

**Our associates will ensure the tool works properly before you leave the store. If you experience issues with the tool while completing your project, simply bring it back to the Tool Rental Center to get a replacement. If you purchase Damage Protection at the time of your rental, you are not responsible for repair costs for tools that break due to normal use.**



# BRAVE



MBRPA325HA.1

ITEM NO. BRPA325HA

SERIAL NO.

## Owner's Manual Hydraulic Towable Auger



	<h3>WARNING</h3>	
	Read this manual. Serious injury or death can result if safety instructions are not followed. Use extreme caution while using this equipment. Read carefully and understand all assembly and safe operation instructions before operating.	

## STOP!

**ADD OIL TO ENGINE BEFORE USING:** Engine is shipped without oil. DO NOT start unit without first adding oil.

**INSPECT COMPONENTS:** Closely inspect to make sure no components are missing or damaged.

**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**  
***Call Brave Product Support 1-800-350-8739***



## WARNINGS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



This symbol means **DANGER, WARNING or CAUTION**. Personal injury and/or property damage may occur unless instructions are followed carefully.



### WARNING

#### THIS POWER TOOL CAN BE DANGEROUS!

This tool can cause serious injury to the operator and bystanders. The warning and safety instructions in this manual must be followed to provide reasonable safety and efficiency in using and storing this hydraulic towable auger. The operator is responsible for following the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the hydraulic towable auger. **Read the entire Operator's Manual before using this hydraulic towable auger! Restrict the use of this hydraulic towable auger to persons who read, understand, and follow the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the hydraulic towable auger. If you have not read and understand the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the hydraulic towable auger, you are not qualified to operate this hydraulic towable auger!**



### WARNING

This product contains and/or emits chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm. This statement is made in compliance to California Proposition 65.



### DANGER

- Keep body parts, foreign objects and clothing clear of rotating auger.
- Always use part # 1300 auger attachment pin for attaching auger bit to hydraulic towable auger.
- Coming into contact with buried utilities while digging can cause severe injuries or DEATH.
- Contact appropriate utility representatives to determine if/where electrical cables, gas lines, water lines, etc. are buried BEFORE operation.



now what's below.  
**Call before you dig.**



### WARNING

- Comply with local state and highway regulations when towing.
- Check that ball is completely inserted into coupler socket before towing.
- Check that the underjaw is securely closed around bottom of ball.
- Always secure this hydraulic towable auger with tie downs or similar restraints when transporting in a truck or trailer.
- Avoid speeds above 45 MPH while towing.

**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**  
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## WARNINGS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



### OPERATOR SAFETY

1. Always wear the proper clothing and protective gear for the job. Eye and ear protection, hard hat, boots, gloves and dust masks are some of the items that may be required.
2. Keep hair, fingers, and all other body parts away from openings and moving parts. Always wear long pants, boots and gloves. Do not wear loose clothing, jewelry, short pants, sandals, or go barefoot. Secure hair so it is above shoulder length.
3. Do not operate this hydraulic towable auger indoors. For outdoor use only.
4. Do not operate this tool when you are tired, ill, or under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication.
5. Always assume the digging location contains underground utilities or obstructions. Contact appropriate utility company to determine if/where electrical cables, gas lines, water lines, etc. are buried BEFORE operation.
6. Always use extreme caution while operating this tool. Be sure of your footing and physical capabilities.



### TOOL SAFETY

1. Inspect the entire hydraulic towable auger before each use. Replace damaged or worn parts.
2. Check for fuel leaks and make sure all fasteners are in place and securely fastened. Repair or replace as needed.
3. Replace auger blades that are severely worn, missing or damaged in any way before using this tool.
4. Use only the Part # 1300 auger attachment pin and make sure that it is properly attached.
5. Be sure the auger bit stops turning when you release the throttle.
6. Use only accessories or parts as recommend by Brave



### FUEL SAFETY

1. Refuel outdoors only and where there are no sparks and flames.
2. Store fuel in a container approved for gasoline.
3. Do not smoke or allow smoking near fuel of the unit or while using the hydraulic towable auger.
4. Clean up all fuel spills before starting engine.
5. Move at least 10 feet away from fueling site before starting engine.
6. Stop engine before removing fuel cap.
7. Store the hydraulic towable auger and fuel in an area where fuel vapors cannot reach sources of combustion like water heaters, electric motors, switches, furnaces, etc.



### DIGGING SAFETY

1. Always assume the digging location contains buried underground utilities or obstructions. Call 811 to determine if/where electrical cables, gas lines, water lines, etc. are buried BEFORE operation.
2. Always be sure that the area you are going to drill in is clear of potential hazards, such as pipes, rocks, wire, boards or any other materials that could possibly entangle itself around the auger bit or cause unstable footing before using the hydraulic towable auger.
3. Keep others including children, animals, bystanders and helpers outside of a 15 foot hazard zone from the hydraulic towable auger.
4. Hold the hydraulic towable auger handle bar firmly with both hands.
5. Keep firm footing and balance. Do not overreach.
6. Keep all parts of your body and clothing away from the auger bit and other moving parts.
7. Inspect the digging site. Soil conditions, job specifications and operator experience may dictate that a different hydraulic towable auger or method be used on the job.
8. Do not leave holes open or unmarked.

**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**

***Call Brave Product Support 1-800-350-8739***



## WARNINGS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



### MAINTENANCE SAFETY

1. Maintain this hydraulic towable auger according to recommended procedures included in this manual.
2. Disconnect the spark plug wire before performing maintenance. See engine manual.
3. Stop engine before removing fuel cap.
4. Use only genuine replacement parts as recommended by Brave or the engine manufacturer.



### TRANSPORTATION & STORING SAFETY

1. Always shut off the fuel valve and engine before transporting or storing.
2. Always allow the engine to cool before transporting or storing.
3. Store hydraulic towable auger and fuel in an area where fuel vapors cannot reach sources of combustion like, water heaters, electric motors, switches, furnaces, etc.
4. Always secure this hydraulic towable auger with tie downs or similar restraints when transporting.
5. Properly attach and inspect the towbar to the hydraulic towable auger before towing.
6. Always check that the ball is completely inserted into the couple socket and that the underjaw is securely closed around the bottom of the ball.
7. Always check that the coupler handle is properly locked before towing.

## INTRODUCTION

It is your responsibility as the operator of this piece of equipment to know what specific requirements, precautions and work hazards exist. You must read, understand and follow all of the information contained in this operator's manual and inform any person who might be assisting you.

The BRPA325H one-man, towable, hydraulic towable auger is a unique tool. By separating the engine from the auger with the use of hydraulics, the digging torques or "kick-back" normally associated with hand operated earth drills is greatly reduced, making for a more comfortable tool to use. However, it is a tool that can cause injury to the operator or bystander if it is not properly maintained or if it is misused. You must be sure that you, as the operator, understand the use of the tool and the risks involved.

NOTE: This machine is designed to drill holes in soil. It is not intended for any other purpose.

The rotation of the auger or drill bit on any type of auger will cause a counter rotation of the handle bars while drilling a hole. The force exerted on the operator will vary according to the type of soil, the diameter of the auger and the condition of the machine.

In the event that the auger should encounter an object that stops the rotation suddenly, the digging force could be transmitted directly to the operator. Even though the force is absorbed by the wheel assembly, there is the possibility that the handlebars could be jerked from the operators hands. For this reason, the operator must have secure footing and control of the machine. The operator must also be both mentally and physically prepared to react to this force.

Because the BRPA325H is a hand operated, portable type machine, it is limited in what it is capable of doing. The job site, soil conditions, job specifications and operator experience may dictate that a different tool or method be used to do the job.

