

# 900 V-RIPPER



## OPERATORS MANUAL

900  
V-RIPPER

OMA36778 K8 English

**PLOW & PLANTER WORKS**  
**OMA36778 K8**

LITHO IN THE U.S.A.  
ENGLISH






## To the Purchaser

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This new V-Ripper was carefully designed and manufactured to give years of dependable service. To keep it operating efficiently, read the instructions in this operator's manual. Each section is clearly identified so you can easily find the information you need—whether it is operation, lubrication, or maintenance. Read "Contents" to learn where each section is located.

 This safety alert symbol identifies important safety messages in this manual. When you see this symbol, be alert to the possibility of personal injury and carefully read the message that follows.

Your operator's manual contains SI metric equivalents which follow immediately after the U.S. customary units of measurement.

In addition to the equipment furnished with your V-Ripper, attachments are available to help you

do a better job in special conditions. These are described in the attachment section of this manual and can be purchased from your John Deere dealer.

"Right-hand" and "left-hand" sides are determined by facing in the direction the V-Ripper will travel when in use.

Record your V-Ripper serial number in the space provided on page 32. Your dealer needs this information to give you prompt, efficient service when you order parts or attachments. If your V-Ripper requires replacement parts, go to your John Deere dealer where you can obtain Genuine John Deere parts—accept no substitutes.

The warranty on this V-Ripper appears on your copy of the purchase order which you should have received from your dealer when you purchased the V-Ripper.

## 900 V-RIPPER

### TO THE DEALER

After the V-Ripper has been assembled, inspect it thoroughly to be sure it is functioning properly before delivering it to the customer. The following check list is a reminder of points to check. Check off each item as it is found satisfactory or after proper adjustment has been made.

The John Deere Delivery Receipt, when properly filled out and signed by the dealer and customer, verifies that the predelivery and delivery services were satisfactorily performed. When delivering this machine, give the customer a copy of the delivery receipt and the operator's manual. Explain their purpose.

Be certain to retain your copy of the packing list for shipping bundle information.

### PREDELIVERY CHECK LIST

The following check list is a reminder of points to inspect. Check off each item as it is found satisfactory or after proper adjustment is made.

- ☐ Inspect to be sure nuts on all bolts have been tightened to the proper torque and all cotter pins spread. See bolt torque chart on page 15.
- ☐ Inflate tires to 24 psi (1.7 bar) (1.7 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>) air pressure.
- ☐ Paint all unpainted bolts and nuts and any other parts scratched up in shipment.
- ☐ This V-Ripper has been checked and, to the best of my knowledge, is ready for delivery to the customer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date Set Up)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Set-Up Person)

### OWNER REGISTER

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Model \_\_\_\_\_

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date Sold \_\_\_\_\_

### DELIVERY CHECK LIST

The following check list is a reminder of very important information which should be conveyed directly to the customer, at the time the V-Ripper is delivered. Check off each item as it is fully explained to the customer.

- ☐ Advise the customer that the life expectancy of this or any other machine is dependent on regular maintenance. See bolt torque chart on page 15.
- ☐ Tell the customer all about safety precautions that must be observed while using this V-Ripper.
- ☐ When the V-Ripper is transported on a road or highway at night or during the day, accessory lights and devices should be used for adequate warning to operators of other vehicles. In this regard tell the customer to check local governmental regulations.
- ☐ Recommend the use of a trailer or an implement carrier such as the John Deere 201 Implement Carrier for transporting an 11- or 13-Standard V-Ripper.
- ☐ Give the operator's manual to the customer and explain all operating adjustments.
- ☐ To the best of my knowledge this machine has been delivered ready for field use and customer has been fully informed as to proper care and operation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date Delivered)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Delivery Person)



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# Safety Suggestions

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The safety of the operator was one of the prime considerations in the minds of John Deere engineers when this V-Ripper was designed.

You can make your farm a safer place to live and work if you observe the safety suggestions given. Study these suggestions carefully and insist that they be followed by those working with you and for you.

Remember! An accident is usually caused by someone's carelessness, neglect, or oversight.

## TRANSPORTING

Use a trailer or an implement carrier such as the John Deere 201 Implement Carrier when transporting an 11- or 13-standard V-Ripper.

Use care when transporting across rough ground.

For tractor stability and operator safety, tractor front end weights are required. See page 6 under "Front Ballast Information."

The V-Ripper should be transported at a maximum speed of 10 mph (16 km/h). **DO NOT EXCEED.** Faster speed may result in loss of tractor control if an outer standard contacted the ground due to uneven ground contour.

