

# OWNER/OPERATOR'S MANUAL & PARTS LIST

## **MOWER**

**Model LM440** 









## Orrville, OH www.ventrac.com

## **TO THE OWNER**

#### **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 picture below to find the location of the identification number. Record them in the spaces provided below.

Date of Purchase: Month	Day	Year
Dealer:		
Dealer Address:		
Dealer Phone Number:		
Dealer FAX Number:		
Model # (A):		MODEL
Serial # (B):		A VENTRAC
( /		B SERIAL  Manufactured by Venture Products Inc.  Made in the USA  Oriville, Ohio
Affix Part/Serial Number label here		

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

## **Product Description**

The VENTRAC LM440 mowers have a cutting width of approximately 44". The "uni-body" design creates a lightweight, heavy-duty and high performance deck with a streamlined carrier frame. With the removal of two pins beneath the cross frame, the deck can be tilted to a near vertical position for cleaning and servicing. The top side of the deck is designed to eliminate trapped grass, dirt and water.

Four carrier points, two adjustable connecting links and one cross shaft comprise the complete mechanism for controlling the cutting height. A single handle with a slight outward pull allows an easy quick change in cutting height selection. A slide release allows the handle to be returned to the deck level to prevent it from catching on low branches and shrubs.

These mowers, with near full width rear rollers and wide pneumatic front swivel tires, are designed to float over the terrain independent of the tractor. The traction transfer system on the VENTRAC 3000 reduces mower weight on the ground, decreases the steering effort and increases the traction of the tractor.

These attractive two-tone, smooth styled mowers offer an unusual combination of efficiency, effectiveness and end results. Careful, proper and safe operation of tractor and mower will do a great mowing job.

# Ventrac LM440 SpecificationsCutting widthApprox. 44 inchesOverall width54 inchesLength45 inchesHeight12 inchesApprox. cutting height1-1/2 to 3-3/4 inchesWeight238 pounds



#### ATTENTION:

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

#### SIGNAL WORD DEFINITIONS

## **A** 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.

## **A** 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.

#### **DECALS**

The following decals must be maintained on your Ventrac mower. If any decals are faded or missing, contact your dealer promptly for replacements.



SHIELDS ARE IN PLACE. MOVING PARTS CAN CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

Α



from moving parts.

Disconnect and lockout power source before adjusting or servicing.

Do not stand or climb on machine when

operating.

В



C



- . To prevent serious injury or death from thrown object:
- Do not operate with deflectors removed. · Do not point discharge toward people,
- animals or buildings when operating.

   Use special care when operating in
- populated or congested areas.

D





F

E

Decal	Page & Location	Description	Part Number
Α	E-1, #46	Danger Shield Missing	00.0062
В	E-7, #16	Warning Moving Part Hazard	00.0101
С	E-7, #20	Danger Pinching Hazard	00.0102
D	E-1, #14	Thrown Object Hazard	00.0122
E	E-1, #13	Keep Hands and Feet Away	00.0123
F	E-7, #23	Read Owner's Manual	00.0217



## General Safety Procedures for Ventrac Tractors, Attachments, & Accessories



Read and understand the operator's manual before operating this equipment.

Observe and follow all safety decals.

DO NOT let children or any untrained person operate the tractor or attachment. Make sure that all operators of this equipment are thoroughly trained in using it safely.

Never allow additional riders on the tractor or attachments.

DO NOT operate tractor or attachments if you are under the influence of alcohol, drugs, medication that may impair judgment or cause drowsiness, or if you are not feeling well.

Operate all controls from the operator's seat only.

Before operating equipment, make sure all shields are in place and fastened.

Ensure the attachment or accessory is locked or fastened securely to the tractor before operating. See tractor manual for locking procedure.

Ensure that all bystanders are clear of the tractor and attachment before operating. Be especially careful and observant if other people are present. Never assume that bystanders will remain where you last saw them.

Always look in the direction the tractor is moving.

Never direct the discharge of any attachment in the direction of people, animals, buildings, vehicles, or objects of value.

Immediately stop at any sign of equipment failure and correct the problem before continuing to operate. An unusual noise can be a warning of equipment failure.

