

# Post Hole Digger

## THANK YOU FOR PURCHASING THIS PRODUCT

**Congratulations on your purchase.** Behlen Country has been in the business of providing quality equipment to landowners for more than 70 years. Our 3-Point Equipment will provide many years of service when maintained by the operator and used in accordance with the capabilities of the product. For questions about this product, or for parts inquiries, please contact our Customer Service Center listed below. For questions about this product, or for parts inquiries, please contact our Customer Service Center listed below.



## STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of Behlen Country to improve its products where it is possible and practical to do so. Behlen Country reserves the right to make changes or improvements in design and construction at any time, without incurring the obligation to make these changes on previously manufactured units.

**Behlen<sup>®</sup>  
COUNTRY**

## CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

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## CAUTION

For Safe Operation, Read Rules and Instructions Carefully.

The following safety precautions should be thoroughly understood before attempting to begin the assembly of this machine.

1. Select an area for assembly that is clean and free of debris which might cause persons working on the assembly to trip.
2. Do **NOT** lift heavy parts or assemblies. Use a crane, jack, tackle, fork trucks or other mechanical devices.
3. Preview the assembly instructions in your operator's manual before proceeding further.
4. If the assembly instructions call for parts or assemblies to be blocked up, use only blocking material that is in good condition and is capable of handling the weight of the assembly to be blocked. Also insure that the blocking material is on a clean, dry surface.
5. **NEVER** put hands, or any part of the body, under blocked up assemblies if at all possible.
6. After completing assembly, thoroughly inspect the machine to be sure that all nuts, bolts, hydraulic fittings or any other fastened assemblies have been thoroughly tightened.
7. Before operating the machine, thoroughly **READ** and **UNDERSTAND** the operation section of your operator's manual.
8. Before operating, **READ** the maintenance section of your operator's manual to be sure that any parts requiring lubrication are serviced to avoid any possible damage.
9. Before operating equipment - If you have any questions regarding the proper assembly or operation, contact your Behlen Country dealer or representative.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Please stay alert for these signs.



THIS SAFETY ALERT SYMBOL identifies important safety warning messages. Carefully read each warning message that follows. Failure to understand and obey safety warnings or recognize a safety hazard, could result in an injury or death to you or others around you. The operator is ultimately responsible for the safety of himself, as well as others, in the operating area of the Post Hole Digger.



**WARNING**



This safety sign denotes a **POTENTIAL** hazard. If the situation is not avoided it **MAY** result in **INJURY**.



**CAUTION**



This safety sign denotes a hazard exists that, if not avoided, **CAN** lead to **SERIOUS INJURY** or **DEATH** if proper precautions are not taken.



**DANGER**



This safety sign denotes an **IMMINENTLY** hazardous situation. If situation is not avoided, it **WILL** result in **SERIOUS INJURY** or **DEATH**.

### To the Owner/Operator/Dealer

All implements with moving parts are potentially hazardous. There is no substitution for a cautious, safety-minded operator who recognizes the potential hazards and follows reasonable safety practices. The manufacturer had designed this implement to be used with all its safety equipment properly attached to minimize the chance of accidents.

# BEFORE YOU START!!

Read the safety messages on the implement and as shown in the manual. Observe the rules of safety and common sense!

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Working with unfamiliar equipment can lead to careless injuries. Read this manual and the manual for your tractor before assembly or operating, to acquaint yourself with both machines. It is the Owner/Operator's responsibility, if this machine is used by any person other than yourself, or is loaned or rented, to make certain prior to operating:

1. The operator's manual is read and understood.
2. Safety issues are understood and followed, and proper usage is understood.

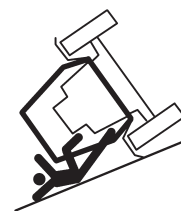
The use of this equipment is subject to certain hazards which cannot be protected against by mechanical means or product design. All operators of this equipment must read and understand this entire manual, paying particular attention to safety and operating instructions, prior to use. If there is something in this manual you do not understand, ask your dealer or manufacturer, to explain it to you. Improper use can occur on machines that are loaned out or rented to someone who has not read the owner's manual and is not familiar with this implement.

# Safety Information



This Post Hole Digger was designed for one-man operation from the tractor seat. Most accidents occur because of neglect or carelessness. It is the responsibility of the operator to see that no one is within twenty-five feet (25') of the blade when it is in operation. Do not operate the implement with another person near, or in contact with, any part of the Post Hole Digger. Serious personal injury or death may result if any attempt is made to assist operation by hand.