Never travel at any speed which does not permit adequate control of steering and stopping.

When transporting the V-Ripper on a road or highway at night or during the day, use accessory lights and devices for adequate warning to operators of other vehicles. In this regard, check local governmental regulations for proper use. Various safety lights and devices are available from your John Deere dealer.

## HYDRAULIC OIL

Escaping hydraulic oil under pressure can have sufficient force to penetrate the skin, causing serious personal injury. Before disconnecting lines, be sure to relieve all pressure. Before applying pressure to the system, be sure all connections are tight and that lines, pipes and hoses are not damaged. Hydraulic oil escaping from a very small hole can be almost invisible. Use a piece of cardboard or wood, rather than hands, to search for suspected leaks.

If injured by escaping hydraulic oil, see a doctor at once. Serious infection or reaction can develop if proper medical treatment is not administered immediately.

Always relieve pressure in the hydraulic system before working with hydraulic system components.

## OPERATION

When backing up the tractor to attach to V-Ripper, be sure no one is standing between the tractor and V-Ripper or directly behind the V-Ripper.

To avoid injury, always be careful while operating a tractor and V-Ripper.

Never permit any person other than the operator on the tractor.

Never ride or permit others to ride on the V-Ripper.

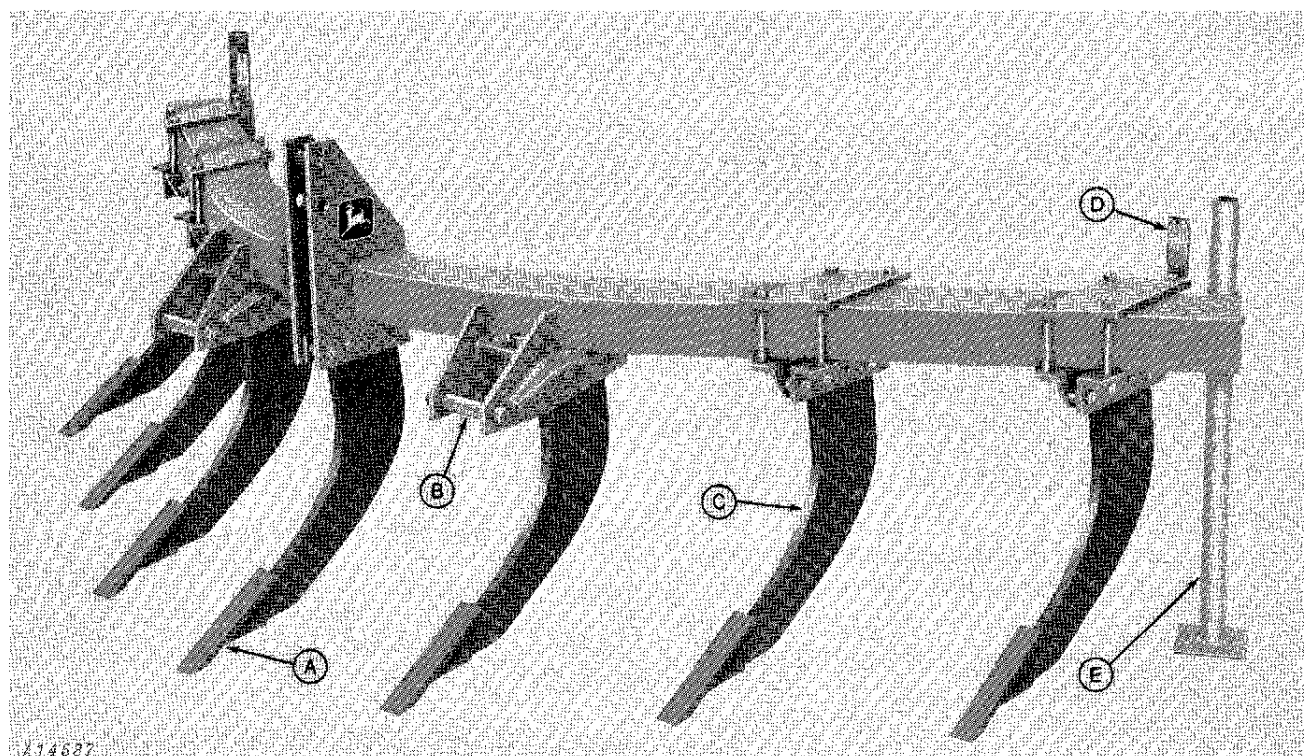
When the V-Ripper is in a raised position, be sure rockshaft lever is not bumped or touched by anyone.

