

31A Posthole Digger

**John Deere Horicon Works
OMM79609 Issue K8**

LITHO IN U.S.A.
ENGLISH

Introduction

THANK YOU for purchasing a John Deere product.

READ THIS MANUAL carefully to learn how to operate and service your machine correctly. Failure to do so could result in personal injury or equipment damage.

THIS MANUAL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED a permanent part of your machine and should remain with the machine when you sell it.

MEASUREMENTS in this manual are U.S. customary units and their metric equivalents.

RIGHT-HAND AND LEFT-HAND sides are determined by facing in the direction of forward travel.

WRITE IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS in the Specifications section. Accurately record all the numbers to help in tracing the machine should it be stolen. Your dealer also needs these numbers when

you order parts. If this manual is kept on the machine, also file the identification numbers in a secure place off the machine.

WARRANTY is provided as part of John Deere's support program for customers who operate and maintain their equipment as described in this manual. The warranty is explained on the warranty certificate which you should have received from your dealer.

This warranty provides you the assurance that John Deere will back its products where defects appear within the warranty period. In some circumstances, John Deere also provides field improvements, often without charge to the customer, even if the product is out of warranty. Should the equipment be abused, or modified to change its performance beyond the original factory specifications, the warranty will become void and field improvements may be denied. Setting fuel delivery above specifications or otherwise overpowering machines will result in such action.



M61629
-UN-13OCT88

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A John Deere ILLUSTRATION™ Manual

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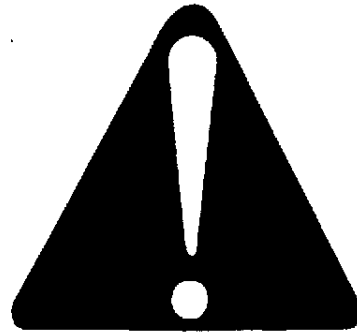
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Safety

RECOGNIZE SAFETY INFORMATION

This is the safety-alert symbol. When you see this symbol on your machine or in this manual, be alert to the potential for personal injury.

Follow recommended precautions and safe operating practices.



053,ALERT -19-16JUN87

T81389 -UN-07DEC88

UNDERSTAND SIGNAL WORDS

A signal word—DANGER, WARNING, or CAUTION—is used with the safety-alert symbol. DANGER identifies the most serious hazards.

Safety signs with signal word DANGER or WARNING are typically near specific hazards.

General precautions are listed on CAUTION safety signs. CAUTION also calls attention to safety messages in this manual.



053,SIGNAL -19-07OCT85

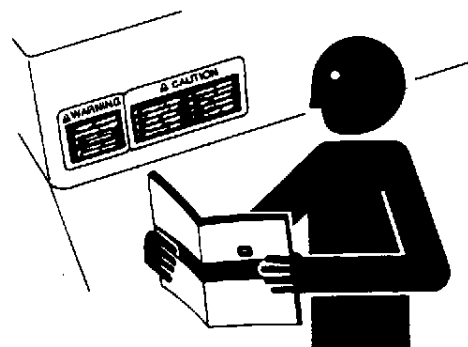
TS187 -19-30SEP88

FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Carefully read all safety messages in this manual and on your machine safety signs. Keep safety signs in good condition. Replace missing or damaged safety signs.

Learn how to operate the machine and how to use controls properly. Do not let anyone operate without instruction.

Keep your machine in proper working condition. Unauthorized modifications to the machine may impair the function and/or safety and affect machine life.



053,READ -19-23APR87

TS201 -UN-23AUG88



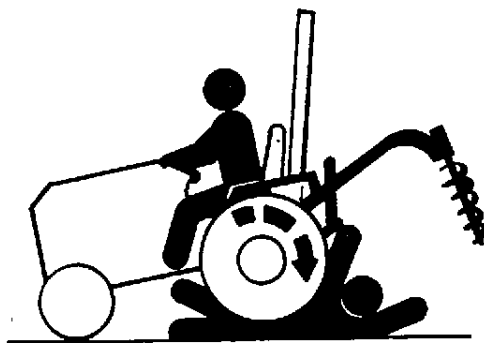
PROTECT CHILDREN

Before you back, LOOK CAREFULLY behind for children.

Clear area of children, pets, and bystanders.

DO NOT let children ride on tractor or posthole digger.