Before adjusting, cleaning, lubricating, or changing parts on the tractor or attachment, engage the parking brake, lower the attachment to the ground, stop the engine, and remove the ignition key.

To prevent the risk of uncontrolled equipment movement on tractors equipped with 2 speed axles, always shift the transaxle range with the tractor stationary on level ground and with the parking brake engaged.

If equipment is to be left unattended, engage the parking brake, lower the attachment to the ground, stop the engine, and remove the ignition key.

## **LM440 Safety Procedures**

## **A WARNING**

Before making any repairs or adjustments, lower attachment to the ground, set parking brake, shut the engine off, and remove the key.

## **A WARNING**

Read and understand the operator's manual before operating this equipment.

Before mowing, clear the area of stones, sticks, and other foreign objects that can be thrown by the mower.

Use extra care when mowing around trees, shrubs, and other objects that may block your vision.

**Never mow with the discharge chute flipped up or missing!** The hinge feature is provided only for transport and storage.

Disengage the PTO when you are not mowing.

When mowing on a steep incline, always mow uphill and downhill. Never mow across a steep incline.

## **Operating Instructions**

## Attaching:

The mower in its parked position from last usage will have its hitch arms extended for re-engagement. **Note:** Mower arms may be too low to engage when in low setting for cutting height. Set higher for hook up.

- 1. Drive the tractor slowly forward to align the hitch lift arms with the mating arms on the mower. Raise the hitch to align and complete the engagement.
- 2. Once completely engaged, close the front hitch locking lever.\*
- 3. Engage the parking brake and shut off engine.
- 4. Place attachment belt over the lower groove of the PTO drive pulley on the hitch. Make certain that the deck belt is properly routed and engaged in each pulley.
- 5. Engage the PTO spring tension lever on the mower deck.
- 6. ALWAYS check that the deck belt is properly located in <u>each</u> pulley groove before attempting to operate.

#### **Detaching:**

- 1. Park the tractor on a level surface and set the parking brake.
- 2. Lower the mower to the ground plus <u>a little</u> extra lowering of the hitch to relieve the "up" pressure of the traction assist spring.
- 3. Shut off tractor engine.
- 4. Disengage the PTO spring tension lever on the mower deck.
- 5. Remove the attachment belt from the PTO drive pulley on the hitch.
- 6. Disengage the hitch locking lever.\*
- 7. Restart the tractor and slowly back away from the mower.
  - \*Refer to tractor manual for operation of controls.

#### **Operating Techniques and Tips:**

Be sure to select or confirm that the mower is set to cut the height that you prefer. Setting is done by lifting the handle into the catch slot, pulling the handle outward and moving the mechanism to another position on the adjustment scale. Cutting height range is factory set at approximately 1-1/2 to 3-3/4 inches, and the deck can be adjusted to make the cutting height range 1 to 3-1/4" After selection has been engaged, release the handle from the catch slot and return it to a horizontal position.

## **A WARNING**

Never adjust cutting height with the PTO engaged

## **OPERATION**

## **Operating Techniques and Tips continued:**

Operator must be sitting on the tractor seat before the PTO can be engaged. Have the engine rpms between 2,000 and 3,000 before engaging the PTO switch. Near full engine rpms (3250) is recommended for most mowing. If a good cut can be maintained and there is sufficient power, reducing the rpms by 200 or 300 will result in better fuel economy and reduction in the wear-and-tear on the equipment.

Travel to and from the area to be mowed should generally be done with the mower raised in transport position by the tractor hydraulics. This saves the wear-and-tear on the mower and needless scuffing and rolling over the various surfaces between mowing jobs. Moderate speed should be used in transport in order to maintain control and reduce the shock load from uneven terrain. Disengage the PTO to prevent air turbulence over dusty surfaces and/or when traveling over rough terrain.

When mowing, always place the front hitch lift lever in the float position by moving it forward until the detent engages. The lever will stay in this position after it engages.

Wet or lush grass has some tendency to build up under the deck. Periodic checking, especially if mowing performance seems to be reduced, will let the operator know if the deck should be cleaned.

Many operators prefer to mow back and forth in order to create the popular stripe pattern in the cut grass. The full length roller very effectively rolls the cut grass in the direction of travel

Blades should be kept in good condition. Sharp blades will increase efficiency and improve the quality of cut.