Do not lubricate or adjust the V-Ripper while it is in motion.

Always lower the V-Ripper to the ground when not in use.

On 5-, 7- and 9-standard V-Rippers, always lower the support stands to support the V-Ripper before unhitching from the tractor. Also, when outside standards are less than 144 inches (3 555 mm) apart, use a stand on each end of the frame for support when detaching from tractor.

If spray can paint is used for protecting the standards and points to be put in storage, be careful when discarding empty can. Do not incinerate or puncture can.

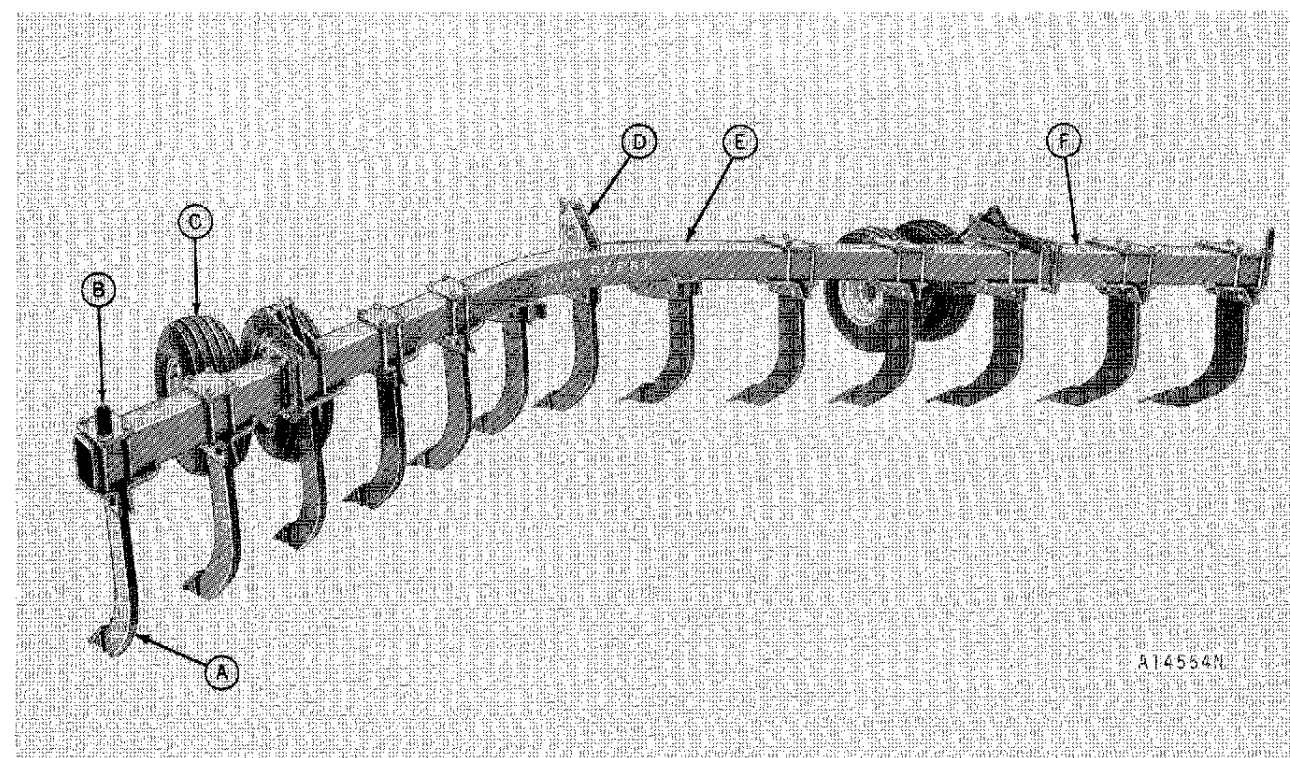


A—Replaceable Slip-on Point  
B—Hitch Pin

C—Standard  
D—Reflector

E—Support Stand

*John Deere 7-Standard 900 V-Ripper (Non-Expandable Frame)*



A—Standard  
B—Reflector

C—Gauge Wheel  
D—Mast

E—Main Frame  
F—Frame Extension

*John Deere 13-Standard 900 V-Ripper*



# Preparing for Use

## GENERAL

The John Deere 900 V-Ripper is a heavy-duty tool-bar-type V-Ripper.

It can be used for ripping (chiseling) or subsoiling depending on available tractor horsepower (kilowatts). Do not use more than 180 PTO horsepower (134 PTO kW) on the non-expandable frame and not more than 350 PTO horsepower (261 PTO kW) on the expandable frame V-Ripper.