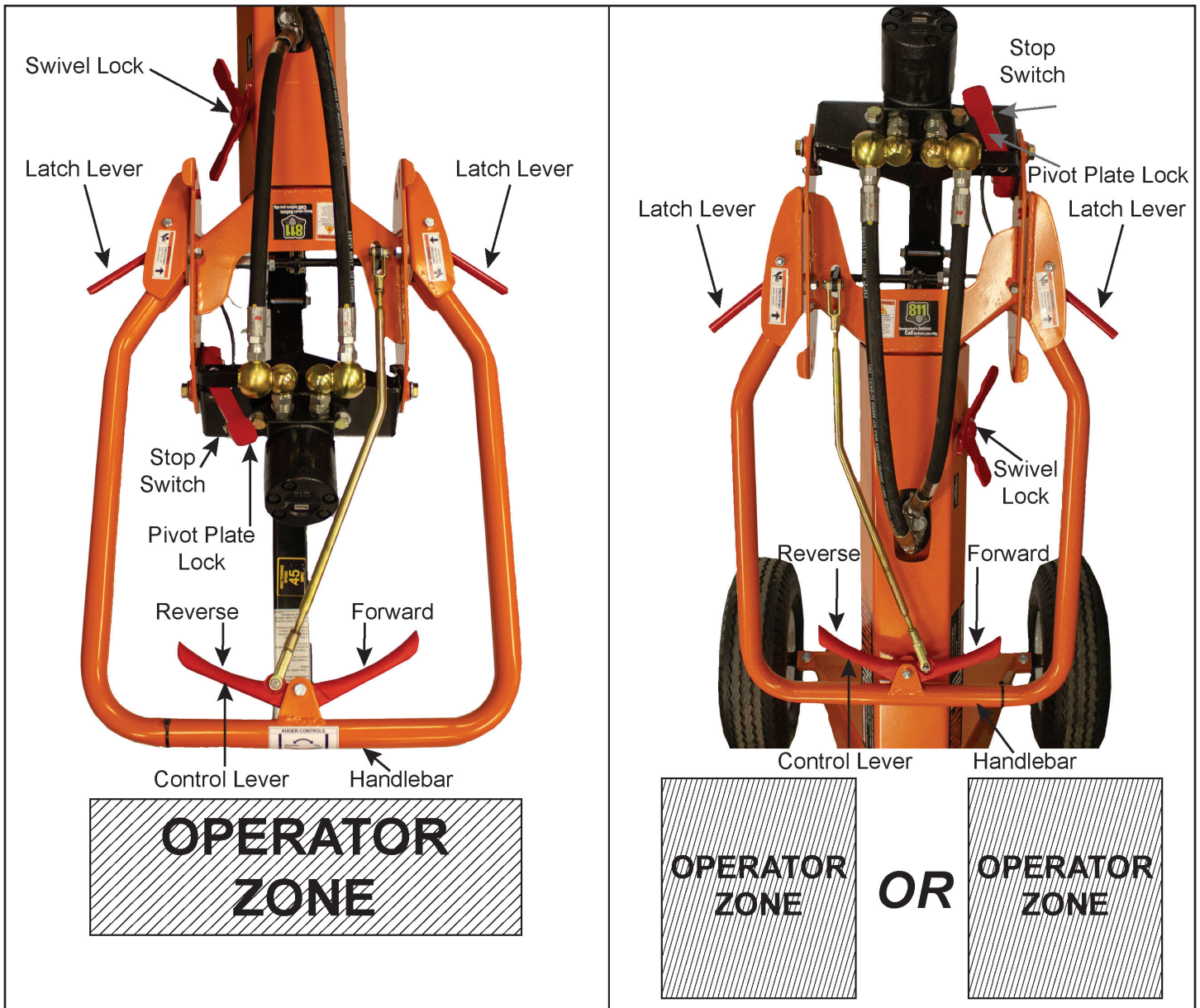
NOTE: It is not recommended that engines of higher horsepower be installed on this machine. Consult the factory before making any modifications.

**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**  
***Call Brave Product Support 1-800-350-8739***

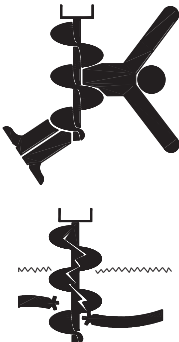
# KEY POINTS OF THE BRPA325H

## NORMAL DIGGING HANDLEBAR POSITION

## UP CLOSE DIGGING & TOWING HANDLEBAR POSITION



now what's below.  
**Call before you dig.**



### **⚠ DANGER**

#### 1.) Rotating auger hazard.

Entanglement in auger will cause serious injury or death. Keep away from auger when engine is running.  
- Do not clean auger while it is turning. Auger can grab objects such as shovels and throw them dangerously.  
- Never replace the auger attaching pin with longer pin.

#### 2.) Buried cables and pipes.

Call utilities before drilling holes.  
Auger will cut through buried electrical cables and gas pipes resulting in serious injury or death.

**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**  
**Call Brave Product Support 1-800-350-8739**

# TOWING AND TRANSPORTATION

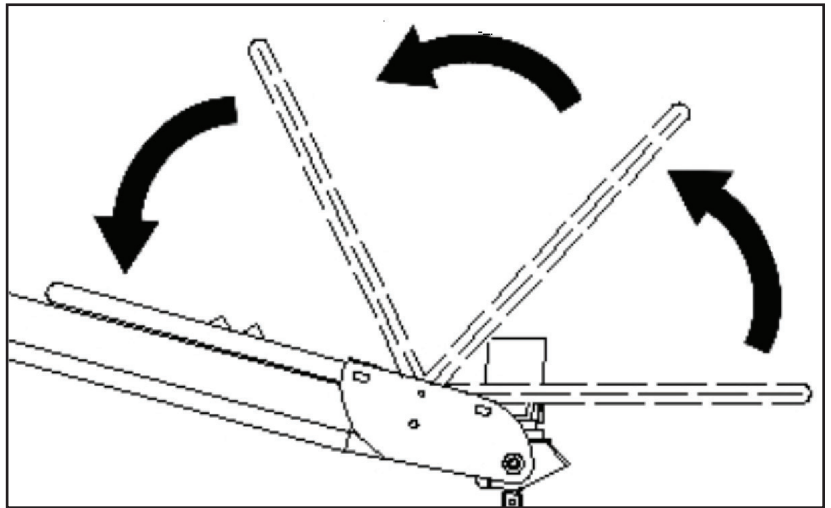
## **WARNING**

- Comply with local state and highway regulations when towing.
- Read and follow all instructions in this manual.
- Check that ball is completely inserted into coupler socket before towing.
- Check that the underjaw is securely closed around bottom of ball.
- Always secure this hydraulic towable auger with tie downs or similar restraints when transporting in a truck or trailer.
- Avoid speeds above 45 MPH while towing.
- Properly attach the towing chains.

### ***ATTACHING THE TOWBAR TO THE BRPA325H***

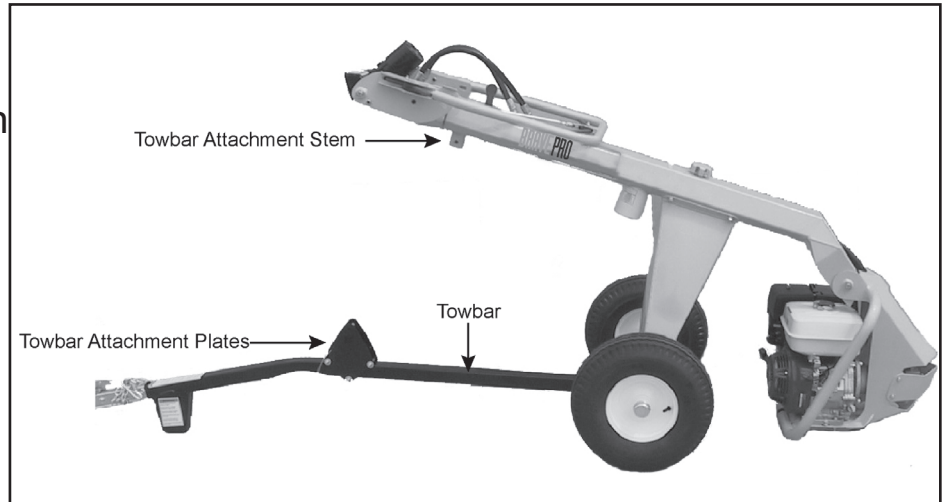
#### ***STEP 1:***

Move handlebar to transporting position.