DO NOT let children use tractor or posthole digger.



MX,SACBD -19-20SEP88

M61621 -UN-12OCT88

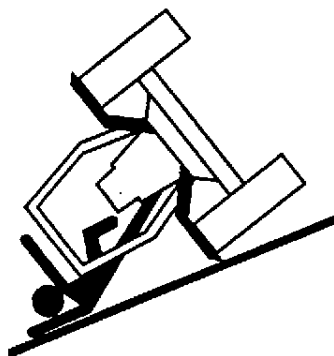
AVOID TIPPING

Slow down when you drive on hillsides. Avoid holes, rocks and roots.

Install front weight before you use on slopes. Use up and down—not across slopes.

Slow down before you make turns.

On slopes: Avoid sudden stops and starts. Be careful when you change directions. Avoid parking.

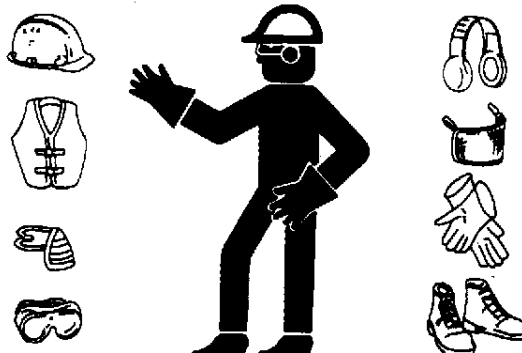


MX,SACBE -19-20SEP88

M61822 -UN-12OCT88

WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Wear close fitting clothing and safety equipment appropriate to the job.



O53,WEAR2 -19-23APR87

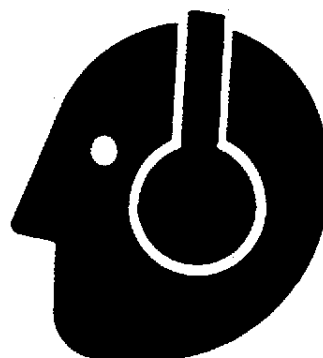
TS206 -UN-23AUG88



PROTECT AGAINST NOISE

Prolonged exposure to loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing.

Wear a suitable hearing protective device such as earmuffs or earplugs to protect against objectionable or uncomfortable loud noises.



O53,NOISE -19-23APR87

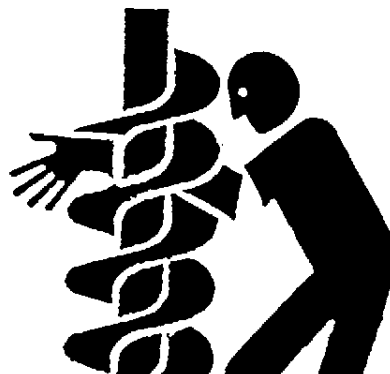
TS207 -UN-23AUG88

AVOID INJURY FROM MOVING PARTS

Keep hands, feet and clothing away from posthole digger when auger is turning.

Stop auger when you are not digging.

Lower auger to ground when you are not digging.



MX,SACBH -19-20SEP88

IM61810 -UN-12OCT88

STAY CLEAR OF ROTATING DRIVELINES

Entanglement in rotating driveline can cause serious injury or death.

Keep tractor master shield and driveline shields in place at all times. Make sure rotating shields turn freely.

Wear close fitting clothing. Stop the engine and be sure PTO driveline is stopped before making adjustments, connections, or cleaning out PTO driven equipment.



O53,PTO -19-16JUN87

TS198 -UN-23AUG88



TRANSPORT SAFELY

1. Do not let children ride on tractor, tractor drawbar, or posthole digger.
2. Raise auger before transporting. Ground clearance reduced when 8-in. extension is used.
3. When you transport posthole digger on a road or highway, use accessory lights and devices for adequate warning to operators of other vehicles. Check local governmental regulations. Safety lights and devices are available from you John Deere dealer.

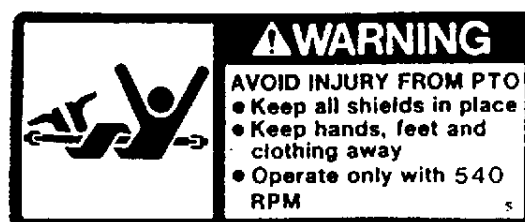
MX,SACBJ -19-30SEP88

READ SAFETY SIGNS

Read and follow all safety signs on your machine. Keep safety signs in good condition. Replace missing or damaged signs.



