

POST-HOLE AUGER Driven By Tractor

Assembled from junk parts,
this post-hole auger makes
easy work of a tiresome job

DRIVEN from the tractor power takeoff through a V-belt, this post-hole auger has the advantage of an easily controlled hand feed which makes it possible to dig holes in fence rows where roots, stones and other obstructions sometimes cause delay and breakage. The necessary angle drive is made by adapting an old Dodge differential, but any of the older automobile differentials having square holes for the axles can be used. Of course, complete dimensions cannot be given in the detail drawing, nor can the arrangement be followed closely when mounting the auger on the various makes of tractors. Hence the details shown at the right are only suggestions on how to make the assembly of the various parts. In this case the square drive shaft was taken from a rod weeder, but any square steel shaft of good quality material can be used. The top end of the shaft is carried in a single ball bearing and fitting this properly likely will require some alteration, such as turning down the end of the shaft to fit the inner ball race. On a tractor of a different make than that shown it will be necessary to alter the horizontal drive-shaft support so that it will fit the tractor transmission housing. It also will be necessary to change the braces to the tractor drawbar. The details show one way of making these adjustable for length. Other methods of accomplishing this can be used when necessary. The combine header lift makes a handy arrangement for lowering and raising the auger and controlling the rate of feed. Although one man can operate the auger there is less danger of breakage where there are two operators, one to drive the tractor, the other to handle the digger.

Photo and certain constructional details courtesy of State College at Washington