The length of life and maximum operating efficiency depend largely on proper care and good use of simple adjustments.

The standards on this V-Ripper, due to their parabolic design, not only fracture the subsoil, but lift the top soil and cover crops, leaving the field rough and loose on top.

The number of standards referred to throughout this manual are at 18-, 19-, or 20-inch (455 mm, 480 mm, or 510 mm) spacing unless noted otherwise. The following instructions will help you obtain the best possible performance from your new V-Ripper. Read them carefully.

*NOTE: In conjunction to using the V-Ripper, it is recommended that you equip your combine with a straw chopper or spreader when harvesting crops such as corn or feed grains. As an alternative, you may choose to disk heavy trash or shred corn stalks.*

When working in heavy trash, better clearance can be obtained with 30-, 36-, 38-, or 40-inch (760, 910, 970 or 1 020 mm) spacing.

Improve vertical trash clearance by using 33-inch (840 mm) standards.

## PREPARING THE V-RIPPER

### Bolts, Set Screws, and Cotter Pins

Before starting to work with a new V-Ripper or one which has been stored, check to see that all bolts are tight and all cotter pins spread to keep them from falling out.

Check for loose bolts, screws, or parts. Loose bolts are easily lost or cause excessive wear on parts, resulting in possible serious damage to the V-Ripper. See page 15 for bolt torque information.

## Tire Inflation

Be sure 11L-14, 6 ply-rated tires on gauge wheels are inflated to 24 psi (1.7 bar) (1.7 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>) air pressure.

## Lubrication

Be sure gauge wheel bearings have been lubricated. See page 15.

## Reducing the Number of Standards

Due to varying ground conditions, it may be necessary to reduce the number of standards on your V-Ripper. Before removing the standards, see the following "CAUTION."



**CAUTION:** If the remaining outside standards are going to be less than 144 inches (3 655 mm) apart, use a support stand on each end of the frame for adequate support.

## PREPARING AND ADJUSTING THE TRACTOR

For complete tractor operating instructions, and use of rear-mounted integral implements, refer to your tractor operator's manual.

## Tire Inflation

Inflate the tractor tires as recommended in the tractor operator's manual.

## Tractor Drawbar

Remove the tractor drawbar or place it in the short high position and set to the extreme right or left side of the support. The deeper the subsoiling or the more cover or trash, the more important it is to remove the drawbar.

## Wheel Settings

**IMPORTANT:** Check tractor wheel and hub bolts for tightness. Loose bolts can result in damaged wheels when pulling a heavy draft implement. See your tractor operator's manual for torque specifications.

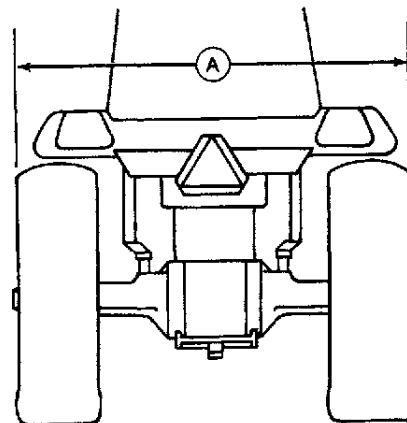
### Rear Wheels

Set the rear wheels so they are at an equal distance from the center line of the tractor.

**IMPORTANT:** It may be possible in certain tractor and V-Ripper combinations to encounter interference between the point of the standards and the tractor tires. Be sure to set rear wheels to avoid interference. Raise V-Ripper slowly to check for possible interference.

For adequate clearance between the rear tractor tires and the 900 V-Ripper gauge wheels on 5- x 7-inch (125 mm x 175 mm), 5 and 7 standard frames,

the rear tractor tires must not be adjusted greater than the maximum width as indicated below. No interference will occur on the 9-standard non-expandable or the 7-, 9-, 11- or 13-standard expandable frames with the gauge wheels assembled as illustrated on pages 27 and 28.