#### ***STEP 2:***

Move the hydraulic towable auger into position as shown placing towbar on the ground under the axle.

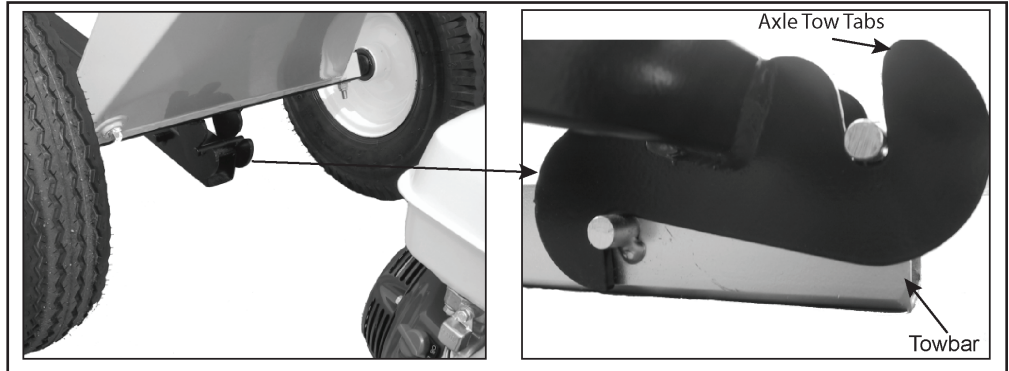


**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**  
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# TOWING AND TRANSPORTATION

## **STEP 3:**

Attach the towbar to the axle tow tabs as shown.



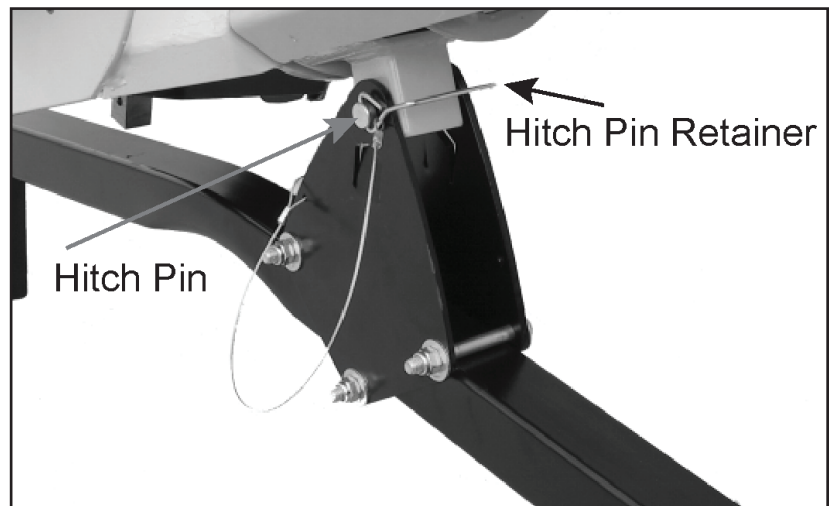
## **STEP 4:**

Lower the hydraulic towable auger until towbar attachment stem rests in-between the towbar attachment plates.



## **STEP 5:**

Insert the hitch pin all the way through the holes on the towbar stem and attachment plates and secure hitch pin retainer.



**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**  
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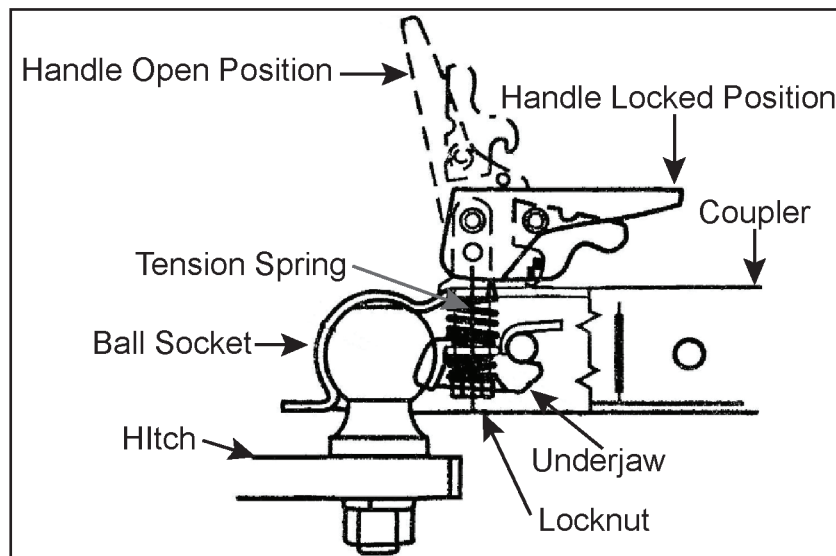
# TOWING AND TRANSPORTATION

## **WARNING**

**FAILURE TO OBEY THESE RULES CAN CAUSE TRAILER TO DETACH WHILE TOWING WHICH MAY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH!**

- Never exceed weight capacity of ball or load limits stamped on coupler.
- Always use safety chains.
- Always use correct size ball shown by stamp on coupler.
- Always check that the ball is completely inserted into coupler socket and that underjaw is securely closed around the bottom of the ball.
- Always check that the coupler handle is properly locked before towing.
- Always examine coupler and ball for damage before towing. Replace if damaged.
- Avoid sharp turns and steep vertical angles when towing which may bend or damage coupler or its components.

### **KEY POINTS OF THE HITCH COUPLER**



### **COUPLER OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

Adjust coupler locking pressure on ball before use. Place handle in locked position with ball in coupler. Tighten locknut against tension spring so that coupler is not loose on ball. Correct adjustment will allow handle to be released with moderate pressure applied to handle.

To open, pull up on coupler handle and rotate forward. Place coupler on ball. When ball is completely nested in ball socket, rotate coupler handle backward until handle is in locked position.

After towing for 50 miles, check coupler for tightness on ball. Always check tightness before towing. Be sure coupler handle is in locked position when towing.

**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**  
***Call Brave Product Support 1-800-350-8739***

# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## ATTACHING AN AUGER

### STEP 1:

Slide auger completely onto auger coupler until the pinhole at the top of the auger lines up with the upper auger coupler hole. Lock auger in place with hitch pin part # 1300 and make sure it is properly attached.

## PROPER OPERATION OF THE HYDRAULIC TOWABLE AUGER

### STEP 1:

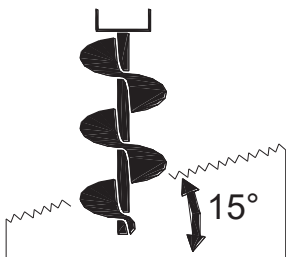
Place the hydraulic towable auger in proper location to be dug.

### STEP 2:

Orient the machine so that it is as level as possible. If drilling on a slope, place the machine on a side-hill so it will not roll away or towards you while digging.

### STEP 3:

If the machine is on the side of a hill, adjust the swivel lock to rotate to the desired angle and re-tighten and secure the swivel lock before use.



## DANGER

### Tip-over and crush hazard.

Do not drill on hills steeper than 15°. Machine is hard to control on steeper hills. Machine can roll away, tip over, and crush you.

**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**  
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# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS



## DANGER

Determine that the hydraulic towable auger is in its original, factory configuration and has not been modified or damaged and is not missing parts in any way. If there are any questions about possible modifications made to the hydraulic towable auger, do not use until the modifications have been corrected using only genuine replacement parts as recommended by Brave or the engine manufacturer.

### **STOPPING THE BRPA325H**

There are two stops switches on the hydraulic towable auger; one on the pivot plate and one on the engine. Refer to the engine manual for the switch location on your particular hydraulic towable auger. The operator can turn the hydraulic towable auger off at any time by switching either stop switch to the "OFF" position.



