



REMOTE RETRIEVER TRAINING MULTI-SHOT LAUNCHERS

COMPLETE PRODUCT MANUAL LOCATED AT WWW.THUNDEREQUIPMENT.COM

NOTE: Launcher requires a MAPP gas cylinder and 8AA batteries (not included)

STARTUP AND LAUNCH SEQUENCE

The sequence to fire your launcher works just like the hammer on a gun. Depressing the transmitter button once releases the safety and readies the system to fire (cocking the hammer) and the next press of the transmitter button fires the system (pulling the trigger.) The timing in between the two steps needs no longer than 2 seconds under average operating conditions.

⚠ WARNING! THE LAUNCHER IS IN THE “COCKED” POSITION WHEN YOU HEAR GAS FLOWING. IT SHOULD ONLY BE IN THIS POSITION WHEN YOU ARE PREPARING TO FIRE.

Neutral Position: Small hole between bumper tubes on the rotator is over the combustion port of the launcher

Cocked Position: Tube that holds the bumper is partially over the combustion port on the launcher.

- 1. INSTALL 8-AA BATTERIES (not included):** Battery compartment is located on back panel. Remove the 4 small black screws and pry off the cover using the slot on the lower right side of the battery cover box. USE RUBBER BAND OR TAPE TO SECURE BATTERIES IN PLACE. Failure to follow will result in sporadic performance due to battery movement.
- 2. CONNECT TRI-TRONICS OR DOGTRA ELECTRONICS:** Systems will operate with most Tri-Tronics® or dogtra® remote launch transmitter / receiver systems. Make sure to read a follow manufacturer’s instructions for installing, charging and operating the remote launching system you have chosen. Receiver can be attached to outer housing using Velcro® adhesive strips (not included). Insert the plug into the receiver. Turn on the remote system. **NOTE:** When using a dogtra receiver be careful not to let the wire fall inside the machine. If it does you will need to remove the case to retrieve. BE CAREFUL NOT TO STRIP THE SCREW HEADS WHEN REMOVING THE COVER.



FOR MAXIMUM ELECTRONIC RANGE: Mount the receiver so its antenna extends beyond the launcher case. See Photo

- 3. MOVE LAUNCHER POWER SWITCH TO “ON” POSITION AND DEPRESS YOUR ELECTRONICS TO ENSURE THE MACHINE CYCLES PROPERLY AND IS IN THE NEUTRAL POSITION**
(Smaller hole between bumper tubes over firing hole on launcher)

⚠ WARNING! With the launcher in the neutral position (not cocked to fire) there should be NO indication of continuous gas flow after the canister is installed and the valve is opened. If you hear gas continuously flowing, smell gas escaping when system is not activated, or the tank quickly becomes unexplainably very cold and you are sure the system is in the neutral / safe position (not cocked), unscrew immediately and contact the Thunder Equipment.

- 4. MOVE LAUNCHER POWER SWITCH TO “OFF” POSITION**

- 5. INSTALL GAS CYLINDER TANK (not included):** Your Thunder Equipment launcher is powered by MAPP gas (yellow can). **Propane (blue can) will NOT work.** Carefully install the MAPP gas cylinder tank in the side. Be EXTREMELY CAREFUL not to strip the engagement threads. **NOTE:** Gas cylinder heads are not always straight which can cause difficult installation on first use. Once tank begins to screw in about 25% you can pull on the bottom lightly to help straighten the neck alignment and make installation easier.

⚠ WARNING! If you hear gas flowing it is likely the launcher is in the cocked position (bumper tube almost completely covering firing hole). You must unscrew the gas and return to Step #3 to complete the firing process and return the system to safe position.