## **A WARNING**

Be very cautious when mowing slopes. The roll cage option with a seat belt is recommended.

## **Mulching Kit**

The mulching kit consists of 3 saw-tooth rings, a discharge cover and 8 carriage bolts and nuts. Kit for LM440 is 39.35152. To install the mulching kit, simply mount the deck on the tractor (with park brake engaged and ignition key removed), tilt the deck to the servicing position, and install the kit according to the drawing below.

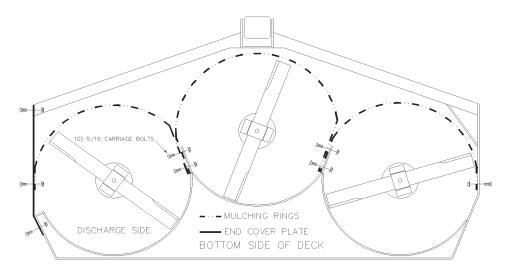
**NOTE:** 1. The longest ring goes in the center.

- 2. The short rings are identical but formed with right and left bends. The tab ends, with the single hole, bolt to the sides of the deck.
- 3. The saw-toothed edges will be facing the ground in mowing position when installed.
- 4. Check for clearance. The saw-toothed edges should extend beyond the end of the blade at least 1/4 inch. Slight reshaping of rings may be necessary for proper fit.

Left Baffle . . . #64.0972 Center Baffle . . #64.0974 Right Baffle . . . #64.0973 End Plate . . . #60.0824

If the deck has been used, make sure it is clean before installation of parts. Blades do not have to be removed for the installation. Install all parts before tightening the bolts. Once all parts are in place, tighten all ten bolts. After mowing for a few minutes, turn the engine off, raise the deck and make a quick check on all ten bolts to ensure that they are tight!

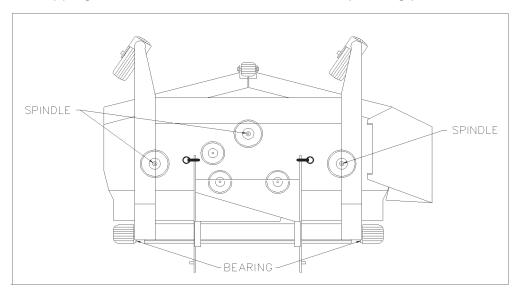
Mulching procedures may vary greatly due to climate, type of grass and soil conditions. In general it is best to mow frequently and in dry conditions. Leaves are usually cut up and dispersed better when some grass is cut in the mulching process. Generally a little more power is required for mulching. When grass is tender, heavy and/or wet, frequent deck cleaning may be necessary. Low lift blades are recommended for mulching. It is important that the blades are sharp and in good condition for best mowing results.



## **MAINTENANCE**

#### **Lubrication:**

Grease fittings are located as shown below. Apply slowly 2-3 pumps of grease per spindle after every <u>50</u> hours of operation. All others—one pump max! Do not over grease. In very dirty, sandy or wet conditions, more frequent greasing is advisable. In order to grease the right bearing on the rear roller, the deck must be flipped up to the service position. With the deck in the service position, move the height selector lever to the highest position. Apply one pump of grease to the bearing. Place the height selector lever in the lowest position before flipping the mower deck back down to the operating position.



