APPENDIX F
MOWER DECK BELT INFORMATION

F-1 **GENERAL.**

F-1.1 This Appendix contains information related to the possible causes of belt problems which are occasionally encountered with belt-driven mower decks.

1. V-belt failures are not normally caused by a bad belt. Such failures are usually the result of the failure of another part.

2. Belts which are frayed or worn on the inside surfaces indicate defective or damaged pulley(s).

   a. A V-belt should not bottom out in the pulley sheave. If the belt bottoms out, the pulley is too wide or the sheave has spread apart. Refer to Figure I-1.

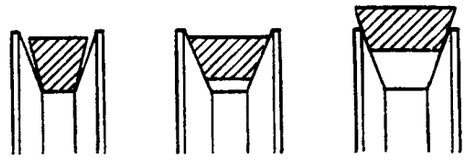

Figure F-1. Belt Position in Pulley Sheaves.

   b. If the sheave is too narrow, the belt will not have full contact with the V-surface of the pulley sheaves. As a general rule, a belt should not ride out of the pulley more than 1/16 inch. A belt riding too far out of the pulley will also appear to be too short.

   c. Check to determine if the double pulley has been mounted upside down, causing a mismatch between the pulley and belt sizes.

   d. Inspect the pulley sheaves for dents or nicks caused by thrown objects, prying the belt on or off with a screw driver (or similar device), or striking the pulley to remove it from its blade spindle or shaft.

3. Heavy wear on only one side of the PTO belt indicates misaligned pulleys.

   a. Figure I-2 shows the optimal alignment of the drive belt runnning over idler pulleys to the input pulley of the mower. Some misalignment of the mower pulley is normal, due to deck height adjustment. The degree of misalignment will depend on the height selected.

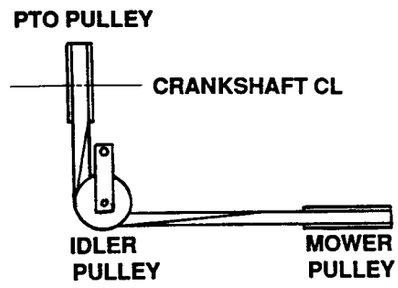

Figure F-2. Properly Aligned Drive Belt.

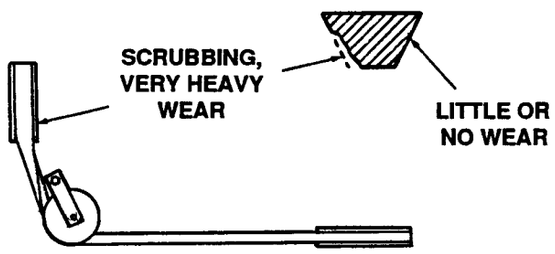

Figure F-3. Excessively Misaligned Drive Belt.

   b. Figure I-3 shows excessive misalignment (particularly over a short length run of the drive belt) causing one side of the belt to scrub heavily against the PTO pulley.

4. A misaligned pulley may also cause the belt to roll over on the pulley. A belt which has rolled over will have cracks throughout the length of the belt (see Figure I-4). Once a belt has rolled over in the pulleys, it must be replaced.

5. As long as a belt is not slipping, it can be assumed the it has proper tension. An over tightened belt will stress components and reduce the service life of the belt.

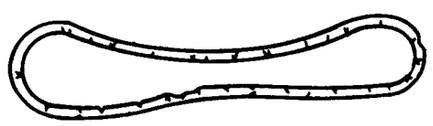

Figure F-4. Cracked Drive Belt.