

8th February,
1944.

JFC/SO

Farmers' Weekly,
c/o The Sun Engraving Co.,
Whippendall Road,
WATFORD, Herts.

For the attention of Mr. A. K. Venner.

Dear Sir,

"Roteho" Trench Digger

We were pleased to learn from you per telephone this morning that the ban on publication of photographs and scrip heretofore existing in respect of the above implement has been lifted and in accordance with your request we are giving you brief specifications of the machine.

1. The name of the machine is the 'Roteho' Trench Digger.
2. It is designed to be fitted to standard Red Spot Fordson Tractor only.
3. It is supplied complete with Tractor Reduction Gear Box and Power Take-off.
4. The machine requires tractor drive only to operate.
5. Standard width of cut is $7\frac{1}{2}$ " *up to 18" without modification*.
6. Depth from 20" to 36".
7. Working speed up to 24" depth is 15 chains per hour.
24" to 36" 10 chains per hour;
8. Depth control is simple and positive.
9. Cutting blades can be re-dressed at small cost.
10. By simple movement of lever on Reduction Gear Box standard travel gears on tractor are restored.

11. All bearings are heavy duty ballraces and all working parts are entirely enclosed and running in oil.
12. Moderately priced -
Fitted to customer's tractor at works - £230.
(exclusive of Tractor and Rotaped Tracks)

The 'Rotaho' Trench Digger is built by the manufacturers of the Rotary Hoe and has for security reasons hitherto been on the Secret List but since it was first produced nearly two years ago it has been supplied to Drainage Sections of County War Agricultural Executive Committees all over the country, including Scotland. ~~In addition quite a number are doing good drainage work on new acreage, etc.~~ The machine has also been used extensively for cutting trenches for laying water services and cable laying.

~~A point which may be stressed is that the working speed of the 'Rotaho' is at least four times faster than any existing machine of the Rotary principle.~~

The machine can be operated on standard Tractor wheels with spade lugs where the land is sufficiently dry to carry the combined weight of Tractor and Trench Digger, but the use of 'Inges' Rotaped Tracks is essential in wet weather or where the ground is of a swampy nature. ~~These tracks can be supplied and fitted at a cost of £150. per pair.~~

Pipe Layer.

Where land to be drained has a natural fall this novel equipment can be used very effectively. With one additional man 3" or 4" tiles can be laid snugly in the concave bottom of the trench at the same speed at which the trench is excavated. Price of the pipe laying attachment is £15. ex works.

A boring system ^{may be used} is being devised which will enable accurate grading to be made where no natural fall exists.

We trust that the information given about will provide sufficient material on which you can build a good write up, which we hope you will agree this machine merits.

Yours faithfully,
P.P. ROTARY HOES LIMITED

Sales Manager.

13.00

X-1170920

D. Herald

1/3/44.

Eastern Ave
Sawtham Rd 10

Halfway B
House

T.R.
F.R.

East Haddon Essex



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An...
Knox, ...
tary, said ...
medium cargo ...
cargo ship, one ...
and a large tanker.

← ODDEST SECRET WEAPON

"DAILY HERALD" REPORTER

THE war's queerest secret weapon, Rotcho, the wonder digger, is hush-hush no longer.

It is off the secret list.

This rotary trench digger was invented by an Australian, Mr. A. C. Howard, aged 60. He had technical help from the Ministry of Agriculture, ~~...~~

Rotcho cuts trenches 20 inches to 36 inches deep and about eight inches wide at a rate of 330 yards an hour.

It is designed to hitch to a tractor, and needs only one man to handle it.

The soil is excavated by a rotor fitted with 17 cutting blades. It is neatly heaped alongside the trench.

Stones up to the size of a potato make no difference to its performance.

At least 60 of these machines made by Rotary Hoes, Ltd., are being used by County War Agricultural Executive Committees for drainage work.

In West Sussex and Kent they have done much service bringing piped water to farms.

The Post Office has used the machine considerably for cable laying, particularly at Southampton, during the Blitz.

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Mr. Craig,

East Haddon,
Essex.

Number 622.

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