## DANGER

**Keep bystanders clear when starting and using the hydraulic towable auger.  
Never connect or disconnect the auger while the engine is running.  
Do not operate this hydraulic towable auger indoors. For outdoor use only.**

### **STARTING THE BRPA325H**

1. Start the engine following the steps outlined in the engine manual supplied with the hydraulic towable auger.
2. Before attaching the auger, always start the hydraulic towable auger at the job site and allow it to warm up. While the machine is running, check the controls to be sure that everything is working properly.

### **STARTING WITH AUGER ATTACHED**

1. After the engine has been allowed to warm up, and everything is operating as it should, shut the motor off and attach the auger using the clevis pin and clip that we provide (part # 1300).
2. Place the machine in the digging position.
3. Following the procedures outlined in the engine manual supplied with the machine, start the engine. If the engine does not start after 3 pulls of the starter rope, disconnect the auger from the machine and determine the cause. When the machine is in operating condition again, follow the procedures listed above before proceeding to the next step.
4. Set engine to maximum throttle.



## WARNING

**Hitting a buried object, such as a rock, could cause a sudden side thrust against the operator. Injury could occur if the operator is not prepared to deal with this condition.**

### **DRILLING**

1. Depress latch levers and rotate the handlebars to the normal digging position if it is not already.
2. Slowly depress the right side of the control lever. Use caution here as the auger will start to turn and dig at this point. **NOTE: This unit has a throttling feature. The more that you depress the control lever, the faster the auger will turn.**
3. Allow the auger to dig at its own speed, keeping the auger straight in the hole by moving the machine back and forth as needed.
4. Increase or decrease the auger speed until you find a digging speed that you are comfortable with.
5. Do not attempt to drill the hole in one pass, you could bury the auger. Drill to a depth of approximately one foot and lift the auger to spin the dirt off. Be careful not to lift the auger completely out of the hole. Repeat this procedure until you have reached the required depth.
6. Release the control lever and lift the rest of the dirt out for a clean hole.
7. To reverse the rotation of the auger, depress the left side of the control lever slowly. Use caution at this point, the auger will tend to climb out of the hole.
8. For up close digging, rotate the handlebar to the up close digging position and follow the instructions above.

**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**

**Call Brave Product Support 1-800-350-8739**

# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## WARNING

### **DRILLING CONTINUED**

**NOTE:** Allow the auger to dig at its own speed. Attempting to force the auger into hard ground and through buried objects could result in the auger becoming locked in the hole. If the auger bit should get locked in a hole, slowly engage the valve control lever in reverse to unlock the auger bit.

9. For digging on uneven terrain, rotate the boring head to the desired angle. Some digging conditions may or may not require you to tighten the swivel lock.

## WARNING

**Never connect or disconnect the auger or auger extensions while the engine is running.**

### **DRILLING WITH EXTENSIONS**

**It is not recommended to dig with extensions longer than three feet long.**

1. Following the directions listed under "DRILLING", dig to the full depth of the auger without using an extension.
2. Stop the engine. Remove the auger from the power unit and connect the extension shaft to the auger using the pins provided (part # 1300).
3. Connect the female end extension shaft to the power unit and the male end of the extension shaft to the auger.
4. Following the instructions outlined in "DRILLING", drill to the desired depth, adding extensions as needed.

## WARNING

**The hydraulic towable auger shall be stored in a manner that prevents it from falling, rolling or tipping over.**

### **WHEN NOT IN USE**

- Store the hydraulic towable auger and fuel in an area where fuel vapors cannot reach sources of combustion like water heaters, electric motors, switches, furnaces, etc.
- Always shut off the fuel valve and engine before storing or transporting.
- Always shut off the stop switches when not in use.
- Keep children, bystanders and animals clear of hydraulic towable auger at all times.
- Secure the hydraulic towable auger in a manner that will not allow it to fall, tip over or roll.
- Always place the hydraulic towable auger on level ground and use wheel chocks to prevent the hydraulic towable auger from rolling when not in use.
- Always remove the auger bit from the hydraulic towable auger when not in use.

**The towable hydraulic auger shall be stored in a manner that prevents it from falling, rolling or tipping over. The picture below shows the proper position of the hydraulic towable auger when not in use. This position is acceptable with or without the towbar.**



**Any Questions, Comments, Problems or Parts Orders**  
**Call Brave Product Support 1-800-350-8739**



20195 South Diamond Lake Road, Suite 100 • Rogers, MN 55374  
 Toll-Free: 800-350-8739 • Website: braveproducts.com • Email: sales@braveproducts.com

**Dear Valued Customer:**

The Brave product you just purchased is built with the finest material and craftsmanship. Use this product properly and enjoy the benefits from its high performance. By purchasing a Brave product, you show a desire for quality and durability. Like all mechanical equipment this unit requires a due amount of care. Treat this unit like the high-quality piece of machinery it is. Neglect and improper handling may impair its performance.

Thoroughly read the instructions and understand the operation before using your product. Always contact Brave Product Support at 1-800-350-8739 prior to having any service or warranty work performed, as some services performed by parties other than Brave approved service centers may void this warranty. This limited warranty is in lieu of any other warranty expressed or implied, written or oral and Brave assumes no other responsibility or liability outside that expressed within this limited warranty.

**Limited Warranty for Brave and Brave Pro Augers:**

BRP240HHD

BRA250H  
 BRP330HHD  
 BRP343HHD

BRPA325H

	<b>Consumer Warranty Period</b>	<b>Commercial Warranty Period</b>
<b>Weldments</b>		
	2 years from date of purchase by user	2 year from date of purchase by user
<b>Gear Case</b>		
	2 years from date of purchase by user	1 year from date of purchase by user
<b>Wear Parts</b>	In addition to the normal warranty, Brave shall warrant some normal wear items from defects in material or workmanship for a period of 30 days from the date of purchase by user. Normal wear items covered under this warranty are limited to: High impact wear related components such as V-belts, flails, flail rods and flail drums. High abrasion wear related parts such as augers, auger fighting, boring heads, multi-accessory attachments, tungsten carbide inserts and flexible ducts. Engine throttle control cable assemblies and related control devices. Centrifugal clutch components such as shoes, springs drum and rotor assembly. Routine maintenance items such as lubricants, clutch adjustments, tune ups are not covered under warranty.	
<b>Engines, Motors, Pumps and Controls</b>	The warranty of these main components and engine is covered under the terms and conditions as outlined by the component and engine manufactures warranty contained herein and is the sole responsibility of the component and engine manufacturer. Normal engine maintenance such as spark plugs, oil changes, air filters, adjustments, fuel system cleaning and obstruction due to build up is not covered by this Brave limited warranty.	

“**Consumer use**” means personal residential household use by a consumer. “**Commercial use**” means all other uses, including, but not limited to, use for commercial, income producing or rental purposes or when purchased by a business.

This limited warranty applies to the original purchaser of the equipment (verification of purchase, in the form of a receipt, is the responsibility of the buyer), is non-transferable, and covers parts and labor. Parts will be replaced or repaired at no charge, except when the equipment has failed due to lack of proper maintenance. If a part is no longer available, the part may be replaced with a similar part of equal function. Any misuse, abuse, alteration or improper installation or operations will void warranty. Determining whether a part is to be replaced or repaired is the sole decision of Brave. Brave will not provide for replacement of complete products due to defective parts. Any costs incurred due to replacement or repair of items outside of a Brave approved facility is the responsibility of the buyer and not covered under warranty. Transportation costs to and from service center and/or service calls are the responsibility of the customer.

This limited warranty specifically excludes the following; failure of parts due to damage caused by accident, fire, flood, windstorm, acts of God, applications not approved by Brave in writing, corrosion caused by chemicals, use of replacement parts which do not conform to manufacturer’s specifications, damage related to rodent and/or insect infestation and damage caused by vandalism. Additional exclusions: loss of running time, inconvenience, loss of income, or loss of use, including any implied warranty of merchantability of fitness for a specific use. Also, outdoor power equipment needs periodic parts and service to perform well, and this limited warranty does not cover instances when normal use has exhausted the life of a component or the engine.