## Removal and Reinstallation of Mulching Kit or Mower Blades for Sharpening or Replacement:

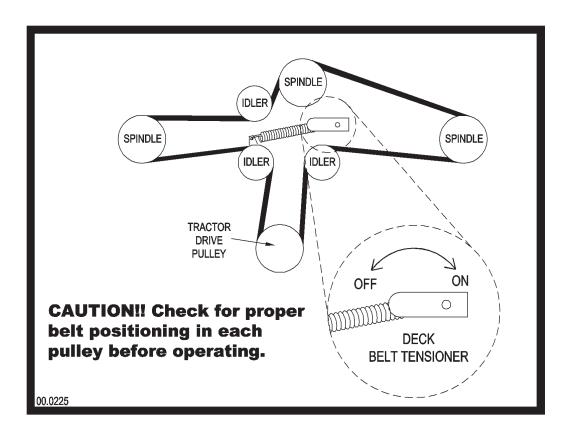
- 1. With the engine stopped, park brake engaged, the tractor parked on a level surface, and the deck fully raised, remove the 2 latch pins.
- 2. Lift the front of the mower deck to a near vertical position and reinstall the latch pins into the same holes.
- 3. To remove each blade, place a short piece of 2 x 4 wood between the end of the blade and an appropriate structural part of the underside of the deck to prevent rotation. Wearing gloves is recommended.
- 4. Use a 3/4 inch wrench to loosen the blade bolt counterclockwise and remove the blade to sharpen or replace.
- 5. When reinstalling a blade, the wood block must be placed on the opposite side to prevent rotation for tightening. Tighten so that blade is firmly held in place. Additional tightening will occur while mowing. This is natural because the rotation is clockwise.
- 6. Always install the "winged" bracket between the bolt head and the bottom of the blade. This serves as a support washer as well as reducing the potential for bearing damage from wrapping string or wire.

## **MAINTENANCE**

## **Deck Belt Replacement:**

When the deck belt becomes excessively worn or breaks, install a new belt.

- 1. Raise the shield on the deck.
- 2. Remove old belt.
- 3. Install the new A115 belt (Part #81.A115) as shown in the diagram below. Place belt into the pulley system according to the belt diagram.
- 4. Be sure the belt is engaged into the V-groove of each spindle pulley and around each of the flat belt idler pulleys.



## **MAINTENANCE**

#### **Mower Tire Pressure:**

Mower tire inflation pressure should be maintained at approximately 6 psi. Pressure variables can cause an uneven cut.

## **Deck Leveling Procedure:**

- 1. Before making any deck leveling adjustments, check pressure in both mower tires. Inflate or deflate to 6 psi.
- 2. Set mower on a clean level hard surface. Select a high cutting height position with enough distance from floor surface to bottom side of blade for measuring.
- 3. Go to one side of the deck. Turn blade so that the tip is at the back of the deck. Measure the distance from the floor to the blade.
- 4. Move to the other side. Turn that blade tip to the back of the deck. If this measurement is different from the first, adjust the threaded rod linkage directly above on the top side of the deck until the measurement is the same as the first side. **NOTE:** It is possible that a blade could be bent. This can be determined by rotating the blade 180 degrees and re-measuring. If bent, replace the blade.
- 5. Once the deck has been leveled side to side, rotate the same tip of the blade to the front and measure. The distance to the floor should be the same or slightly less than (not to exceed 1/8") the rear measurement. Front adjustment is made by loosening the cross bolt in the frame that extends toward the front tire. The bolt is in a slotted hole. Moving it forward lowers the deck. Moving it toward the rear raises the deck.

**Note:** Very little movement of the bolt in the slot makes a significant difference in the adjustment height.

**Note:** The different cutting heights determined by the left side adjustment lever does not change the level of the deck.

## Storage:

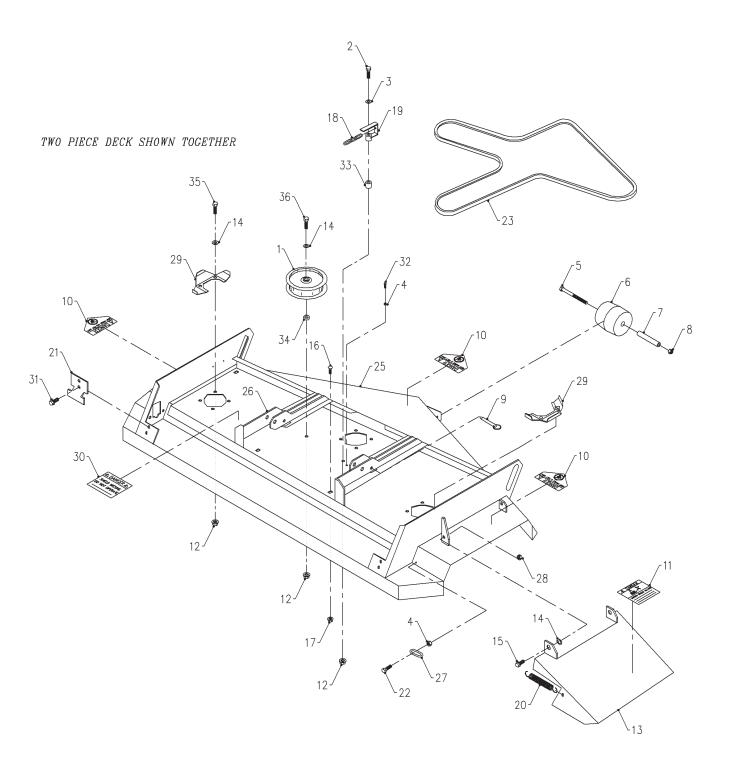
Before the mower is stored, thoroughly clean both the underside of the deck and any accumulated clippings or debris on the top side. If mower is set up on the front or left end for storage, be sure to secure it to prevent an accidental fall.