MAPP GAS

PROPANE

WARNING! NEVER TRANSPORT LAUNCHER WITH MAPP GAS INSTALLED

- 6. STABILIZE UNIT AT PROPER LAUNCH ANGLE AND PLACE BUMPERS ON FRONT BUMPER TUBES:**

Unfold legs from launcher body. Place launcher at desired location and angle (normally 30° – 45°). Legs extend from base position and rotate away from centerline as required for stability. Make sure system is located in a



stable position. Bumpers slide over metal tubes on the front rotator. **Caution: NEVER ROTATE BUMPER TUBES BY HAND.** This will result in internal damage and is not covered under warranty.

 **WARNING!** Never place any object other than approved Thunder Equipment bumpers in/on rotator tubes. Failure to follow this precaution will severely damage the machine and could lead to property damage, injury, or death.

7. MOVE POWER SWITCH TO “ON” POSITION:

If the machine rotates ensure it is in the neutral position before proceeding.

 **WARNING!** Never stand in front of machine when power switch is on.

8. LAUNCH SEQUENCE (Always shoot a test shot to confirm proper launcher operation and bumper flight prior to remote usage): Move behind machine (a minimum of 20 feet) and depress launch activation button on transmitter. This releases the safety, “cocks the hammer” and readies the launcher to fire. Press the transmitter button again to “pull the trigger” and the bumper will fire. **Caution:** Never fire launcher if not in the upright, 30° – 55° launch position. Shooting a launcher lying on the ground can lead to fire hazard, personal injury, and damage to the launcher.

A new system may seem a little “tight” or rotate a little slower after ignition. This will not impact performance, system timing, and is normal in new systems. The system is designed to exacting tolerances and can require a break-in period.

STANDARD TRAINING SEQUENCE USING YOUR LAUNCHER

Remember that the procedure closely mimics what a bird boy would do in the field during a marking setup. When the dog reaches the line and begins to mark a gun station press the transmitter button to “cock” the system. When the dog is ready to mark press the transmitter button again and the bumper will fire. If you have additional launchers in the field for multiple mark setups just press the transmitter button to “cock” while you are moving your dog from one bird to another. When the dog is ready for the mark, press the transmitter button again to fire.

NOTES:

1. Sometimes the electronic transmitter / receiver may not always get the signal to “cock” the system. This is not a problem because the launcher only requires 1 second to reload. If you press the transmitter button and the system doesn’t fire don’t panic, just press the transmitter button again to “cock” and press again in 1 second.
2. Under extreme heat and humidity conditions it is possible to cause variation in shot reliability by leaving the launcher “cocked” for extended periods. The maximum shot distance is about 3 seconds. After that time there is no additional benefit except in extremely cold conditions. Leaving the system in the “cocked” position beyond 20 seconds may limit launches under extreme temperature conditions.

9. RELOAD PROCEDURE

When approaching machine always ensure you do not hear gas flowing in the system. This means the system is in cocked position. You should stand behind the launcher and press the transmitter button again to “pull the trigger” before continuing to reload. **Caution:** The noise from the shot will be VERY loud. Make sure to take proper precautions. To reload always approach from the rear, turn power switch to OFF position, reload bumpers, and then move power switch to ON position. Rotator turns counter-clockwise when firing. **NEVER STAND IN FRONT OF MACHINE WITH POWER SWITCH IS ON.**

VARIABLE DISTANCE CONTROL (REMOTE): The gas valve on the side of the launcher regulates gas flow for timing of variable distance shots. See full manual for information

 **WARNING!** Closing the distance valve does not depressurize the launcher. Gas bottles should be removed for vehicle transport.



WARNING! Failure to comply with applicable safety precautions could cause property damage, injury or death. Thunder Equipment accepts no liability for personal injury, property damage, or death sustained while handling same or damage caused during the operation or transportation of this machine whether specifically stated in manuals or otherwise.

FOR PRODUCT QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS CONTACT:

Thunder Equipment division of Wilson Retrievers, Inc.

150 Wise Road · Greenville, PA · 16125 Ph: 724-944-2429 · info@thunderequipment.com