Only properly trained people should operate this machine. It is always recommended the tractor be equipped with a Rollover Protection System (ROPS) and a seat belt that is used. Always stop the PTO, set break, shut off the tractor engine, remove the tractor key, and allow implement to come to a complete stop before dismounting tractor. Never leave equipment unattended with tractor running.



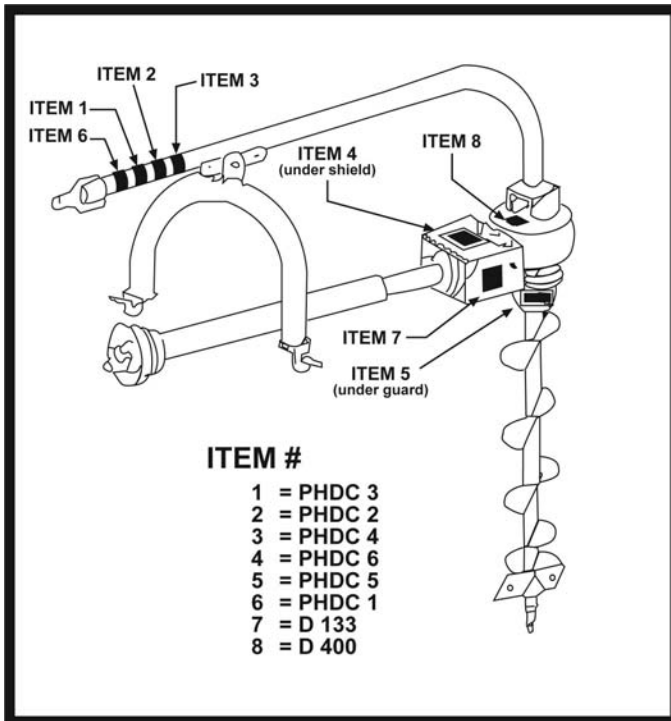
The use of this equipment is subject to certain hazards which cannot be protected against by mechanical means or production design. All operators of this equipment must read and understand this entire manual, paying particular attention to safety and operating instructions, prior to using. If there is something in this manual you do not understand, ask your supervisor, or your dealer, to explain it to you.

Please remember it is important that you read and heed the safety signs on the Post Hole Digger, and the safety rules set forth herein. Clean or replace all safety stickers if they can not be clearly read and understood. They are there for your safety as well as the safety of others. The safe use of this machine is strictly up to you, the operator.

# ASSEMBLY, OPERATION, & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

## Safety Decals

These are the safety stickers that appear on your Post Hole Digger. If any of these stickers are missing or damaged please contact Behlen Country at 800-447-2751 for replacement.



**! DANGER**

**TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH:**

- Contact dealer, make sure your machine has all current safety guards and shields in place.
- Do not operate without all guards and shields in place.
- Do not operate when auger is higher than 12 inches above ground level. Doing so may cause driveline to bind, resulting in equipment damage or operator injury.
- Stop auger rotation before maneuvering, relocating or transporting.

PHDC 3

**! DANGER**

**TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH:**

Si no entiende ingles, se prefiere que busque a alguien que interprete las instrucciones para usted.

- Read and understand owner's manual before operating.
- Operate only from the tractor seat.
- Stay away from rotating parts. Keep others away.
- Do not dig around underground utility lines without checking with authorities.

PHDC 2

**! DANGER**

**GUARD MISSING**  
When this is visible  
**DO NOT OPERATE**  
**ENTANGLEMENT HAZARD**  
can cause Serious Injury or Death  
Si no entiende ingles, se prefiere que busque a alguien que interprete las instrucciones para usted.

PHDC 6

**! DANGER**

**DO NOT ATTACH THIS IMPLEMENT OR ATTEMPT TO OPERATE UNTIL YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL INSTRUCTIONS IN THE OWNER'S MANUAL. IF AN OWNER'S MANUAL IS NOT AVAILABLE CONTACT THE MANUFACTURER.**

PHDC 4

**! DANGER**

**GUARD MISSING WHEN THIS IS VISIBLE**  
**DO NOT OPERATE**  
**ENTANGLEMENT HAZARD**  
can cause Serious Injury or Death  
Si no entiende ingles, se prefiere que busque a alguien que interprete las instrucciones para usted.



PHDC 6

# ASSEMBLY, OPERATION, & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

## Safety Decals

These are the safety stickers that appear on your Post Hole Digger. If any of these stickers are missing or damaged please contact Behlen Country at 800-447-2751 for replacement.

