



Hydraulically Powered Post Hole Digger



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HYDRA PHD[™] Owner's Manual

<u>Important Personal Safety Information</u>

Before operating this Post Hole Digging equipment, the operator must read (or have read to him/her) and understand all the information in the owner's manual and in the safety signs attached to the unit. If the operator has not read or understood the manual and safety signs, that person is not qualified to operate the unit.

- 1. This post hole digger is designed ONLY for one person operation. All operations MUST be performed from the operators station of the powering vehicle. NEVER operate the unit with anyone near the digging area. All persons should remain at least 25 feet away from the $HYDRA\ PHD^{TM}$ while it is in operation. Accidents can occur when persons come into contact with the rotating components of post hole diggers.
- 2. An OSHA approved hard hat and safety eye protection should be worn when operating or servicing the $HYDRA\ PHD^{TM}$. Loose fitting clothing, flopping cuffs, dangling neckties and scarves, or rings and wrist watches should not be worn when near the $HYDRA\ PHD^{TM}$.
- 3. No person should operate the $HYDRA\ PHD^{TM}$ if he or she is taking any prescription or over the counter drugs which might inhibit his/her ability to operate equipment. If in doubt, contact a physician.
- 4. Make sure the ground in which you are digging does not contain any electrical wires, telephone cables, gas, water, and sewer lines. Be aware of any overhead utility lines or electrically charged conductors. Utility companies provide underground marking services; use them.
- 5. Do not operate on a steep incline which may cause the vehicle to overturn.
- 6. Leave all safety shields and decals in their places. They should be replaced immediately if damaged or lost.
- 7. The **HYDRA PHD** $^{\text{TM}}$ should be in the proper storage position when traveling to and from the work site.

- 8. If a hydraulic leak should occur, DO NOT attempt to locate the leak with any part of your body. Oil leaking from a pressurized hose is capable of penetrating the skin and could cause serious injury. Relieve all pressure from the system and replace the leaking hose with a new hose of 2750 PSI or greater pressure rating.
- 9. The system relief valve should never be adjusted for a pressure higher than recommended by the vehicle manufacturer.
- 10. Always use a factory specified bolt when changing augers or replacing the auger retaining bolt. Using a longer bolt than originally supplied can create a dangerous hazard.

HYDRA PHD[™] Operating Instructions

- 1. Lower the unit until the pilot bit engages the soil at your desired hole location.
- 2. Activate the hydraulic valve in the appropriate direction for clockwise rotation.
- 3. As the digging teeth engage the soil, slowly lower the unit into the ground. Efficient digging requires coordination of lowering rate with soil removal rate. Over-feeding of the auger may result in unnecessary stalling.
- 4. At the mid point of the desired hole depth, raise the unit nearly out of the hole while maintaining rotation. This will assist in loose soil removal.
- 5. When the desired hole depth has been achieved, raise the unit from the hole. In certain soil conditions, it may be necessary to dig to a deeper depth than desired to compensate for loose soil remaining in the bottom of the hole.
- 6. In the event that the auger becomes lodged due to soil conditions or underground obstructions, reverse the flow of oil while lifting the unit. The auger should reverse itself from the situation.
- 7. Digging torque is dependent on the vehicle hydraulic pressure relief setting. Recommended pressure for the $HYDRA\ PHD^{TM}$ is 2500 to 2750 PSI. Consult your vehicle factory representative before adjusting the relief setting on your vehicle.