On Boom



On Driveshaft Shield

MX,SACBK -19-30SEP88

Prepare The Tractor

TRACTOR REQUIREMENTS

3-point hitch: Category 1
Category 2 (with additional bushings)

Tractor must have a minimum PTO horsepower rating of 14 hp.

Maximum PTO speed: 540 rpm.

MX,PTCBA -19-19OCT88

DRAWBAR AND CENTER LINK

Put drawbar in the shortest position and remove center link.

MX,PTCBB -19-30SEP88

SWAY CHAINS—1250, 1450 AND 1650 TRACTORS

Turn threaded link to adjust length of chain to get correct draft link position to prevent sway. See your tractor operator's manual.

MX,PTCBC -19-30SEP88

SWAY BLOCKS—2155, 2355, 2555, 2755, 2955, 3155 AND 4050 TRACTORS

Set sway blocks in Category 2 position. See your tractor operator's manual.

MX,PTCBD -19-30SEP88

BALLAST INFORMATION (USE ONLY WHEN CRANING)



CAUTION: Use proper front end ballast for complete control of tractor.

See chart below.

TRACTOR	MAXIMUM CRANING CAPACITY	IMPLEMENT CODE
650	400 lbs (181 kg)	29
750	475 lbs (215 kg)	34
850	600 lbs (272 kg)	43
950	725 lbs (329 kg)	54
1050	880 lbs (399 kg)	62
1250,1450,1650	1250 lbs (567 kg)	88
2155,2355,2555,2755,2955,3155	1250 lbs (567 kg)	88
4050	1250 lbs (567 kg)	88

TRACTOR	MAXIMUM CRANING CAPACITY	NUMBER OF FRONT WEIGHTS
755	360 lbs (163 kg)	5
	485 lbs (220 kg)	9*
855	395 lbs (179 kg)	5
	505 lbs (229 kg)	9*
955	430 lbs (195 kg)	5
	540 lbs (245 kg)	9*
670	350 lbs (159 kg)	5
	460 lbs (209 kg)	9*
770	400 lbs (181 kg)	5
	510 lbs (231 kg)	9*
870	565 lbs (256 kg)	6
	700 lbs (317 kg)	10*
970	620 lbs (281 kg)	6
	750 lbs (340 kg)	10*
1070	865 lbs (392 kg)	8
	1025 lbs (465 kg)	12*

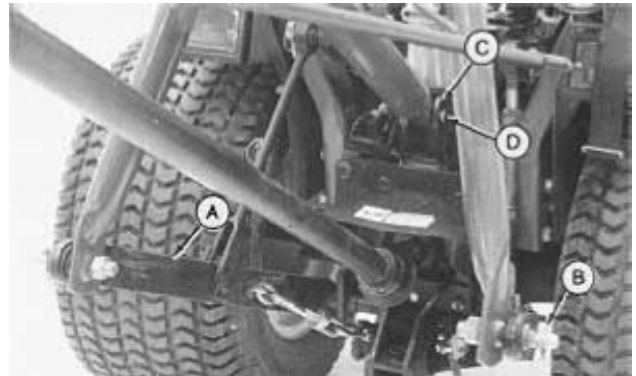
*Optional weight bracket available for additional weights.

MX,PTCBE -19-03OCT88

Installation/Removal

INSTALLING POSTHOLE DIGGER

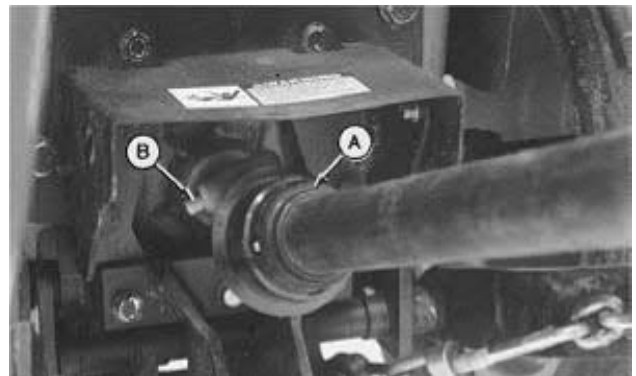
1. Back tractor up to digger frame. Stop engine.
2. Lift frame and attach to draft links (A). Install pins (B).
3. Start engine. Slowly drive backwards while you raise frame using the 3-point hitch lever. Frame should be near center link bracket (C).
4. Stop engine. Attach frame to center link bracket with pin (D).