<b>! DANGER</b>		
<b>GUARD MISSING</b> When this is visible <b>DO NOT OPERATE</b>		<b>KEEP CLEAR!</b> Keep Others Away! <b>ENTANGLEMENT HAZARD</b> can cause Serious Injury or Death
<i>Si no entiende ingles, se prefiere que busque a alguien que interprete las instrucciones para usted.</i> • Never manually position the auger or manually force the auger into ground. • This machine is designed to be operated <b>ONLY</b> from the tractor seat. • Keep everyone clear of all moving parts of the digger while in operation.		
PHDC 5		

<b>! DANGER</b>		
	<b>Rotating Parts Hazard</b> Keep Away <b>To Prevent Serious Injury or Death from Rotating Parts:</b> <i>Si no entiende ingles, se prefiere que busque a alguien que interprete las instrucciones para usted.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read and understand owner's manual before operating.</li><li>• Do not operate without all shields and guards in place.</li><li>• Do not use body weight to force the auger into the ground or to locate auger point when auger is turning.</li><li>• Never replace shearbolt or auger attaching bolts with longer bolt.</li><li>• Keep away from auger, cutting head and driveline when engine is running.</li></ul>	
PHDC1		

<b>! DANGER</b>

<b>ROTATING DRIVELINE HAZARD</b> <b>KEEP AWAY</b> To prevent serious injury or death from rotating driveline: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Keep all guards in place when operating.</li><li>2. Operate only at 540 RPM.</li><li>3. Keep hands, feet, clothing and hair away from moving parts.</li></ol>
D-133

# Safety Information

All things with moving parts are potentially hazardous. There is no substitute for a cautious, safety-minded operator who recognizes potential hazards and follows reasonable safety practices. The manufacturer has designed this implement to be used with all its safety equipment properly attached, to minimize the chance of accidents. Study this manual to make sure you have all the safety equipment attached.



If a Safety Shield or guard is removed for any reason, it must be replaced before the machine is again operated. Always use, and maintain in place, all power take off (PTO) guards furnished with the tractor as well as the power take off guards and shields furnished with the digger.



This digger is only designed for use with tractors with 540 RPM Power Take Off (PTO).



When the use of hand tools is required to perform any part of assembly, installation, adjustment, maintenance, repairing, removal or moving the digger, be sure the tools used are designed and recommended by the tool manufacturer for that specific task.



Personal protection equipment including hard hats, safety glasses, safety shoes, and gloves are recommended during assembly, installation, operation, adjustments, maintenance, repairing, removal, or moving the Post Hole Digger, **DO NOT ALLOW** long hair, loose fitting clothing or jewelry to be around moving parts.



Always use two people to handle heavy, unwieldy components during assembly, installation, removal, or moving the Post Hole Digger.



Never place any part of your body where it would be in danger, if movement should occur during assembly, installation, operation,



maintenance, repairing, removal or moving the Post Hole Digger.



Never place yourself between the tractor and Post Hole Digger while implement is in operation. When removing, or adjusting equipment, be sure your body is never under the implement.

A heavy load can cause instability of the tractor. Use extreme care during travel. Slow down on turns and watch out for bumps. The tractor may need front counter-weights to counter-balance the weight of the Post Hole Digger.



Never use alcoholic beverages or drugs which can hinder alertness or coordination while operating this equipment. Consult your doctor about operating this machine while taking prescription and some over-the-counter medications.



**DO NOT ALLOW RIDERS** on the Post Hole Digger or tractor at any time. There is **NO** safe place for any riders. **NEVER ALLOW CHILDREN TO OPERATE OR BE AROUND BLADE.**



Before you operate the Post Hole Digger, check over all pins, bolts and connections to be sure all are securely in place. Replace any damaged or worn parts immediately.



Consult local utility companies to make certain there are no buried gas lines, electrical cables, etc., in the work area before beginning operation.



Do **NOT** allow anyone who is not familiar with the safety rules and operation instructions to use this Post Hole Digger.



Use stabilizer bars, adjustable chains, or sway blocks on your tractor lift arms to keep the Post Hole Digger from swinging side to side. Adjust as tightly as practical for best performance.



Never replace the shear bolt with any length or grade other than what is specified in this manual. A longer, or protruding fastener is more likely to grab loose clothing or gloves which can result in serious injury or death.



Clear work area of objects which might be picked up and thrown or entangled in the auger.