This limited warranty does not cover any personal injury or damage to surrounding property caused by failure of any part, misuse or inability to use the product. Alteration of the product, including safety features, shall void this limited warranty.

Repair or replacement of parts does not extend the warranty period. This limited warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights that vary by state. Please have model number, item number and serial number on hand prior to making a warranty claim or inquiry.

# BRAVE

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A GNE BRAND

Brave, a brand of  
Great Northern Equipment Distributing, Inc.  
20195 S. Diamond Lake Rd., STE 100  
Rogers, MN 55374  
1-800-350-8739

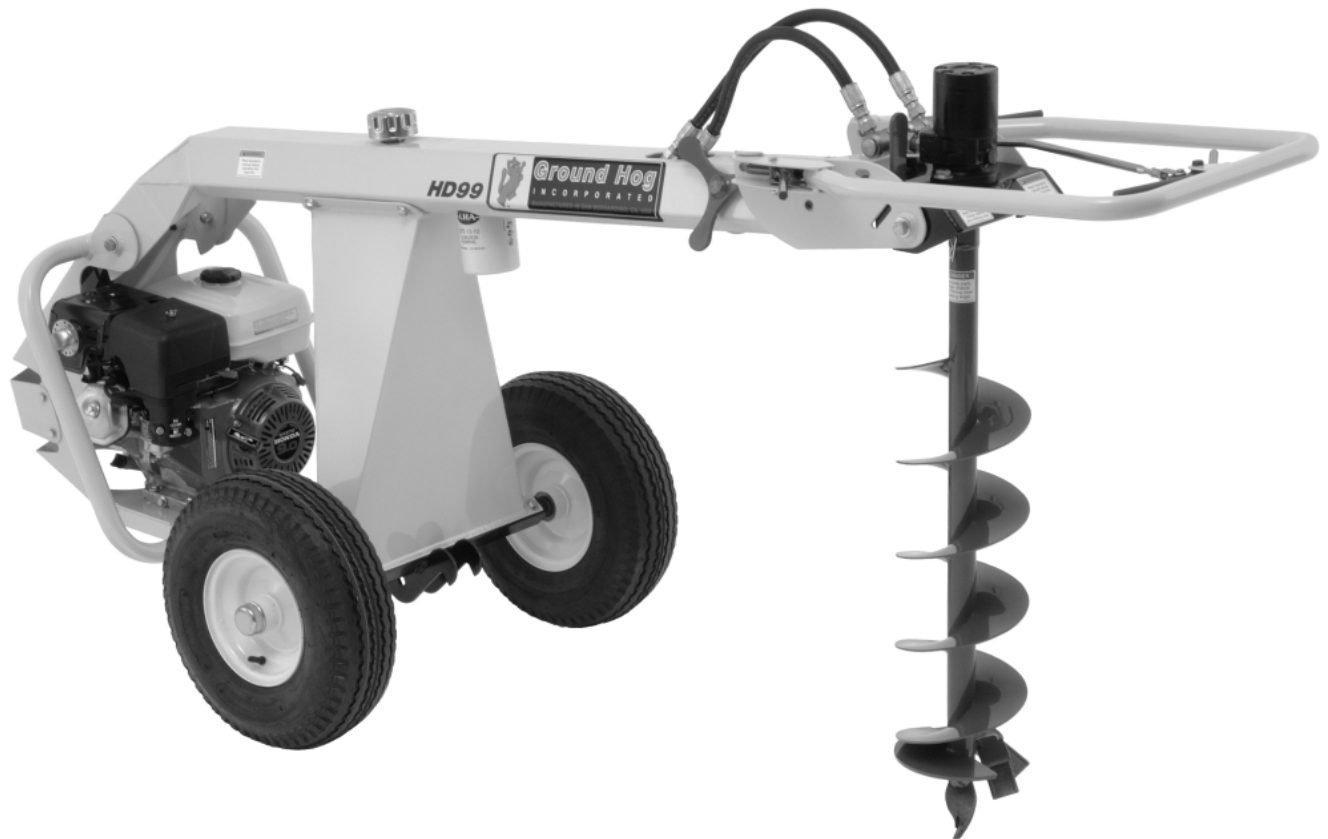
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**DO NOT THROW AWAY**

**IMPORTANT MANUAL**

**MODEL *HD99***  
**HYDRAULIC ONE-MAN EARTH DRILL**



**Operator's Manual**



P.O.BOX 290 • San Bernardino, CA. 92402


Phone (909) 478-5700 • Fax (909) 478-5710 • (800) 922-4680

E-mail: [sales@groundhoginc.com](mailto:sales@groundhoginc.com) • [www.groundhoginc.com](http://www.groundhoginc.com)

<b>⚠ WARNING</b>	
	Read and follow the operators manual and all Warnings and safety instructions before operating this machine. Failure to do so can result in serious injury.

# WARNINGS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS


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 This symbol means **DANGER, WARNING or CAUTION**. Personal injury and/or property damage may occur unless instructions are followed carefully.

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## **WARNING ~ THIS POWER TOOL CAN BE DANGEROUS!**

This tool can cause serious injury to the operator and bystanders. The warning and safety instructions in this manual must be followed to provide reasonable safety and efficiency in using and storing this earth drill. The operator is responsible for following the warnings and instructions in this manual and the earth drill. **Read the entire Operator's Manual before using this earth drill! Restrict the use of this earth drill to persons who read, understand, and follow the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the earth drill. If you have not read and understand the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the earth drill, you are not qualified to operate this earth drill!**

 This product contains and/or emits chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm. This statement is made in compliance to California Proposition 65.

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## **DANGER**

- Keep body parts, foreign objects and clothing clear of rotating auger.
- Always use part # 1300 auger attachment pin for attaching auger bit to earth drill.
- Coming into contact with buried utilities while digging can cause severe injuries or DEATH.
- Contact appropriate utility representatives to determine if/where electrical cables, gas lines, water lines, etc. are buried BEFORE operation.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

## **WARNING**

- Comply with local state and highway regulations when towing.
- Check that ball is completely inserted into coupler socket before towing.
- Check that the underjaw is securely closed around bottom of ball.
- Always secure this earth drill with tie downs or similar restraints when transporting in a truck or trailer.
- Avoid excessive speeds while towing.



# WARNINGS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS cont'd...

## OPERATOR SAFETY

1. Always wear the proper clothing and protective gear for the job. Eye and ear protection, hard hat, boots, gloves and dust masks are some of the items that may be required.
2. Keep hair, fingers, and all other body parts away from openings and moving parts. Always wear, long pants, boots, and gloves. Do not wear loose clothing, jewelry, short pants, sandals or go barefoot. Secure hair so it is above shoulder length.
3. Do not operate this tool when you are tired, ill, or under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medication.
4. Always assume the digging location contains underground utilities or obstructions. Contact appropriate utility company to determine if/where electrical cables, gas lines, water lines, etc. are buried BEFORE operation.
5. Always use extreme caution while operating this tool. Be sure of your footing and physical capabilities.

## TOOL SAFETY

1. Inspect the entire earth drill before each use. Replace damaged or worn parts.
2. Check for fuel leaks and make sure all fasteners are in place and securely fastened. Repair or replace as needed.
3. Replace auger blades that are severely worn, missing or damaged in any way before using this tool.
4. Use only the # 1300 auger attachment pin and make sure that it is properly attached.
5. Be sure the auger bit stops turning when you release the throttle.
6. Use only accessories or parts as recommended by Ground Hog, Inc.