## **Sharpening Blades:**

It is recommended that blades be sharpened and balanced by a professional. Maintain balance, same bevel, and length of sharpened surface.

## PARTS MANUAL

# FIGURE 1 ILLUSTRATED DRAWING DECK

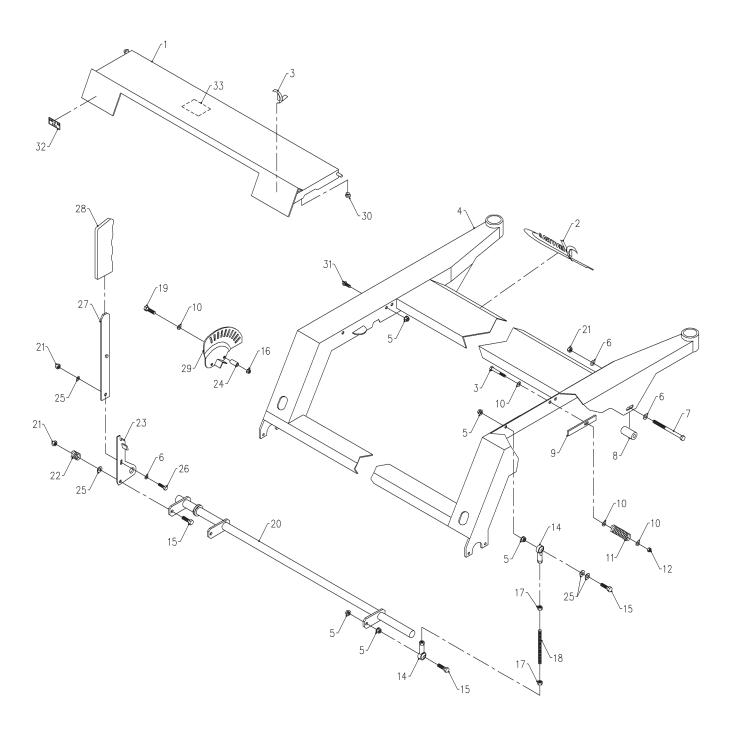


## **PARTS**

## FIGURE 1 DECK PARTS

REF.	PART NO	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
2 3 4	. 94.06	3/8 x 1-3/4 USS Bolt	1 1 4 1
10		5/16 USS Locknut	1 2 3 1
14 15 16	. 60.0822	3/8 SAE Flat Washer	8 2 4 4
20 21 22	. 42.0417	3/4 x 2-7/8 Chute Spring	1 2 1
26 27 28 29	. 62.0919	Top Deck	1 1 2 2
32 33 34	. 64.0797	1/4 x 1-3/4 USS Bolt	1 1 1

