



Bush Hog 762H accepts either regular or heavy-duty buckets in 9-, 13-, 16-, 24- and 36-in. widths. Maximum reach is 9'6".



The Lowe Model 7 hydraulic trencher adds versatility to smaller skid steer loaders in the 800- to 1000-lb. class.

CAN YOU DIG IT?

Trenchers and backhoes get down and dirty

By CURT HARLER/ Contributing Editor

Whether you're installing irrigation pipe or running accent lighting along a pathway, use the right equipment to speed the job, minimize damage to surrounding turf, shorten the time to refill the open trench and cut down on reseeding or sodding.

Backhoes can be compared to chain saws: best used on big jobs (like placing irrigation mains or digging deep, long cuts for drainage pipe). They can dig down farther and faster than other machines, but count on spending some time filling in the trench and hand-raking a lot of soil and stone left behind after the excavated ground is replaced.

On the other hand, trenchers are like hand-saws. They leave a smaller cut than a backhoe and are much gentler on the surrounding turf. In fragile turfgrass areas or in residential areas where a backhoe is too noisy or too cumbersome, a trencher is likely to be the tool of choice.

Mini-trenchers are like pruning shears. They can get into even the smallest area. Lightweight and maneuverable, they weigh about half the standard walk-behind trencher's 700 to 1,000 pounds. That makes mini-trenchers super for short-run jobs.

Brown Manufacturing
800/633-8909
www.brownmfgcorp.com

The BedEdger F-780H Trencher is designed for defining landscape beds or installing plastic or steel edging, saving time up to 90% over a shovel. Manufactured in Ozark, AL, the BedEdger is equipped with steerable rear wheels and an 8-hp Honda engine.

Circle No. 250

Burkean Manufacturing Co.
800/647-9824
www.burkean.com

From Olive Branch, MS, the Burkean B-30 Combination Trencher/ Vibratory Plow has a 30-hp diesel engine, features a two-speed transmission, plow self-centering system, sod cutter, bolt-on plow blades and a lifetime warranty. It is equipped with a rotary boring unit for tunneling under streets or sidewalks; a trencher attachment for trenching in large-diameter pipe or opening pits for boring applications; and a rotary-boring unit for installing



The Burkeen B-30 Combination Trencher/Vibratory Plow

pipe of various types up to 2 inches in diameter.

Circle No. 251

**Bush Hog
334/872-6261**

www.bushhog.com

The Bush Hog 762H is the Selma, AL, company's backhoe of choice for landscapers, electrical contractors and golf course superintendents. It is designed for operator comfort with a walk-through design on the operator's platform. The maximum digging depth is 7'6" and maximum reach is 9'6". Regular and heavy-duty buckets are available in 9-, 13-, 16-, 24- and 36-in. widths.

Circle No. 252

**Ditch Witch
800/654-6481**

www.ditchwitch.com

The Ditch Witch Model 5700 trencher has 57 hp and an all-hydrostatic design. Made by The Charles Machine Works Inc., Perry, OK, it has a 20-degree swiveling operator's seat for comfort during long jobs. A single handle controls the backfill blade, with a float function for easier job site restoration. A new long-arm steerable vibratory plow attachment and long-arm steerable combo attachment add versatility and offset plowing capabilities. Trenches can be as deep as 52 in. Backhoe attachment can dig as deep as 64 in.

Circle No. 253

**Elite Trenchers
800/223-5468**

www.elitetrenchers.com

Elite offers four trencher styles ideal for installing sprinkler systems, bed edging, root pruning, cable installation, telephone cable installation and golf course drainage. The

products, made in Cape Coral, FL, dig at depths ranging from 6 to 12 in. The push-forward disc blade type trencher can dig 20 to 30 ft. per minute. The 900-lb. winch design



Elite offers four trenchers.

and roller wheel body allows the machine to roll up and down easier.

Circle No. 254

**Glenncorp Inc.
870/239-4796**

Glenncorp's GCI-500 3-Point Hitch Trencher has a 3-ft. digging depth, a reservoir, filter system and PTO pump. The Paragould, AR-based company includes a two-spool control valve. Standard equipment includes open platform, joy stick



Glenncorp's GCI-500 3-Point Hitch Trencher can dig three feet.

controls, outrigger guides, cushioned seat, replaceable bushings and 160-degree rotation. Digging depths range from 6 ft. to 12 ft.

Circle No. 255

**Ingersoll Equipment Co. Inc.
920/582-5000**

www.ingersoll-inc.com

Ingersoll's 6018 LBH Loader Backhoe, from Winneconne, WI, features power steering, single-lever shifting for forward and reverse, speed control with a right-mounted foot pedal and single lever control of the swing and boom. The lower

weight keeps it from tearing up turf. The 6018 can be towed on a trailer behind a pickup truck.

Circle No. 256

**JCB Inc.
888/PICK-JCB
www.jcbna.com**

JCB's Backhoe Loader from Great Britain uses a new tool-carrier coupler. It features a two-position loader linkage to maximize bucket or pallet fork performance. Larger diameter loader arm pipework and a detent for the third valve spool provide power for continuous-flow attachments like sweepers. All of the models (JCB 214S, 215S and 217S) feature the Smooth Ride System to eliminate front-end bounce. Maximum backhoe dig depths range from 14'7" to 17'3".