# INSTRUCTIONS

## Tractor Requirements and Preparation

The mounted Post Hold Digger will fit most Category 1 & 2 and some Category 0 tractors equipped with a standard 3-Point hitch. Note: Some Category 0 tractors have very short lift arms or 5/8" diameter (Cat 0) lift arm ball ends. These tractors are not usually suitable for post hole digging operations.

Check the tractor's 3-Point hydraulic lift system. It should operate up and down smoothly and have enough power to lift the dirt-loaded auger out of the hole. Refer to your tractor's operator's manual or dealer for any adjustments necessary to put the 3-Point hydraulic lift system in good working order. (I & T shop manuals will list most specifications and adjustment instructions — available from most farm equipment dealers).

Check the shield over the PTO stub shaft. Make sure it is in good condition and bolted securely to the tractor. Purchase a new shield if the old shield is damaged or missing.

Tractor must be equipped with stabilizer bars, adjustable sway chains, or sway blocks to keep the post hole digger from swinging side to side.

Smaller size tractors may need front counter weights to counter-balance the weight of the Post Hold Digger and the dirt on the digger.

It is recommended that the tractor be equipped with a Rollover Protection System (ROPS) and a seat belt that is used.



**CAUTION**



**Be sure your tractor is in good working condition. Read all the safety procedures and make sure all tractor operators are familiar with the safety rules of operation.**



To prevent rapid wear of the U-Joints and possible failure of drivelines, never lift auger more than 12" off the ground with the PTO in operation.



To prevent possible driveline failures, never move digger from hole-to-hole or transport while auger is rotating. This could lead to an injury from flying pieces.



Do **NOT** operate digger on steep hillsides. When digging on uneven or hilly terrain, position the tractor with the Post Hole Digger uphill. With the Post Hole digger downhill, the tractor could tip when attempting to pull auger from its hole.



Never position the auger point by hand or with any tool when the tractor is running. Never position the auger by putting your hands on the auger, gearbox, boom, or driveline. To prevent entanglement and possible serious injury or death, never use any body weight to try to push auger into the ground.



Worn edges or a slightly rounded tip can seriously affect auger penetration. Check for wear before each use, replace as necessary.



Do NOT shovel dirt away from rotating auger as the shovel can be caught and thrown by the auger.



**Do not operate the post hole digger without all safety shields and guards in place. Always use care when operating Post Hole Digger.**

**Safety is a primary concern in the design, manufacture, sale and use of the Post Hole Digger. At Behlen Country, we want to confirm to you, our customers, our concern for safety.**

**Our current production machines include, as standard equipment, safety signs. Older machines can be retrofitted to add these new safety signs. If you have an older machine which does not have current standard safety equipment, please contact your dealer about bringing your machine up to the current level of safety.**

## Assembly & Mounting

Unpack all the bundles and lay out various parts. Start with the yoke. Place the pins through the holes in the legs of the yoke and secure with nuts and lock washers.

**Note:** If your tractor lift arms spacing is 32", place the pins on the outside of the yoke legs. If your tractor lift arm spacing is 26" or less then place pins on the inner side of the yoke legs.

The pins are Category 1 (7/8" dia). If your tractor is Category 2, then lift arm bushings are required to properly fit the 1-1/8" dia. Cat 2 lift arm balls. (Bushings are not supplied) Place the lift arms of your tractor over the pull pins in the yoke and secure with linchpins (not supplied).

Pin end of digger boom to tractor top-link bracket. Raise boom by hand and check that it doesn't hit any part of top link bracket (some tractors only). If problem exists, change hole location and re-check. Failure to check can result in boom damage. Cat 2 tractors need bushings. Connect yoke to boom with bolt, lock-washer and nut.

**Note:** Always use adapter bushing when using Category 1 pins on a Category 2 hitch.

Trying to use Cat 1 pins in a Cat 2 hitch without bushings will result in a very sloppy fit and the Post Hole Digger will be unstable.

**Note:** When attaching the yoke to the boom, use the hole in the adjustment channel best suited for your tractor. If you don't know the best hole location, start with the middle hole.



