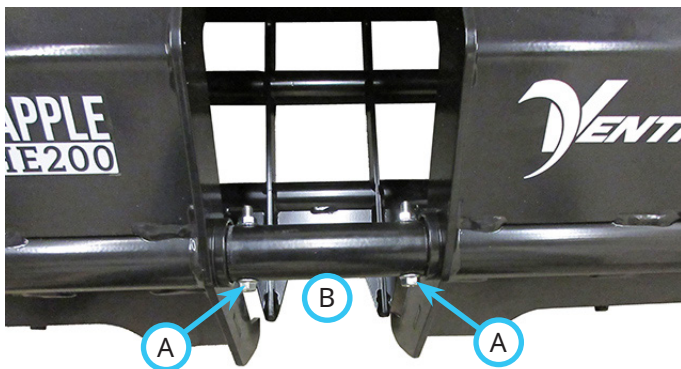
2. Slide the grapple claw interlock out of the tubes in the grapple claws.
3. Install the hardware loosely in the grapple claw interlock for storage.

Installing the Grapple Claw Interlock

1. Align the grapple claws and slide the grapple claw interlock (B) through both grapple claw tubes.

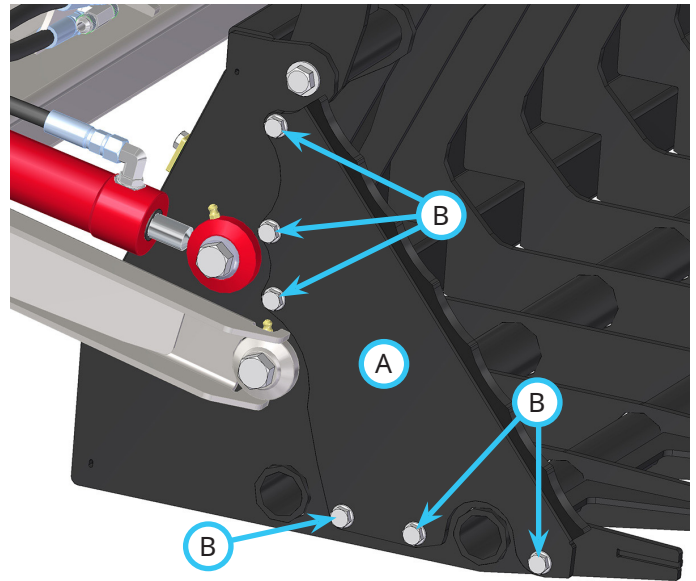


2. Insert two 5/16 x 2-1/4 inch flange bolts (A) through the center holes in the grapple claw interlock and fasten with flange nuts. Torque to 24 Nm (210 in-lbs).



Installing the Optional Side Plates

1. Install the right side plate (A) as shown using six 3/8 x 1 inch flange bolts and flange nuts. Torque to 42 N·m (31 ft-lb).



2. Repeat for the left side plate.

SERVICE

⚠ WARNING

Always engage the parking brake, shut off the power unit engine, remove the ignition key, and ensure that all moving parts have come to a complete stop before inspecting the components, or attempting any repair or adjustment.

ATTENTION

If any component requires replacement, use only original Ventrac replacement parts.

