

## SAFETY OPERATING PROCEDURE

# Posthole Digger -Tractor Operated

**DO NOT** use this machine unless a teacher has instructed you in its safe use and operation and has given permission.



**Never wear loose clothing, jewellery, or have long hair untied while operating a Posthole Digger.**

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Before operating an operator must read and understand all of the information in the owner's manual. If the owner's manual is unavailable contact the manufacturer or dealer immediately for replacement.
2. Ensure all safety guarding for auger adapters, drivelines, input shafts and safety signs are properly installed and in good condition.
3. Before operating the digger, check all pins, bolts and connections to ensure all are securely in place.
4. Ensure the shear bolts or auger-retaining bolts have not been replaced with ones longer than those supplied and specified by the manufacturer.
5. Do not use the digger unless the auger point and cutting edges are intact and in good working order.
6. Faulty equipment must not be used. Report suspect machinery immediately.
7. Ensure that the Posthole Digger is attached to the tractor according to manufacturer's specification.
8. Know your controls and how to stop tractor, engine, and implement quickly in an emergency.

### OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Reduce speed when transporting mounted implements to avoid bouncing and momentary loss of steering control.
2. Posthole Diggers are designed for one-person operation.
3. Always dig holes while sitting in the tractor seat.
- 4. Ensure no one else, including bystanders, are near you when you operate the Posthole Digger.**
5. Ensure the work area is free from underground cables or pipes.
6. Clear area of stones, branches or other debris that might be thrown or entangled.
7. Do not operate digger on steep hillsides. When digging on uneven or hilly terrain, position the tractor with the Posthole Digger uphill.
8. 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 flutes.
9. Do not shovel dirt away from a rotating auger as the shovel can be caught and thrown by the auger.
10. Inspect the entire machine periodically. Look for loose fasteners, worn or broken parts, pinched hydraulic hoses, and leaky or loose fittings.
11. 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.
12. Do not walk or work under a raised digger or attachment unless it is securely blocked or held in position.
13. Always stop the PTO, set brake, shut off the tractor engine, remove the tractor key, and allow auger to come to a complete stop before dismounting tractor. Never leave equipment unattended with the tractor running.

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS

- Rotating parts
- Entanglement in the driveline or auger
- Noise
- Flying debris