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MX,IRCBA -19-03OCT88

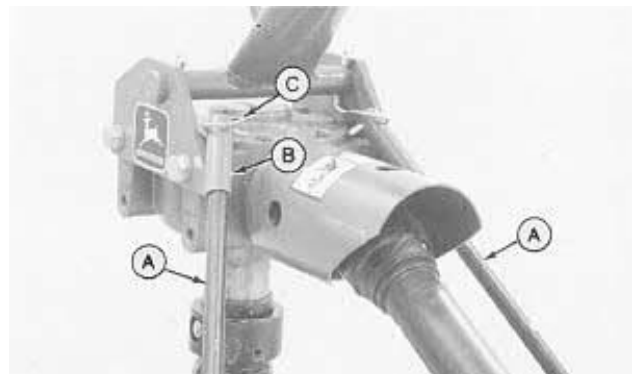
5. Slide driveshaft (A) onto tractor PTO shaft.
6. Fasten spring-loaded pin (B) in groove on tractor shaft.



M61813 -UN-25OCT88

MX,IRCBB -19-14OCT88

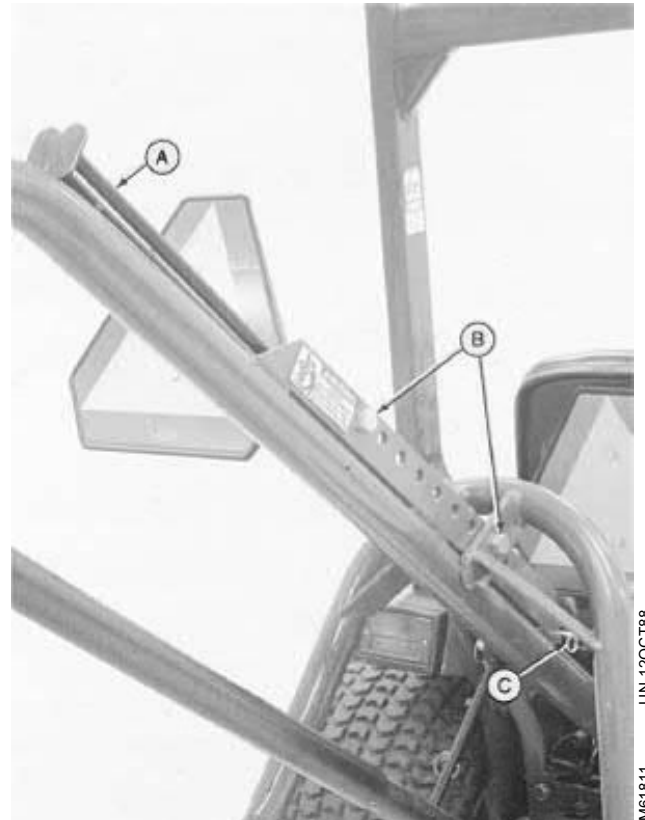
7. Start engine. Raise digger off parking stands (A).
8. Stop engine. Remove lock pins (C) from guides (B).
9. Remove parking stands.
10. Return lock pins to guides.