**CAUTION**

**DO NOT operate this equipment without shields properly installed. This is for your protection, and the manufacturer recommends the use of their shields at all times while operating this Post Hole Digger.**

Attach the gearbox to the boom using the gearbox hitch pin and secure it with the two cotter pins. The gearbox should be placed so that the large shaft is pointing toward the ground and the small shaft is pointing toward the tractor.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: The gearbox is shipped WITHOUT lubricant, so it will be necessary to fill it before use. With the gearbox in a level position, fill to the side inspection hole with a**

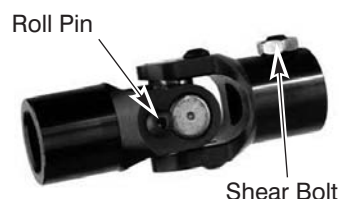
**good 90 wt. gear lubricant. Check often and add lubricant as necessary.**

Grease the input shaft of the gearbox before installing the PTO shaft. This reduces the chance of the PTO shaft yoke from galling the input shaft if the shear pin should break.

Slip the two telescoping ends of the PTO shaft together. Place the unsplined end on the gearbox input shaft and bolt it in place with the 5/16" shear bolt and secure it with the lock washer and nut.

On the implement end or the PTO shaft there is a hole in the yoke just above the 5/16" shear bolt (see Figure A.)

This hole is for the 1/4" diameter x 1-1/2" long roll pin. When this roll pin is driven in the hole, the center of the roll pin



**Fig. A**

engages into the groove on the front of the gearbox input shaft. This prevents the PTO assembly from coming off if the 5/16" shear bolt should break. When replacing the shear bolt, use only a soft, **Grade 2** shear bolt. **DO NOT USE A HARD BOLT!**



**DANGER**



**Do not install a longer bolt or other longer fastener! A protruding fastener is more likely to grab loose clothing and can cause serious injury or death.**

Clean tractor PTO stub shaft and inside of splined yoke. Twist the spring load snap pin on the snap coupler of the splined yoke and slip on the splined PTO shaft of your tractor. Release the pin and push it on until it locks into place. Make certain the tractor PTO shield is in good condition and securely fastened to tractor.

**Note:** If your tractor PTO shaft has a 1-1/8" spline, it will be necessary to obtain a 1-1/8" to 3/8" sleeve spline adaptor. If the tractor is equipped with a 1-1/8" or 1-3/8" spline adaptor extension, it may be necessary to cut the PTO shaft off in length. Check this before putting the auger on or digging a hole. To check, raise and lower the Post Hole Digger with the tractor **BEFORE** putting the auger on.



Slowly raise and lower the digger without the auger attached. Watch to see that the PTO driveline and/ or shields do not separate or get into a bind. Check to see if the gearbox end will lower to the ground. If it will not go all the way down, then either change the hole location between the yoke and the boom or check to see if the PTO shaft is bottoming.

**Note: Use stabilizer bars, adjustable sway chains, or sway blocks on your tractor lift arms to keep the post hole digger from swinging side to side. Adjust as tightly as practical for best performance.**

Slide the auger over the large shaft of the gearbox and secure it with the two bolts. The Post Hole Digger is now ready to use.

### Preparation Procedure

- Thoroughly read and understand your Operator's Manuals.
- Before beginning operation, contact your local Utility Company to make certain there are no gas lines, electrical cables, etc., in the work area.
- Check for ditches, stumps, holes, or other obstacles that could cause the tractor to roll.
- Lay out and mark where you want to dig you holes.
- All persons should be at least twenty-five feet (25') away during operation. Clear the area of helpers, bystanders, and especially children.
- Do **NOT** allow anyone to stand behind or to the side of a moving auger.
- To dig properly, your digger must be able to raise or lower through the highest and lowest points of your lift arm travel without binding against the tractor frame.
- If it does bind, adjust the tractor's 3-Point linkage so that all movement is free.

## PTO Shaft Modification

If your PTO shaft is not the right size and needs to be shortened for use with your tractor, follow the directions below for modifications.

1. Hold driveline sections parallel to each other and check for minimum 6" overlap. If driveline has been marked for cutting, overlap distance will be the distance between the two marks. If driveline has less than minimum overlap, **DO NO USE** contact your Behlen Country dealer for a longer PTO.
2. If the driveline must be cut to a shorter length, clamp driveline in a well padded vice to prevent damage to the shield. Cut off shield where marked. Using cut-off section of shield as a guide, cut shaft the same amount.
3. Repeat the procedure to the other driveline half. Remove all burrs and filings.
4. Apply multi-purpose grease to inside of outer (female) driveline section. Assemble driveline and install on tractor and mower. Pull on each driveline section to be sure yolks lock into place. Make certain driveline shielding is in place and in good condition.
5. Carefully raise and lower the implement to check that the PTO assembly does not jam. If it does, cut equal amounts from each half of the PTO assembly.
6. Check the swinging drawbar of the tractor and make sure the PTO driveline assembly will not contact. The drawbar can be moved forward on some tractors or it can be removed.

