

Straight Up & Down Post Hole Digger

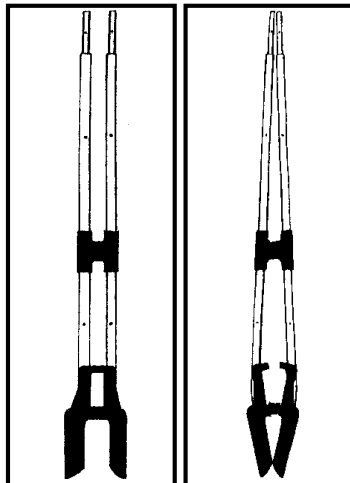
We've seen a lot of post hole diggers over the years but none of them have ever managed to knock off the old standard spreader-type digger. But we recently came across a promising new design at the Inventor's Congress in Redwood Falls, Minn. The inventor says he hopes it will become the new standard.

Jeff Vaughter, Stevens Point, Wis., says he got the idea when digging a 4 ft. hole for a post. "I found that as I got deeper I kept having to widen out the top of the hole to spread the handles out far enough to close the jaws on the digger. By the time I was done, I had removed a lot more dirt than necessary. To make matters worse, I realized the post was loose in the hole even after packing soil around it. I figured there had to be a better way."

After building several prototypes, Vaughter came up with a digger that doesn't look that different at first glance. It uses conventional digging jaws, but what makes it different is that it has an adjustable pivot point a couple feet up from the jaws. Size and weight are similar to a conventional digger but it's easier to handle and easier to store because the handles don't spread out.

"The entire width of the tool never exceeds the diameter of the hole being dug. And with handle extensions, you could easily dig a hole as deep as 6 to 8 ft. and the hole will have the same diameter from top to bottom. The amount of soil is minimal, saving time and effort," says Vaughter.

"Because the tool is never wider than the



Post hole digger has an adjustable pivot point a couple feet up from the jaws. As a result, the entire width of the tool never exceeds the diameter of the hole being dug.

hole, you can stand with your legs right on either side of the hole so lifting is easier. And it's easier to lift the dirt with arms close together."

Vaughter is negotiating with manufacturers to bring the new digger to market. He expects it to cost little more than current diggers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jeff Vaughter, 418 W. Cedar St., Stevens Point, Wis. 54481 (ph 715 341-4315).

"Tumble Action" Vegetable Washer

"We grow vegetables in an 8-acre garden and sell them locally in town. To wash the vegetables before packing them we came up with our own portable washer," says Joel Waldner, Lethbridge, Alberta.

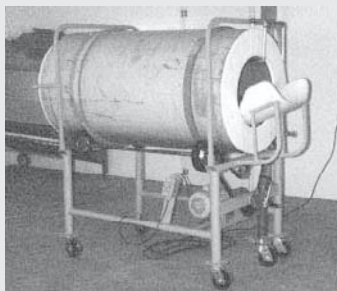
The unit works something like a cement mixer and consists of a plastic barrel mounted inside a steel frame that's supported by four small castor wheels. Vegetables are loaded into one end of the barrel via a plastic chute. A hand-operated jack is used to raise the loading end of the barrel, allowing vegetables to gravity-unload out the other end.

The barrel is rotated by an electric motor which chain-drives a steel shaft that's fitted with a pair of small rubber wheels. As the wheels turn, they rub against the barrel to rotate it. Water is supplied by a garden hose that hooks up to a steel pipe, which runs inside the top end of the barrel and is equipped with four nozzles. To spray water onto the vegetables, the operator simply flips a switch that opens a solenoid valve.

"It's not hard to build, and it works. All the vegetables come out nice and clean," says Waldner. "We screwed lengths of 3/4-in. dia. PVC conduit onto the inside of the barrel every 10 in. or so in order to help carry the vegetables around as the barrel is rotated."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joel Waldner, 67 Tudor Crescent, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada T1K 5C7.

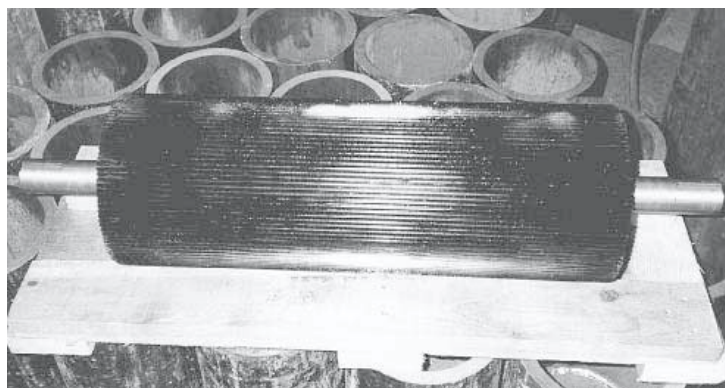
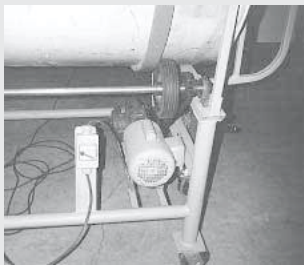
Barrel is rotated by an electric motor which chain-drives a pair of small rubber wheels. As wheels turn, they rub against barrel to rotate it.