M61639 -UN-12OCT88

MX,IRCBC -19-03OCT88

11. Install parking stands (A) in storage position.
12. Slide stands under bolts (B).
13. Fasten with lock pin (C).



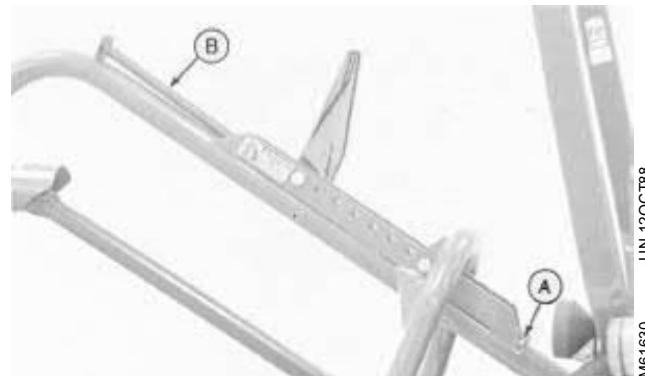
MX,IRCB D -19-06OCT88

M61811 -UN-12OCT88

REMOVING POSTHOLE DIGGER

1. Remove pin (A). Store on boom hook.
2. Remove parking stands (B) from storage position.

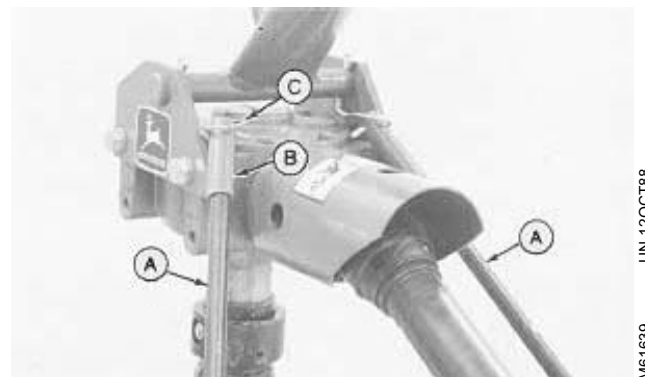
NOTE: The auger must be attached to gearbox shaft when parking stands are used.



MX,IRCB E -19-03OCT88

M61630 -UN-12OCT88

3. Install parking stands (A) into guides (B). Fasten with locking pins (C).
4. Slowly drive tractor forward while you lower parking stands to ground. Stop engine.

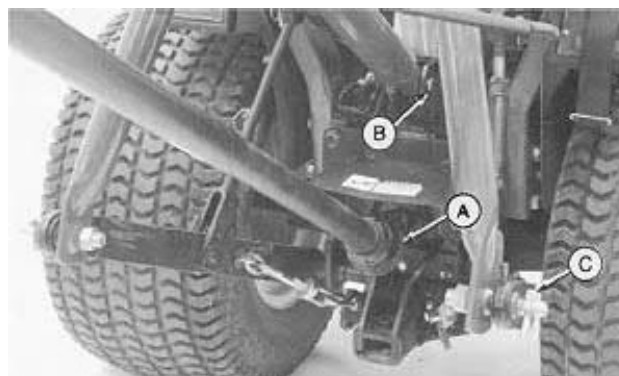


MX,IRCB F -19-03OCT88

M61639 -UN-12OCT88

Installation/Removal

5. Remove driveshaft (A) and center link pin (B).
6. Start engine. Slowly drive tractor forward while you lower digger to ground.
7. Stop engine. Remove draft link pins (C).
8. Manually lower frame to ground.



MX,IRCBG -19-03OCT88

M61648 -UN-12OCT88



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Operation

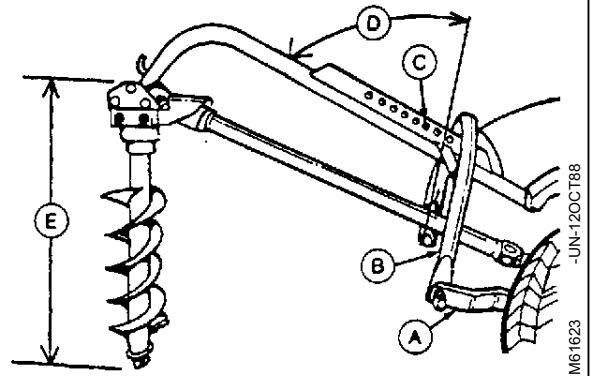
ADJUSTING AUGER HEIGHT

IMPORTANT: Adjust boom height so draft links (A) and yoke (B) do not form a straight line at any time during the lift cycle. Damage to draft links or boom collapse is possible.

1. Use boom mounting holes (C) for height adjustment.
2. Make stress angle (D) as wide as possible.
3. Maximum lift (E) must not exceed:

—Standard Auger	66-in. (1676 mm)
—With 8-In. (203 mm) Extension	73-in. (1854 mm)

NOTE: The digger point should clear ground adequately to move from hole to hole.



MX,OPCBA -19-20SEP88

RAISING AND LOWERING POSTHOLE DIGGER

1. Raise digger by pulling tractor lift lever rearward.
2. Lower digger by pushing tractor lift lever forward.



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