

# Operating Portable Augers Picture This



**What's wrong in this picture?** an auger's sharp corkscrew blade rotates as it draws grain up. Coming into contact with an unguarded blade can result in significant lacerations and broken bones which is happening in the picture above.

Each year, the use of a portable auger contributes to the total number of farm-related deaths and injuries across the nation. These augers can be dangerous if not properly selected, used, and maintained.

Whenever possible, operators should ensure good footing while working around augers. Portable augers should be placed on dry, level ground or a gravel pad. Spilled grain should be removed between loads, after the equipment has been turned off.

**It is important that all farm and auger operators should be educated about safe operating procedures and hazards associated with augers.**