Cleaning and General Maintenance

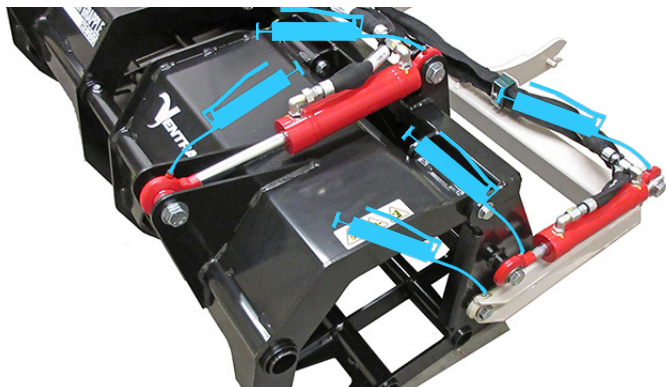
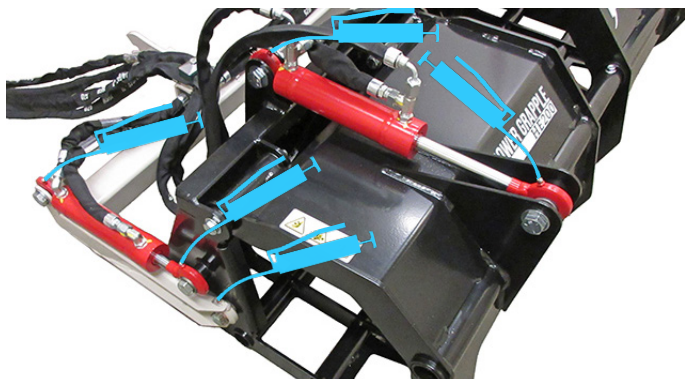
For best results, and to maintain the finish of the power grapple, clean or wash the power grapple after each use to remove dirt, mud, stones, or other debris.

Lubrication Locations

Lubrication is required at the following locations using a lithium complex NLGI #2 grease.

Wipe the grease fittings clean before applying grease to the grease fittings.

Refer to the maintenance schedule for service intervals and the amount of grease.



Storage

Preparing the Attachment for Storage

1. Clean the attachment to remove accumulated dirt, mud, stones, or other debris.
2. Inspect for loose or missing hardware, damaged components, or signs of wear. Repair or replace any damaged or worn components.
3. Inspect the safety decals. Replace any decals that are faded, illegible, or missing.
4. Inspect the hydraulic hoses and the hydraulic fittings to ensure tight, leak free connections.
5. Apply grease to all grease points and wipe off any excess grease.
6. Inspect the painted components for chips, scratches, or rust. Clean and touch up the surfaces as needed.
7. Apply a light coat of oil on the exposed surface of the grapple claw cylinder rods.

Removing the Attachment from Storage

1. Clean the attachment to remove any accumulated dust or debris.
2. Inspect the attachment as instructed in the Daily Inspection section of this manual.
3. Test the attachment to ensure that all the components are working properly.

SERVICE

Maintenance Schedule

	# of locations	# of pumps	As Needed	Daily	At 50 hours	At 100 hours	At 150 hours	At 200 hours	At 250 hours	At 300 hours	At 350 hours	At 400 hours	At 450 hours	At 500 hours	At 550 hours	At 600 hours	At 650 hours	At 700 hours	At 750 hours	At 800 hours	At 850 hours	At 900 hours	At 950 hours	At 1,000 hours	Yearly
Grease and Lubrication: See Lubrication Section																									
Grapple Frame Pivot	2	^			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grapple Pivot Cylinder	4	^			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grapple Claw Cylinder	4	^			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inspection																									
Inspect for Loose, Missing, or Worn Components				✓																					
Inspect the Hydraulic Hoses and Fittings				✓																					
Inspect the Safety Decals				✓																					
^Grease until fresh grease is visible.																									

Maintenance Checklist

	# of locations	# of pumps	As Needed	Daily	At 50 hours	At 100 hours	At 150 hours	At 200 hours	At 250 hours	At 300 hours	At 350 hours	At 400 hours	At 450 hours	At 500 hours	At 550 hours	At 600 hours	At 650 hours	At 700 hours	At 750 hours	At 800 hours	At 850 hours	At 900 hours	At 950 hours	At 1,000 hours	Yearly
Grease and Lubrication: See Lubrication Section																									
Grapple Frame Pivot	2	^																							
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Inspect the Safety Decals																									
^Grease until fresh grease is visible.																									

SPECIFICATIONS

Dimensions

Overall Height.	61 cm (24 inches)
Overall Length	106.5 cm (42 inches)
Overall Width	136 cm (53-1/2 inches)
Weight	141 kg (310 pounds)
Maximum Grapple Opening.	56 cm (22 inches)
Ground Clearance with Frame Level	38 cm (15 inches)
Ground Clearance in Dump Position	18 cm (7 inches)

Features

- An open structure for sifting rocks and debris from soil.
- Independent grapple claws
- A grapple claw interlock for locking the grapple claws together.