**Note: After attaching driveline to tractor, attach driveline shield chains from both ends of driveline shielding to stationary locations.**

**Note: If driveline has less than 6" of overlap, do not use this driveline. Contact your Behlen Country dealer for a longer driveline. If there is more than 6" of overlap, the driveline must be shortened.**

## Operation

**If you have any questions regarding the proper operation of this digger, contact your dealer or the manufacturer.**

This Post Hole Digger was designed for one man operation from the tractor seat. It is the responsibility of the operator to see that no one else is within twenty-five feet (25') of the digger when it is started.

- Set tractor brakes.
- Take tractor out of gear. Shift to “Park” (if applicable).
- Lower auger point slowly to the ground with the PTO disengaged.
- With the auger point lowered to the ground, set the engine speed to idle, then engage the PTO. Make sure the auger point is on the ground before engaging the PTO.
- Increase the speed as required so dirt is conveyed from the hole. Refer to the tractors Owner’s Manual for suggestions on PTO speed.
- **Under no circumstances** should the PTO be run in excess of 540 RPM.
- In many types of soil, it may be necessary to hold back against the auger screw suction by moving the hydraulic control lever to “HOLD” or “RAISE” position to keep the auger from screwing into the ground.
- NEVER use body weight to help the auger penetrate the ground. When the ground is too tough to penetrate with your cutting edges and point, replace them and try again. These are replaceable parts and must be in good condition to penetrate.
- If you have difficulty penetrating hard ground, refer to the Trouble-shooting Guide for suggestions.
- When the auger has been lowered about a foot or so into the ground, raise the auger almost out of the hole to clear the dirt, then drill deeper and raise the auger again. Repeat this procedure until the desired hole depth is reached.

- Do not shovel dirt away from a rotating auger as the shovel can be caught and thrown by the auger.
- Leave the Power Take Off disengaged when traveling between holes.

**It is essential that everyone involved in the operation, transportation, maintenance, and storage of this equipment be aware, concerned, prudent and properly trained in safety.**



**Operate the post hole digger ONLY on tractor with 540 RPM PTO shaft. The tractor’s engine speed should not exceed 1200 RPM’s while digging.**



**On some tractors it may be necessary to remove the drawbar or slide it to one side. This will prevent the PTO driveline shaft from coming in contact with the drawbar. see your tractor’s operators manual for details.**

The Post Hole Digger is free-swinging, and care should be taken while transporting the machine. DO NOT transport the Post Hole Digger while PTO is engaged.

**Digging A Hole:** Position the tractor so that the auger point is placed where the hole is to be. Lower the auger so that the point touches the ground. The point of the auger should be approximately 3” back of center of the gearbox. As the auger works into the ground, this slight angle will straighten due to the pivoting action of the boom downward. If the auger has a side tilt, correct with the lift arm adjustment on the tractor hitch.

If the auger tilts too far forward or to the rear, lift auger off the ground and correct by using the Post Hold Digger handle and relower the auger. In some cases, it may be necessary to move the tractor slightly.

**KEEP ALL PERSONS AWAY FROM THE ROTATING AUGER AND THE PTO SHAFT!**

## ASSEMBLY, OPERATION, & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

Engage the tractor PTO with the engine at idle (or below 1000 rpm). As the auger penetrates the ground, lower the unit slowly with the 3-Point hydraulic system.

### **DO NOT LET THE AUGER SCREW ITSELF INTO THE GROUND!**

Auger must dig with the dirt breaking up and being carried to the top by the auger flighting.

Once the hole is dug to the desired depth raise the auger, while rotating, to bring the dirt out of the hole. To get a clean hole, it is sometimes best to lower the auger into the hole with the auger turning and then, when at the bottom, stop the rotation and raise the auger while not turning. This brings the dirt up with little left in the hole.

**NEVER LOCATE AUGER BY PUTTING HANDS ON THE AUGER, GEARBOX OR BOOM**, when there is any sign of rotation on the driveline or auger, or if the tractor is running.

Do not shovel dirt away from a turning auger as a shovel can be caught by the auger and thrown. Do not allow anyone to stand behind or to the side of an operating auger. All persons should be 25' away.