# FIGURE 2 ILLUSTRATED DRAWING CARRIER FRAME

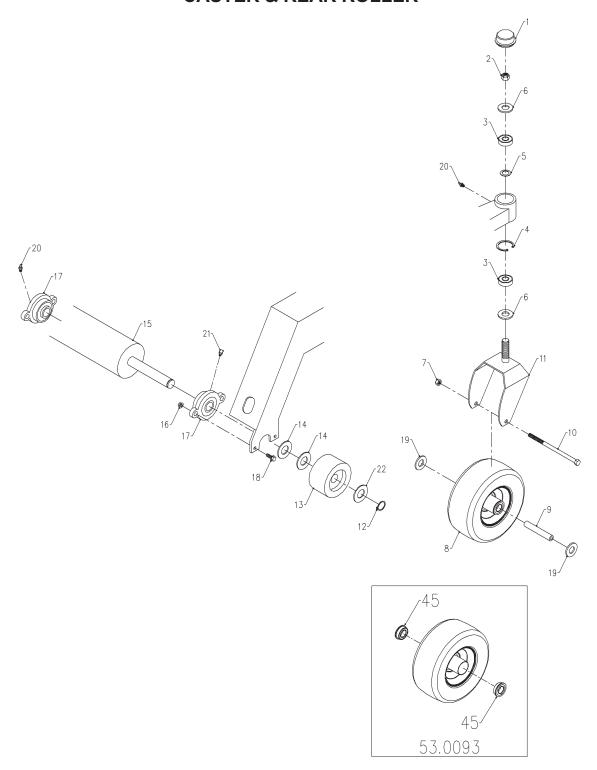


## **PARTS**

## FIGURE 2 CARRIER FRAME PARTS

REF.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
1	00.0189	Ventrac Decal	1 1 1 8
9 10 11	90.0620	Deck Shield Spring Bracket	1 5 1
14 15 16	90.0524	3/8 SAE Spherical Rod End	4 5 2 4
20 21 22 23	90.0514	5/16 x 1-3/4 USS Bolt	1 5 1 1
26 27 28 29	. 40.0267	3/8 SAE Flat Washer  3/8 x 1 USS Bolt	1 1 1
32	. 99.SF0608		1

# FIGURE 3 ILLUSTRATED DRAWING CASTER & REAR ROLLER

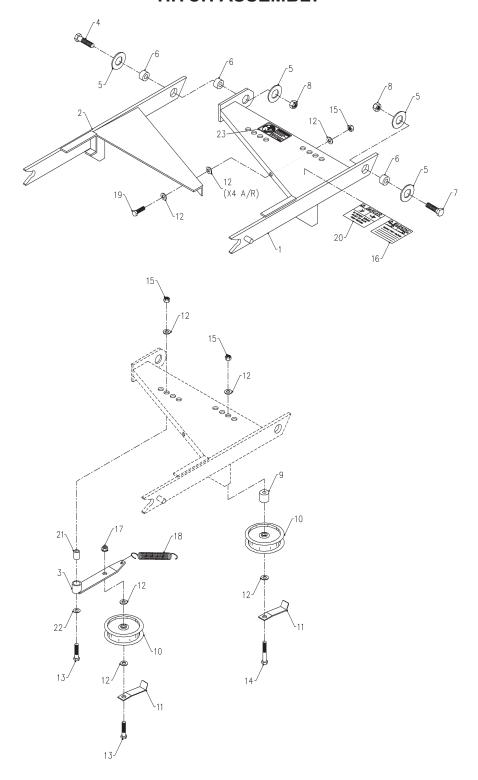


## **PARTS**

## FIGURE 3 CASTER & REAR ROLLER

REF.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
2 3 4 5	. 99.A12NF	Dust Cap	2 4 2 2
8 9 10 11	. 53.0093	3/8 USS Locknut.  Caster Wheel Assembly.  Axle Tube.  3/8 x 5 USS Bolt.  Caster Spindle.  1" External Snap Ring.	2 2 2 2
14 15 16 17	. 95.16	End Roller	4 1 4 2
20 21 22	. 29.GF0001	3/4 SAE Flat Washer (as required)	3 1 2