## FUEL SAFETY

1. Refuel outdoors only and where there are no sparks and flames.
2. Store fuel in a container approved for gasoline.
3. Do not smoke or allow smoking near fuel or the earth drill or while using the earth drill.
4. Clean up all fuel spills before starting engine.
5. Move at least 10 feet away from fueling site before starting engine.
6. Stop engine before removing fuel cap.
7. Store the earth drill and fuel in an area where fuel vapors cannot reach sources of combustion like water heaters, electric motors,

## DIGGING SAFETY

1. Always assume the digging location contains buried underground utilities or obstructions. Call 811 to determine if/where electrical cables, gas lines, water lines, etc. are buried BEFORE operation.
2. Always be sure that the area you are going to drill in is clear of potential hazards, such as pipes, rocks, wire, boards or any other materials that could possibly entangle itself around the auger bit or cause unstable footing before using the earth drill.
3. Keep others including children, animals, bystanders and helpers outside a 15 foot hazard zone from the earth drill.
4. Hold the earth drill handle bar firmly with both hands.
5. Keep firm footing and balance. Do not over-reach.
6. Keep all parts of your body and clothing away from the auger bit and other moving parts.
7. Inspect the digging site. Soil conditions, job specifications and operator experience may dictate that a different earth drill or method be used to do the job.
8. Do not leave holes open or unmarked.

## MAINTENANCE SAFETY

1. Maintain this earth drill according to recommended procedures included in this manual.
2. Disconnect the spark plug wire before performing maintenance. See engine manual.
3. Stop engine before removing fuel cap.
4. Use only genuine replacement parts as recommended by Ground Hog or the engine manufacturer.

## TRANSPORTATION AND STORING SAFETY

1. Always shut off the fuel valve and engine before transporting or storing.
2. Always allow the engine to cool before transporting or storing.
3. Store earth drill and fuel in an area where fuel vapors cannot reach sources of combustion like, water heaters, electric motors, switches, furnaces, etc.
4. Always secure this earth drill with tie downs or similar restraints when transporting.
5. Properly attach and inspect the towbar to the earth drill before towing.
6. Always check that the ball is completely inserted into the coupler socket and that the underjaw is securely closed around the bottom of the ball.
7. Always check that the coupler handle is properly locked before towing.



# INTRODUCTION

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It is your responsibility as the operator of this piece of equipment to know what specific requirements, precautions and work hazards exist. You must read, understand and follow all of the information contained in this operator's manual and inform any person who might be assisting you.

The HD99 one-man earth drill is a unique tool. By separating the engine from the auger with the use of hydraulics, the digging torque or "kick back" normally associated with hand operated earth drills is greatly reduced, making for a more comfortable tool to use. However, it is a tool that can cause injury to the operator or bystanders if it is not properly maintained or if it is misused. You must be sure that you, as the operator, understand the use of the tool and the risks involved.

**NOTE:** This machine is designed to drill holes in soil. It is not intended for any other purpose.

The rotation of the auger or drill bit on any type of earth drill will cause a counter rotation of the handle bars while drilling a hole. The force exerted on the operator will vary according to the type of soil, the diameter of the auger and the condition of the machine.

In the event that the auger should encounter an object that stops the rotation suddenly, the digging force could be transmitted directly to the operator. Eventhough the force is absorbed by the wheel assembly, there is the possibility that the handle bars could be jerked from the operator's hands. For this reason, the operator must have secure footing and control of the machine. The operator must also be both mentally and physically prepared to react to this force.

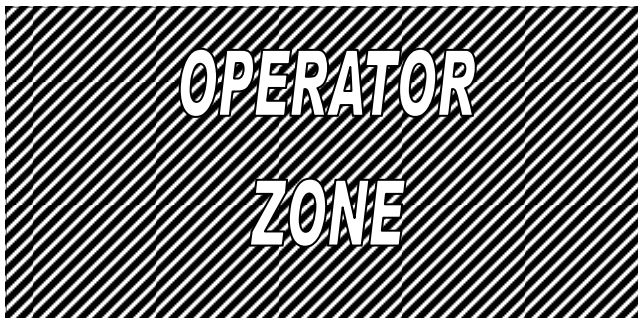
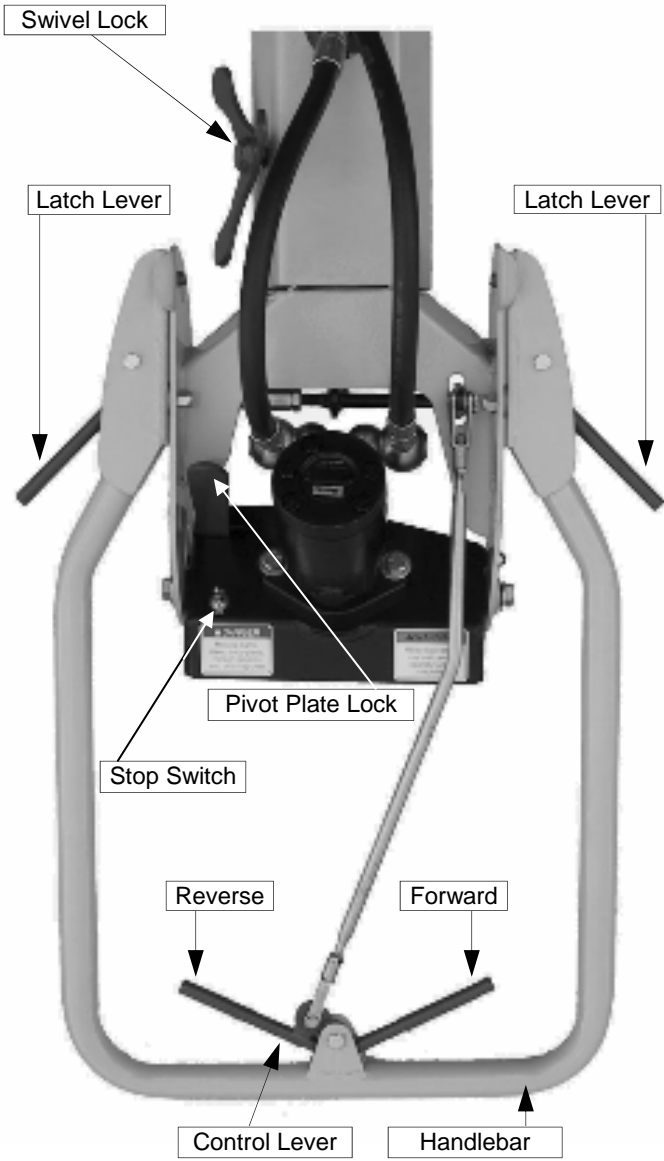
Because the HD99 is a hand operated, portable type machine, it is limited in what it is capable of doing. The job site, soil conditions, job specifications and operator experience may dictate that a different tool or method be used to do the job.

**NOTE:** It is not recommended that engines of higher horsepower be installed on this machine. Consult the factory before making any modifications.