A Grade 2 (5/16" x 2 1/2") shear bolt is included with you post hole digger. If the shear pin breaks replace only with a soft, Grade 2 shear bolt. **DO NOT USE A HARD SHEAR BOLT!** The use of a hard shear bolt could result in damage to the gearbox or other post hole digger parts and voids the warranty.

Do **Not** run the digger while transporting, as damage to the PTO shaft could occur.

**Do NOT let the digger go so deep that the PTO shaft is running in the dirt.**

Remain on the tractor seat while operating the Post Hole Digger. Assisting the machine by hand can result in possible injury or death.

Be sure the auger is completely retracted from the hole before attempting to move the tractor.

Once the auger is digging a hole the tractor **CANNOT** be moved. Make sure the brake is set securely. If the tractor does move while the auger is in a hole, damage to the gearbox or auger can result (not covered by warranty).

Cutting edges and screw type center point are replaceable. They should be sharpened or replaced when worn.

**Note:** If you have a rocky or large root soil condition, it is recommended that a heavy duty auger be used.

If you encounter rocks or roots that catch the auger and cause the shear bolt to break, remove the auger from the hole and use a large, heavy pry bar to break up the obstructing rock. A large root may have to be chopped to be removed.

If auger becomes lodged below ground, **DO NOT** attempt to lift auger out of ground by hydraulic lift power alone. Turn tractor off and disconnect PTO driveline from the tractor. Reverse the rotation of the auger by several turns. This can be accomplished by using a large pipe wrench and turning the auger in reverse several revolutions. Attempting to lift auger by hydraulic power alone while trying to clear stuck augers can cause auger, gearbox, or boom failure.

**DO NOT** attempt to free the auger while the PTO is connected. Disconnect the PTO driveline from the tractor before attempting to free the auger.

Underground Utilities — Contact appropriate agencies to determine if hazardous items are buried under the digging site **BEFORE DIGGING!** Be certain underground utilities have been called to locate underground electric, gas, telephone and other lines. Check

your telephone book for calling instructions. Be sure the Post Hole Digger operator is properly informed. **WHEN IN DOUBT, DO NOT DIG!**

Never exceed the recommended auger capacity of the post hole digger. The standard duty digger is designed for use with an auger up to 12" in diameter. Use of an incorrect auger or auger extension can cause equipment damage, loss of operator control and personal injury.



# Maintenance

Before servicing the machine, disengage the PTO, engage the parking break or place the transmission in "PARK", shut off tractor and remove key.

1. Make certain the safety and instruction decals are attached to the implement 3-Point hitch. If they are lost, damaged, or painted over, order replacements from the manufacturer. Please call Behlen Country at 800-447-2751.
2. Check gearbox periodically and maintain correct oil level. Use good 90 wt. gear lube. Oil should be changed every 200 operating hours. Drain and flush gearbox when performing oil change.
3. Universal joints should be greased after digging 150 holes. Telescoping parts must be kept clean and lubricated.
4. Check bolts and pins daily. Check auger teeth and teeth mounting bolts more often if digging in rocky soil conditions.
5. Make sure PTO driveline yoke and gearbox input shaft are clean and free of burns. Keep well lubricated to prevent galling of yoke and input shaft when shear bolt becomes sheared.
6. Keep all shields in place. Order new shields if damaged or missing.
7. Keep cutting edges sharp. Sharp cutting edges dig easier and better. Outer cutting edges on larger augers wear faster than inner cutting edges; switching teeth will even wear.

## Post Hole Digger Option:

### Heavy Duty Fishtail Center Point:

Recommended for tough or rocky soil conditions. The fishtail point will work around smaller rocks.

## Replacement Parts Available:

- 6" Auger W/Spiral Point
- 9" Auger W/Spiral Point
- 12" Auger W/Spiral Point
- Mounting Bolts
- Spiral Point
- Fishtail Point
- Drive Line
- Shear Bolts (Bag Of 10)

# Trouble-shooting Guide

If you have any questions regarding the proper operation of this digger, contact your dealer or the manufacturer.

## PROBLEM: AUGER WILL NOT DIG

### Possible Solutions:

- Teeth dull – sharpen or replace.
- Ground too dry and hard – order optional fishtail point (#170802) or optional down force kit, or wait until it rains.
- Auger turning too fast and bouncing – reduce speed.
- Tall grass has wrapped around auger teeth – remove.
- Auger encountering rocks, roots, or other obstruction – lift auger from hole and inspect.
- Auger teeth improperly positioned – see operator's manual for proper tooth pattern.