# FIGURE 4 ILLUSTRATED DRAWING HITCH ASSEMBLY

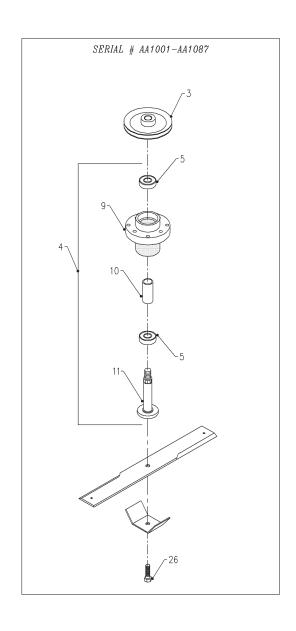


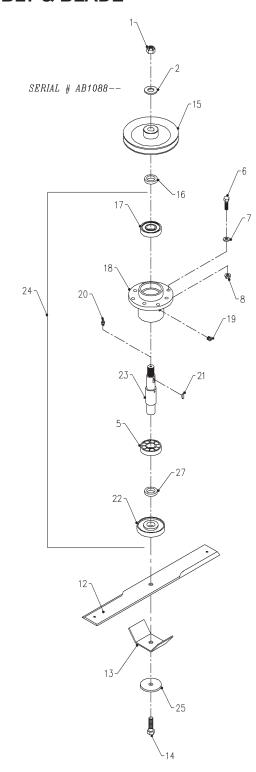
## **PARTS**

## FIGURE 4 HITCH ASSEMBLY

REF.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
2	. 62.0834	Adjustable Idler Arm	1 1 1 4
8 9 9 10	. 64.0722**	1/2 USS Locknut	2 1 1 2
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	90.0620	3/8 x 1-3/4 USS Bolt	1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

# FIGURE 5 ILLUSTRATED DRAWING SPINDLE ASSEMBLY & BLADE





## **PARTS**

## FIGURE 5 SPINDLE ASSEMBLY & BLADE

REF. F	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
3 8 4 8 5 5	99.A12NF 19.B0057-2. 13.0033. 17.0176. 15.0035. 10.0612.	10 ga. x 3/4 x 1-1/4 Machine Washer	. 3 . 3 . 3 3*
8 9 9 8 10 8	95.06	3/8-16 Flange Nut	12 . 3 . 3
14 9 15 8 16 8 17 5	64.0688	Ball Bearing, 2-sided Shield/Seal	. 3 . 3 . 3
20 2 21 8 22 8 23 8	29.GF0017	Relief Fitting	. 3 . 3 . 3
26 9	9.B0091	Blade Washer	. 3

<sup>\*</sup>Spindles used prior to serial# AB1088 require 6) 55.0035 ball bearings.



## LIMITED WARRANTY – VENTRAC TURF EQUIPMENT

*Venture Products, Inc.* (shall be referred to as *V.P.I.*) warrants on the terms and conditions herein, that it will repair, replace, or adjust any part manufactured by *Venture Products* Inc. and found by *Venture Products Inc* to be defective in material and / or workmanship.

Effective September 1<sup>st</sup> 2005, *Ventrac* warranty on Tractors & Attachments (excluding the HG100/HG150 generator) for **Residential use only** is limited to **Three (3) years** from original purchase date. Ventrac Tractors & Attachments used **Commercially or for any income producing purpose** is limited to **Two (2) years** from original purchase date. *Ventrac* ET200 turbine blower (turbine only) is limited to **Two (2) years** from original purchase date. *Ventrac* HG100/HG150 generator is limited to **One (1) year** from original purchase date. *Ventrac* Tractors & Attachments used for **Rental** is limited to **180 days** from original purchase date. (**NOTE:** All accessories such as: 3-point hitch, foot pedal, dual wheel kit, etc. will be covered under the above warranty periods as they would apply provided they are installed by an Authorized *Ventrac* Dealer.) This warranty may be transferred and will carry the remainder of the warranty starting from the Original Purchase/Registration date with the dealership and/or *V.P.I*. In the event that product/s originally registered as (3) year Residential use are to be transferred to a commercial user the warranty would change to the remainder of (2) year Commercial use starting from the Original Purchase/Registration date with the dealership and/or *V.P.I*.

If this warranty covers a consumer product as defined by the Magnusson-Moss warranty act, no warranties, express or implied, (including, but not limited to, the warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose) shall extend beyond the applicable time period stated in bold face type above.

If this warranty covers a product used commercially or for any income producing purpose, the foregoing warranties are in lieu of all other warranties and no representations, guarantees or warranties, express or implied, (including, but not limited to, a warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose), are made by *V.P.I.* in connection with the manufacture or sale of its products.

The engine warranty is covered by its respective engine manufacturer. Please refer to the engine manufacturer's warranty statement that is included in the owner's manual.