Vegetable washer works something like a cement mixer, with vegetables loaded into one end of barrel via a plastic chute.



Vegetables are unloaded out opposite end of barrel by turning a handle.



Bob Scherer says his company's rolls are hardened throughout, not just on the surface. They also have a removable center shaft which can be repaired or replaced separately.

Low-Cost Replacement Rolls Designed To Outlast Original Equipment

Bob Scherer has been working with corrugated rolls from roller mills for the better part of two decades, so he knows what works and what doesn't.

Seven years ago, he started a business in his hometown of Tea, South Dakota, repairing cast iron rolls from roller mills. Since then he's done work for roller mill and forage harvester owners from all over the U.S. and Canada.

After several years of regrooving and sharpening rollers, he decided he could make a better product than was commonly being used. He started making his own line of steel rollers. "I based my rollers on products I'd seen and serviced, but designed them to last longer," he says.

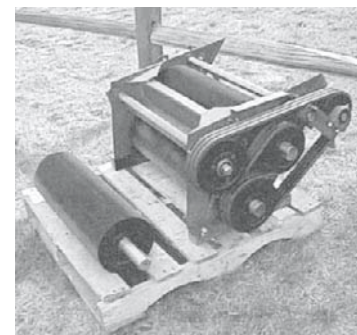
"We've been making kernel and crop processor rolls for three years, and annual sales are now three times what they were the first year. We sell to both individuals and companies. A number of after-market parts companies buy large quantities for resale.

"Our rolls are hardened throughout, not just on the surface. Once they've been hardened, they're put back into an oven and tempered to prevent brittleness. This process makes them extremely hard and much stronger than most original equipment rolls," he says.

One of the unique features he designed into his rollers is a separate shaft. "With other rolls, you often have to throw them out if there's a problem with the shaft. For example, if it's worn because of a bearing failure or gets bent. Our rolls have a replaceable shaft that can be repaired or replaced separately," he says.

Scherer Corrugating & Machine, Inc., makes rolls for Automatic, Bearcat and Henke roller mills and for most brands of forage harvesters. "The only one we don't make rolls for is Claas, and we are working on that one," he says.

Scherer says he commonly stocks rolls from 6 in. through 14 in. in outside diameter, and up to 52 in. long. And if his standard



Scherer has been making kernel and crop processor units for three years.

sizes aren't quite right, he can custom build new rolls to fit.

"We have a full machine shop, so we can repair most rolls with shaft or balance problems," he says. "Producers can typically save 10 to 20 percent with our rolls as compared to those from the manufacturer. One popular roller mill uses 9 in. dia. rolls that are 34 in. long and normally sell for \$4,000 per pair. We sell them for \$3,400."

In addition to sharpening, manufacturing and selling rolls, Scherer Corrugating & Machine also sells kernel processor conversion mills for older Gehl, Deere and New Holland silage cutters. "This is a bolt-on unit for pull-type and some self-propelled harvesters," he says. "After a lot of phone calls and questions, I'm convinced this is one of the best units available. And it sells for about 15 percent less than comparable kits on the market."

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Scherer, Scherer Corrugating & Machine, Inc., 27114 Grummand Ave., Tea, S. Dak. 57064 (ph 800 883-9790 or 605 368-2659; E-mail: corrugating@dtgnet.com; Web site: www.scherercorrugating.com).

How To Reach Us

To submit a "Made It Myself" Story Idea, New Product, Shop Tip, "Best or Worst Buy", or other information, send a note along with photos, drawings and literature, if available. We'll get back to you later if we need more details. Send to: Editor, FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 1-800-834-9665; fax 952 469-5575). E-Mail: Editor@farmshow.com. You can also submit information at our Web Site:

[Http://www.farmshow.com](http://www.farmshow.com).

To change your address, renew your subscription, take out a new subscription, order videos or books, or for other information regarding your subscription, contact: Circulation Department, FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 1-800-834-9665; fax 952 469-5575) E-Mail: Circulation@farmshow.com.