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Number of Standards	Dim. "A" Maximum Overall Tractor Tire Width			
	Spacing			
5	*18", 19", 20", 30" (455, 485, 510, 760 mm)			
7	20" (510 mm)			
Single Rear Tractor Tire Size: (See Note)	30", 32" 34" (760, 815, 865 mm)	All 38" and 42" (965 and 1065 mm)	19" (480 mm) All 34", 38" and 42" (865, 965 and 1065 mm)	18" (455 mm) All 34", 38" and 42" (865, 965 and 1065 mm)
Single Gauge Wheels with Tire to Outside of Gauge Wheel Axle:				
Without Quik-Coupler — No Sway	118" (2995 mm)	108" (2745 mm)	102" (2590 mm)	96" (2440 mm)
Without Quik-Coupler — With Sway	100" (2540 mm)	90" (2285 mm)	84" (2135 mm)	78" (1980 mm)
With Quik-Coupler — No Sway	118" (2995 mm)	118" (2995 mm)	112" (2895 mm)	106" (2690 mm)
With Quik-Coupler — With Sway	100" (2540 mm)	100" (2540 mm)	94" (2385 mm)	88" (2235 mm)
Single Gauge Wheels with Tire to Inside of Gauge Wheel Axle:				
With or Without Quik-Coupler — No Sway	86" (2185 mm)	86" (2185 mm)	**	**
With or Without Quik-Coupler — With Sway	**	**	**	**
Dual Gauge Wheels:				
With or Without Quik-Coupler — No Sway	86" (2185 mm)	86" (2185 mm)	**	**
With or Without Quik-Coupler — With Sway	**	**	**	**

**NOTE:** All dual rear tractor tires will interfere with gauge wheels on 5 and 7 standard frames.

\*Gauge Wheel supports are attached at extreme ends of the frame. With 5 standards at 18-, 19-, and 20-inch (455 mm, 480 mm and 510 mm) spacings, single gauge wheels with the tire outside the gauge wheel axle and the outside wheel of dual gauge wheels will be outside of the tilled soil.

\*\*Gauge wheels will not clear single rear tractor tires when set at these standard spacings.



## Front Wheels

On wide-front-axle tractors, set front wheels to conform to rear wheel setting.

## Rear Wheel Weighting

Rear wheel weights may be necessary to eliminate excessive wheel slippage or add stability in rough or hillside fields. However, weights should not be added to the point where all slippage is eliminated. To do so would hinder maximum performance of the tractor.

Observe the tracks of the rear wheels. When the tractor is pulling its rated load, the soil between the tire lugs should be broken or shifted. If too much weight has been added, the tread marks will be clear and distinct. If too little weight has been added, the tread marks will be entirely obliterated. See your tractor operator's manual.

## Front Ballast Information

### Two Wheel Drive Tractors

Tractor front end stability is necessary for safe and efficient operation. Therefore, it is important that the proper amount of weight be installed on the front of the tractor as recommended in your tractor operator's manual.

**CAUTION:** Ballast recommendations provide adequate transport stability. When operating the tractor in lower gears under 4 mph (6.5 km/h), add front end weight to the maximum permissible for satisfactory field performance of the 3 point hitch draft sensing system. See tractor operator's manual.

### Instructions

- Step 1 - Find your V-Ripper size in the IMPLEMENT CODE TABLE and enter its code on line 1 at right.
- Step 2 - Enter an Implement Code for each attachment on line 2.
- Step 3 - Add these codes to obtain Total Implement Code.
- Step 4 - Select additions or subtractions from tractor operator's manual.
- Step 5 - Refer to tractor operator's manual to determine required tractor front ballast.

## IMPLEMENT CODE TABLES

Implement or Attachment	Standards							
	Non-Expandable Frames				Expandable Frames			
	5	7	9		7	9	11	13
V-Ripper w/o Gauge Wheels	52	68	91	111	-	-	-	-
V-Ripper w/Single Gauge Wheels	74	84	111	139	149	-	-	-
V-Ripper w/Dual Gauge Wheels	81	91	121	148	159	203	250	
Add for 33-Inch (840 mm) Standards	4	6	9	6	9	12	15	
Add Knife Attachment	3	5	7	5	7	10	13	

### EXAMPLE

Step 1	149
Step 2	7
Step 3	156 (sub.)
Step 4	
Step 5	(total)

### YOUR CODE

Step 1	
Step 2	
Step 3	
Step 4	
Step 5	

Our example is a 9-standard expandable frame V-Ripper with single gauge wheels (149) and knife attachment (7) = 156 for your implement code. Refer to your tractor operator's manual for steps 4 and 5 and for your recommended front end ballast.

**IMPORTANT:** Refer to tractor operator's manual: 1. If the total implement code exceeds the maximum implement code listed for a particular tractor model, the implement-attachment combination is not recommended for that tractor. 2. The total load on any tractor wheel due to the weight of the implement-attachment combination and tractor equipment, should not exceed the carrying capacity of the tractor tires.

### Four Wheel Drive Tractors

Four-Wheel drive tractors do not require any front end ballast for stability. Add front wheel weights as required in the same manner as described in "Rear Wheel Weighting".

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