The *Ventrac* turf equipment, including any defective parts, must be returned to an Authorized *Ventrac* Dealer within the warranty period. The warranty shall extend to the cost to repair or replace (as determined by *V.P.I.*) the defective part. The expense of pickup and delivery of equipment, service call drive time or any transportation expense incurred for warranty repair is the sole responsibility of the owner and is not covered under warranty by *Ventrac and/or V.P.I. V.P.I.* 's responsibility in respect to claims is limited to making the required repairs or replacements, and no claim of breach of warranty shall be cause for cancellation or rescission of the contract of sale of any *Ventrac* equipment. Proof of purchase may be required by the dealer to substantiate any warranty claim. Only warranty work performed and submitted by an Authorized *Ventrac* Dealer may be eligible for warranty credit.

This warranty extends only to *Ventrac* turf equipment operated under normal conditions and properly serviced and maintained. The warranty expressly does **NOT** cover: (a) any defects, damage or deterioration due to normal use, wear and tear, or exposure; (b) normal maintenance services, such as cleaning, lubrication, oil change; (c) replacement of service items, such as oil, lubricants, spark plugs, belts, rubber hoses or other items subject to normal service replacement; (d) damage or defects arising out of, or relating to abuse, misuse, neglect, alteration, negligence or accident; (e) repair or replacement arising from



## LIMITED WARRANTY – VENTRAC TURF EQUIPMENT

operation of, or use of the turf equipment which is not in accordance with operating instructions as specified in the operator's manual or other operational instructions provided by V.P.I.; (f) repair or replacement arising as a result of any operation from Ventrac turf equipment that has been altered or modified so as to, in the determination of V.P.I., adversely affect the operation, performance or durability of the equipment or that has altered, modified or affected the turf equipment so as to change the intended use of the product; (g) repair or replacement necessitated by the use of parts, accessories or supplies, including gasoline, oil or lubricants, incompatible with the turf equipment or other than as recommended in the operator's manual or other operational instructions provided by V.P.I.; (h) repairs or replacements resulting from parts or accessories which have adversely affected the operation, performance or durability of the turf equipment; or (i) damage or defects due to or arising out of repair of Ventrac turf equipment by person or persons other than an authorized Ventrac service dealer or the installation of parts other than genuine Ventrac parts or Ventrac recommended parts.

The sole liability of *V.P.I.* with respect to this warranty shall be repair and replacement as set forth herein. *V.P.I.* shall have no liability for any other cost, loss, or damage. In particular *V.P.I.* shall have no liability or responsibility for: (i) expenses relating to gasoline, oil, lubricants; (ii) loss, cost or expense relating to transportation or delivery of turf equipment from the location of owner or location where used by owner to or from any Authorized *Ventrac* Dealer; (iii) travel time, overtime, after hours time or other extraordinary repair charges or charge relating to repairs or replacements outside of normal business hours at the place of business of an Authorized *Ventrac* Dealer; (iv) rental of like or similar replacement equipment during the period of any warranty repair or replacement work; (v) any telephone or telegram charges; (vi) loss or damage to person or property other than that covered by the terms of this warranty; (vii) any claims for lost revenue, lost profit or additional cost or expense incurred as a result of a claim of breach of warranty; or (viii) attorney's fees.

The remedies of buyer set forth herein are exclusive and are in lieu of all other remedies. The liability of *V.P.I.*, whether in contract, tort, under any warranty, or otherwise, shall not extend beyond its obligation as set forth herein. *V.P.I.* shall not be liable for cost of removal or installation nor shall *V.P.I.* be responsible for any direct, indirect, special or consequential damages of any nature. In no event shall *V.P.I.* be liable for any sum in excess of the price received for the goods for which liability is claimed.

There are no representations or warranties which have been authorized to the buyer of the turf equipment other than set forth in this warranty. Any and all statements or representations made by any seller of this equipment, including those set forth in any sales literature or made orally by any sales representative, are superceded by the terms of this warranty. Any affirmation of fact or promise made by *V.P.I.* or any of its representatives to the buyer which relates to the goods that are the subject to this warranty shall not be regarded as part of the basis of the bargain and shall not be deemed to create any express warranty that such goods shall conform to the affirmation or promise.

No employee, distributor, or representative is authorized to change the foregoing warranties in any way or grant any other warranty on behalf of *V.P.I.* 

Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or allow the exclusion on limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

This warranty applies to all Ventrac turf equipment sold in the United States and Canada.