Circle No. 257

**John Deere
800/537-8233
www.deere.com**

John Deere's 47 and 48 Backhoes, when teamed with a John Deere 4000 series tractor, create an enhanced digging force with faster

cycles power and compact size with the Kubota Backhoe Attachment. The two Japanese-made products together can dig to 9.2 ft. The four-point, quick-attach mounting system with reinforced frame provides worry-free backhoe operation when elevated by stabilizers. The B5550 Trencher, designed for use with the B21, operates quietly and digs to 3 ft. deep and from 3 to 12 in. wide. It has 11 trench size combinations with rapidly changeable boom and digging chain lengths. The gear box, rated at 20 hp, is easily accessible for normal service requirements.

Circle No. 259

**Little Beaver, Inc.
409/327-3121
www.littlebeaver.com**

The Kwik-Trench Earth Saw is a portable trencher for residential sprinkler systems, cable TV, satellite dish drops, electrical, plumbing, telephone, gas lines, landscape edging, drainage lines and root pruning. It is easy to load and all rotating parts are shielded. The product is made in Livingston, TX.

Circle No. 260

**Lowe Manufacturing Co.
888/DIG-LOWE
www.loweman.com**

The Lowe Model 7 hydraulic trencher is an economical and solid basic trencher attachment for most models of skid steer loaders. Made in Readstown, WI, this unit adds versatility to smaller skid steer loaders in the 800- to 1,000-lb. class. Included are a 34,000-lb. digging chain, a removable spoil auger and seal bearings in the nose. Model 7 has a 3,000-psi continuous operating pressure capability. Model 21C trenching attachment is designed for larger skid loaders and hydraulic flows between 13 and 25 gallons per minute. It has a 50,000-lb. anti-back flex digging chain.

Circle No. 261

**Melroe Ingersoll-Rand
701/241-8700
www.bobcat.com**

The Bobcat 607 Backhoe Attachment has a digging depth of nearly 8 feet and operates with Bobcat 751, 753, 763, 773 and 863 Skid Steer Loaders. It has a single bucket mounting position for straight wall and power digging. Standard 6-inch curb clearance and

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the optional vertical stabilizers are ideal for working in tight areas. The Bobcat LT204 Trencher Attachment for 700- and 800-size Skid Steer Loaders is made for light to medium jobs, has digging depths from 2 to 4 feet and features hydraulic side shift capability to trench close to buildings or fences.

Circle No. 262



Toro SiteWork Systems with backhoe

Steiner Turf Equipment Inc.
330/828-0200
www.steinerturf.com

The Steiner Trencher TH300 features a visible depth indicator, variable depth control, and quick chain tension adjustment. The product, made in Dalton, OH, has a debris-free trench with a crumb scraper, a front mount and a quick hitch. The TH300 also has a heat-treated carbide tip chain. It attaches to a Steiner tractor.

Circle No. 263

Thomas Equipment Ltd.
800/561-5623
www.thomasloaders.com

The BH108 Side Shift Backhoe Attachment has a narrow profile, a vertical stabilizer design and side shift capability, for work close to walls and obstructions. It offers internal or external control systems. Internal controls allow you to sit inside the loader cab, out of the weather and controls have easy access and flip up and out of the way allowing easy entry and exit from the loader cab. External control provides visibility to the full 8.5 ft. digging depth.

Circle No. 264

Toro
800/476-9673
www.toro.com

Toro SiteWork Systems includes the Dingo compact utility loader and more than 35 attachments including a trencher and backhoe. The Bloomington, MN, company's Dingo is 42-in. wide, and fits through four-foot gateways allowing it to take hydraulic power to areas previously open only to hand labor. The trencher attachment digs trenches up to 3 ft. deep and up to 12 in. wide.

Circle No. 265

Vermeer Manufacturing Company
888/VERMEER
www.vermeer.com

Vermeer's V-8550A Hydrostatic Trencher/Plow has a 90-hp Cummins engine, a backfill blade with a floating position and patented creep override in forward and reverse. Made in Pella, IA, the V-8550A features higher torque curve and improved performance. An enclosed wet disc service and parking brake automatically apply when the engine stops and an operator presence system shuts down the machine when the operator leaves the seat.

Circle No. 266

Woods Equipment Company
800/289-3067
www.woodsonline.com

Woods Groundbreaker Backhoes are available in 6.5-, 7.5- and 9-ft. digging depths. The products, manufactured in Rockford, IL, are available for three-point mounting on tractors ranging from 15 to 70 hp. They also mount on most skid steer machines. Subframe kits allow easy mounting of the Groundbreaker series on more than 50 compact tractor models.

Circle No. 267

Yazoo Kees Inc.
800/723-9496
www.yazookees.com

Yazoo Kees, Jackson, MS, has improved the Millennium Series Dig-It TLB (tractor/loader/backhoe) models: the Dominator M2208, Dominator Diesel M2208D and the Tiger M2008. Dominators have a 22-hp Kohler Command PRO TM or a 21-hp Kohler D722-E diesel engine. The Tiger comes with a 20-hp Kohler Command engine.

Circle No. 268