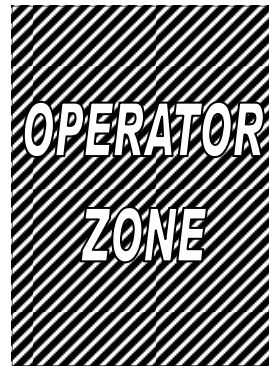
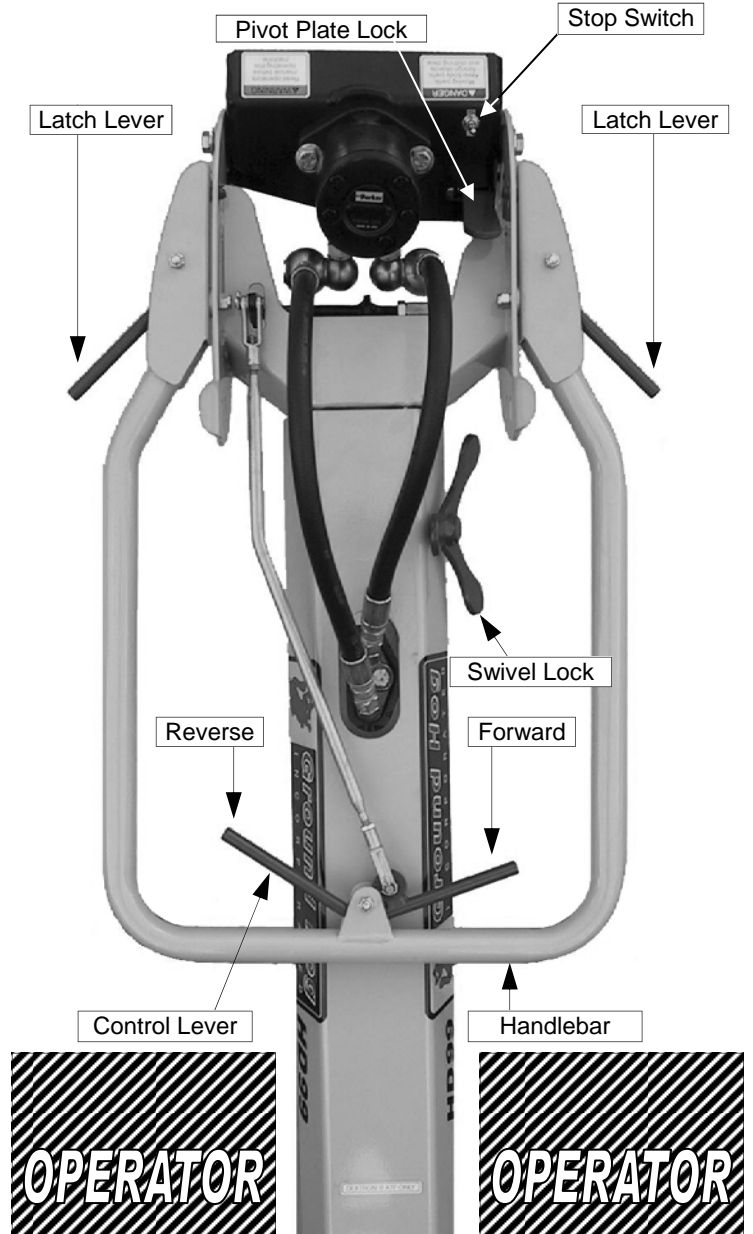


# KEY POINTS OF THE HD99

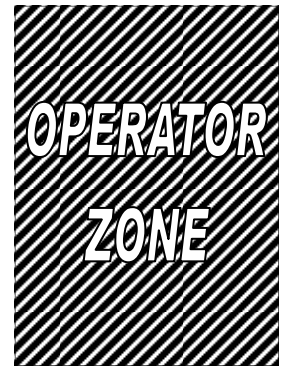
**Normal Digging  
Handlebar Position**



**Up Close Digging and Towing  
Handlebar Position**



...OR...



# TOWING AND TRANSPORTATION

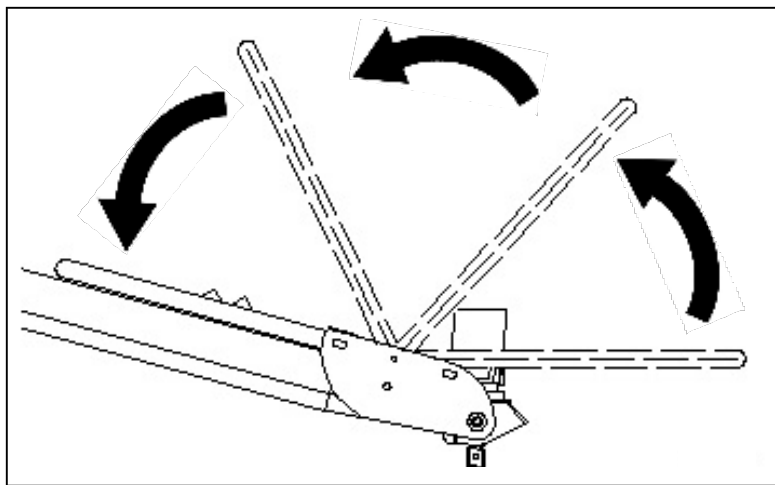
## WARNING

- Comply with local state and highway regulations when towing.
- Read and follow all instructions in this manual.
- Check that ball is completely inserted into coupler socket before towing.
- Check that underjaw is securely closed around bottom of ball.
- Always secure this earth drill with tie downs or similar when transporting in a truck or trailer.
- Properly attach the towing chains

### ATTACHING THE TOWBAR TO THE HD99

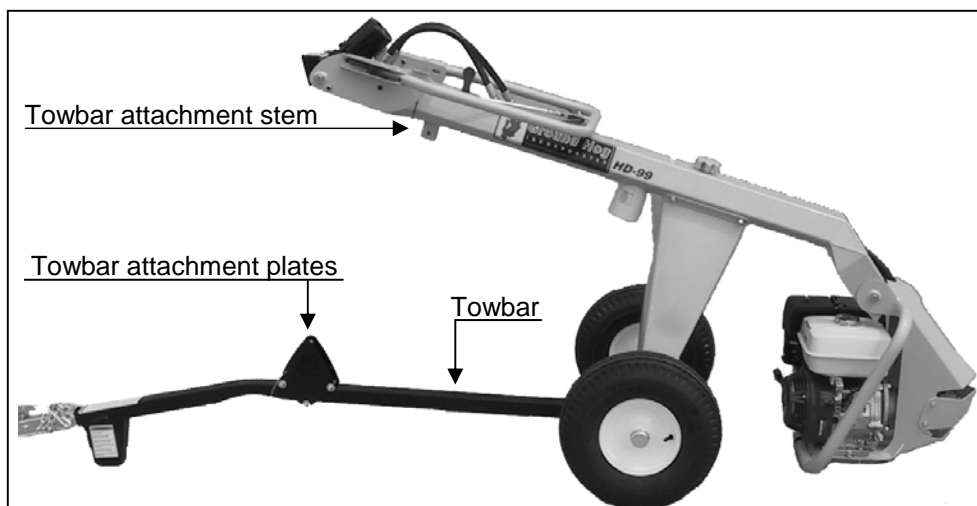
#### STEP 1

Move handlebar to transporting position.



#### STEP 2

Move the earth drill into position as shown below placing towbar on the ground under the axle.

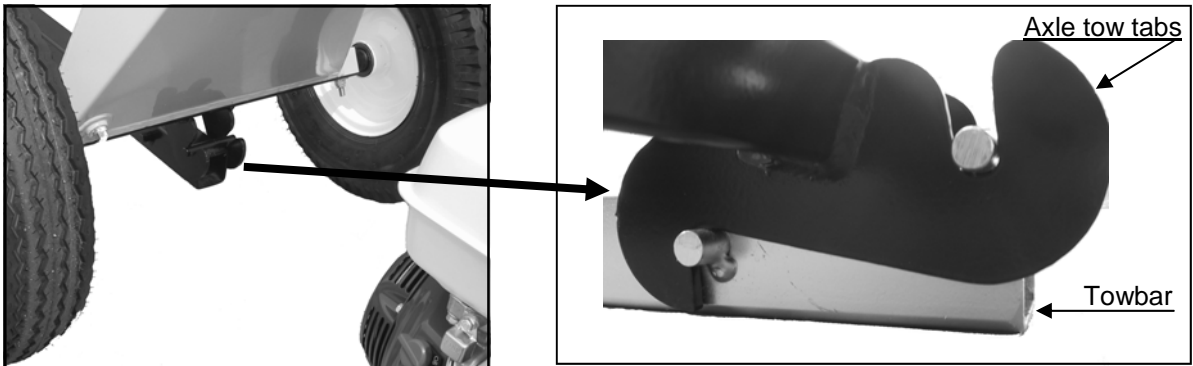


# TOWING AND TRANSPORTATION cont'd...

## ATTACHING THE TOWBAR TO THE HD99 cont'd...

### STEP 3

Attach the towbar to the axle tow tabs as shown below.