## PROBLEM: AUGER DIGS SO FAR, BUT WILL NOT DIG DEEPER

### Possible Solutions:

- See solutions for #1 above.

## ASSEMBLY, OPERATION, & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

- PTO assembly “bottoms out,” not allowing digger and lower digger. Gearbox should lower to the ground; if not, PTO driveline assembly may need to be shortened.
- PTO driveline interferes with swinging drawbar - swing drawbar out of the way or remove.
- Tractor hydraulic system may be faulty - consult tractor dealer.
- Soil could have hardpan layer 6”-10” below surface - use optional fishtail.

### **PROBLEM: POST HOLE DIGGER SWAYS SIDE TO SIDE**

#### **Possible Solutions:**

- No sway bars or sway blocks on tractor - add same.
- Lift arms not adjusted evenly - adjust lift arms.
- Post hole digger is mounted with excessive looseness in the hitch connecting points - use proper size or bushings.

### **PROBLEM: BENT AUGER FLIGHTING OR BENT AUGER**

#### **Possible Solutions:**

- Tractor moved while auger was turning in hole - always set brakes on tractor and make sure it is out of gear.
- Operator moved tractor with auger in hole to try and straighten a hole being dug at an angle.
- Auger is encountering rocks or roots or other foreign objects - remove object(s) from hole or change location.
- Outer edge of auger flighting is bending due to contact with rocks or roots - use heavy duty auger with thicker flighting.
- Shear bolt has been replaced with harder bolt - replace with Grade 2 bolt per instructions.

### **PROBLEM: AUGER SCREWS ITSELF INTO THE GROUND**

#### **Possible Solutions:**

- Operator did **NOT** ease 3-Point hitch to ground slowly.
- Faulty 3-Point hitch hydraulic system on tractor.
- Draft control is not in OFF position.
- Tractor is too small to handle digger.

### **PROBLEM: PTO DRIVELINE ASSEMBLY COMES OFF INPUT SHAFT OF GEARBOX WHEN SHEAR BOLT IS SHEARED.**

#### **Possible Solutions:**

### **THIS IS A DANGEROUS SAFETY HAZARD, CORRECT IMMEDIATELY!**

- Roll pin missing in yoke at gearbox input shaft. Install roll pin as per instructions.

### **PROBLEM: PTO DRIVELINE FAILURE**

#### **Possible Solutions:**

- Operator raising Post Hole Digger too high above ground when PTO is engaged – causes excessive PTO joint operating angle.
- PTO is engaged while moving between holes. (Auger swings, which causes excessive PTO joint operating angle.)
- Improper use of a hard shear bolt – use Grade 2 bolt per instructions.
- Driveline has not been properly lubricated.
- Engaging tractor PTO with engine at high RPM.
- Digging holes too deep so that PTO driveline contacts ground.
- Operating at high RPM.

# Safety Precautions

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**Most accidents occur because of neglect or carelessness. Avoid needless accidents by following all of the safety precautions listed below.**

- Machinery should be operated only by those who are responsible and are authorized to do so.
  - Stop the engine, lower all equipment, lock the brakes, and remove the ignition key before dismounting tractor.
  - Never stand between tractor and implement while tractor is being backed to a hitch.
  - Loose fitting clothing should not be worn, to avoid catching on various parts.
  - Detach implement in an area where children normally do not play.
  - When performing adjustments or maintenance on an implement, lower it to the ground or block it securely at a workable height.
  - Only a qualified operator should be permitted on the tractor when in operation; no riders allowed.
  - Make certain everyone is in the clear before starting tractor or raising / lowering equipment.
  - Operate the tractor and implement only while seated in the driver's seat.
  - Reduce speed when transporting mounted implements to avoid bouncing and momentary loss of steering control.
  - A heavy load can cause instability of the tractor. Use extreme caution during road travel. Slow down on turns and watch for bumps. Tractor may need front counter-weights to counter-balance the weight of the implement.
  - Reduce speed on hillsides or curves to avoid possibility of tipping.
  - Avoid driving too close to the edge of ditches or creeks.
- Do not transport implement on public roads without reflectors and slow moving vehicle emblem in daylight and with approved warning lights at night and other periods of poor visibility.
  - Due to the width of some implements, use extra caution on highways, farm roads, and when approaching gates.
  - Always be sure the implement is in the proper position for transporting.
  - Keep alert and watch the front as well as the rear when working with the implement.

## Warranty

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This unit carries a 1 year warranty, with the exception of wear parts. Dated proof of purchase required on all claims.