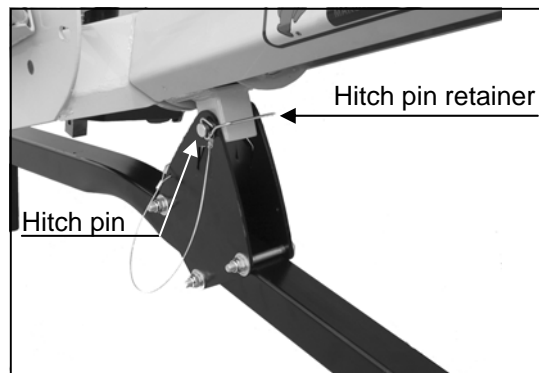
### STEP 4

Lower the earth drill until towbar attachment stem rests in-between the towbar attachment plates .



### STEP 5

Insert the hitch pin all the way through the holes on the towbar stem and attachment plates.



# TOWING AND TRANSPORTATION cont'd...

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## ATTACHING THE TOWBAR TO THE HD99 cont'd...

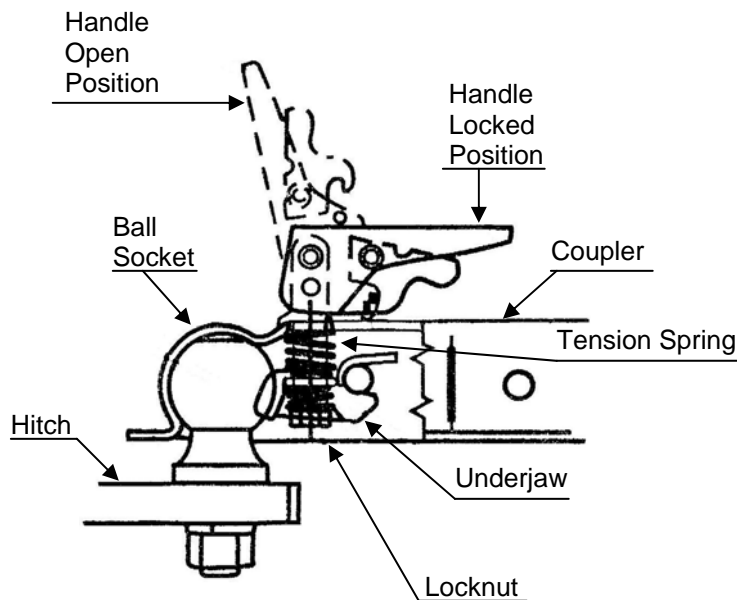
### **WARNING**

**Failure to obey these rules can cause trailer to detach while towing which may cause SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH!**

- Never exceed weight capacity of ball or load limits stamped on coupler.
- Always use safety chains.
- Always use correct size ball shown by stamp on coupler
- Always check that the ball is completely inserted into coupler socket and that underjaw is securely closed around the bottom of the ball.
- Always check that the coupler handle is properly locked before towing.
- Always examine coupler and ball for damage before towing. Replace if damaged.
- Avoid sharp turns and steep vertical angles when towing which may bend or damage coupler or its components.

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#### Key points of the hitch coupler



#### Coupler Operating Instructions

Adjust coupler locking pressure on ball before use. Place handle in locked position with ball in coupler. Tighten locknut against tension spring so that coupler is not loose on ball. Correct adjustment will allow handle to be released with moderate pressure applied to handle.

To open, pull up on coupler handle and rotate forward. Place coupler on ball. When ball is completely nested in ball socket, rotate coupler handle backward until handle is in locked position.

After towing for 50 miles, check coupler for tightness on ball. Always check tightness before towing. Be sure coupler handle is in locked position when towing.



# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## **DANGER**

Determine that the earth drill is in its original, factory configuration and has not been modified or damaged and is not missing parts in any way. If there are any questions about possible modifications made to the earth drill, do not use until the modifications have been corrected using only genuine replacement parts as recommended by Ground Hog or the engine manufacturer.

### **STOPPING THE HD99**

There are two stop switches on the earth drill; one on the pivot plate and one on the engine. Refer to the engine manual for the switch location on your particular earth drill. The operator can turn the earth drill off at any time by switching either stop switch to the "OFF" position.

## **WARNING**

Never connect or disconnect the auger while the engine is running.

### **STARTING THE HD99**

1. Start the engine following the procedures outlined in the engine manual supplied with the earth drill.

2. Before attaching the auger, always start the earthdrill at the job site and allow it to warm up. While the machine is running, check the controls to be sure that everything is working as properly.

### **STARTING WITH AUGER ATTACHED**

1. After the engine has been allowed to warm up, and everything is operating as it should, shut the motor off and attach the auger using the clevis pin and clip that we provide (part #1300).

2. Place the machine in the digging position.

3. Following the procedures outlined in the engine manual supplied with the machine, start the engine. If the engine does not start after 3 pulls of the starter rope, disconnect the auger from the machine and determine the cause. When the machine is in operating condition again, follow the procedures listed above before proceeding to the next step.

4. Set engine to maximum throttle.

## **WARNING**

Hitting a buried object, such as a rock, could cause a sudden side thrust against the operator. Injury could occur if the operator is not prepared to deal with this condition.

### **DRILLING**

1. Depress latch levers and rotate the handle bars to the normal digging position if it is not already.

2. Slowly depress the right side of the control lever. Use caution here as the auger will start to turn and dig at this point.

**NOTE:** This unit has a throttling feature. The more that you depress the control lever, the faster the auger will turn.

3. Allow the auger to dig at its own speed, keeping the auger straight in the hole by moving the machine back and forth as needed.

4. Increase or decrease the auger speed until you find a digging speed that you are comfortable with.

5. Do not attempt to drill the hole in one pass, you could bury the auger. Drill to a depth of approximately one foot and lift the auger to spin the dirt off. Be careful not to lift the auger completely out of the hole. Repeat this procedure until you have reached the required depth.

6. Release the control lever and lift the rest of the dirt out for a clean hole.

7. To reverse the rotation of the auger,, depress the left side of the control lever slowly. Use caution at this point, the auger will tend to climb out of the hole.

8. For up close digging, rotate the handle bars to the up close digging position and follow the instructions above.

**NOTE:** Allow the auger to dig at its own speed. Attempting to force the auger into hard ground and through buried objects could result in the auger becoming locked in the hole. If the auger bit should get locked in a hole, slowly engage the valve control lever in reverse to unlock the auger bit.

9. For digging on uneven terrain, rotate the boring head to the desired angle. Some digging conditions may or may not require you to tighten the swivel lock.



# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS cont'd...

## **WARNING**

Never connect or disconnect the auger or auger extensions while the engine is running.

### **DRILLING WITH EXTENSIONS**

It is not recommended to dig with extensions longer than three feet long.

1. Following the directions listed under "DRILLING", dig to the full depth of the auger without using an extension.
2. Stop the engine. Remove the auger from the power unit and connect the extension shaft to the auger using the pins provided (part #1300).
3. Connect the female end extension shaft the power unit and the male end of the extension shaft to the auger.
4. Following the instructions outlined in "DRILLING", drill to the desired depth, adding extensions as needed.

## **WARNING**

The earth drill shall be stored in a manner that prevents it from falling, rolling or tipping over.

### **WHEN NOT IN USE**

- Store the earth drill and fuel in an area where fuel vapors cannot reach sources of combustion like water heaters, electric motors, switches, furnaces, etc.
- Always shut off the fuel valve and engine before storing or transporting.
- Always shut off the stop switches when not in use.
- Keep children, bystanders and animals clear of earth drill at all times.
- Secure the earth drill in a manner that will not allow it fall, tip over or roll.
- Always place the earth drill on level ground and use wheel chocks to prevent the earth drill from rolling when not in use.
- Always remove the auger bit from the earth drill when not in use.

The earth drill shall be stored in a manner that prevents it from falling, rolling or tipping over.

The picture below shows the proper position of the earth drill when not in use. This position is acceptable with or without the towbar.

