

Cleaning tool bends to fit the curves under mower decks to clean up after mowing.



Handy Way To Clean Mower Decks

It looks like a modified putty knife, but this new tool bends to fit the curves under any mower deck to clean up after mowing, says F.R.O.G. Concepts about its new Grassbuster Mower Cleaning Tool.

The tool is made from tempered stainless steel with a polypropylene handle. It has a flexible curved tip that conforms to the underside of the deck and won't scratch.

The company says it's the only tool on the market with full contact to the mower deck

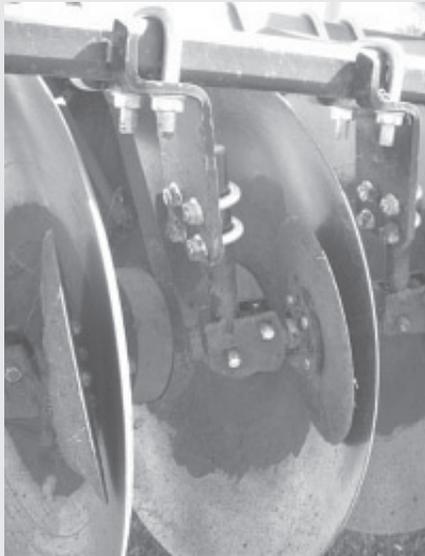
surface.

Specifically designed for use on walk-behind mulcher mowers, the Grassbuster can also be used on riding mowers and standard side discharge mowers.

Sells for \$9.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, F.R.O.G. Concepts, LLC, 450 Kingston Road, Lexington, Ky. 40505 (ph and fax 859 293-9363; thegrassbuster@aol.com; www.thegrassbuster.com).

Discmaster blade scraper rotates to toss dirt and trash to the side.



Floating Blade Scraper Keeps Disks Clean

Jim Meidinger had a better idea for a blade scraper to keep disk blades running smoothly and to prevent plug-ups. After working with conventional scrapers, he figured a rotating scraper that discharged dirt and trash would do the job better. When the disk manufacturing company he worked for wasn't interested, he started Discmaster, Inc. Three years later, he has his floating, disk blade scrapers on farms in Iowa, Minnesota and North Dakota. The response has been positive.

"I stopped by a dealer who had installed them on his disk," says Meidinger. "A neighbor had borrowed it because he couldn't get his disk to work in trashy, wet conditions. He brought it back and said he couldn't believe how well the scrapers worked. He wanted them for his disk, and he didn't care what they cost if they worked as well."

There are two key features to the Discmaster blade scraper. The first is the rotating nature of the 10-in. carbon steel blade. Dirt and trash get tossed to the side instead of building up and plugging on a stationary scraper bar.

The second key feature is its floating mount. As dirt starts building up on the disk blade, it comes into contact with the floating scraper. It's the dirt buildup that actually forces the

scraper disc against the disk blade. Once the blade is clean, the scraper floats back away from the blade.

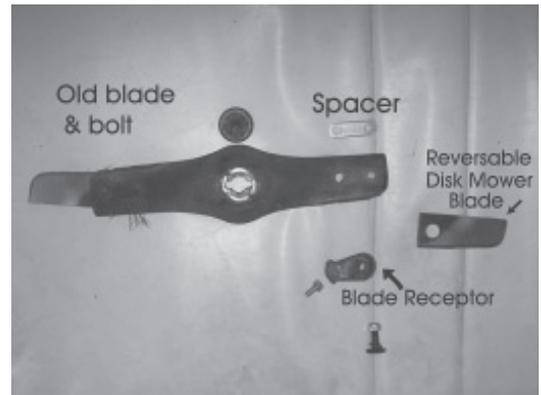
"This means that when scraping isn't needed, there's no wear on the bearing of the scraper, the edge of the scraper or the disk blade itself," says Meidinger. "Customers also tell me they're able to either shift up a gear or go to a bigger disk with the same tractor. There isn't the drag you get with conventional disk scrapers. You save time and fuel."

The Discmaster units are a universal design that comes with adapters for specific disks. Switching units to a different style disk at trade-in is simply a matter of ordering new adapters.

The units retail for \$82.50 each. They're available from a growing number of dealers and distributors. Meidinger suggests having your local equipment dealer contact Discmaster. You can also order direct from the company.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Discmaster, Inc., 4035 81st St. S.E., Wishek, N. Dak. 58495 (ph 701 452-2722; cell 701 321-1184; jsmwc002@bektel.com).

Reversible disc mower blade is made from used spare blades that Jerry Dutton had on hand. Hay mower blades from any model will work.



Swinging Mower Blades

When his lawn mower blades wore down so much that they couldn't be sharpened any more, Jerry Dutton attached reversible disk mower blades. That was three years ago, and he recently flipped them over to get several more years of mowing. The cost savings of \$3/hay mower blade versus \$20 to \$30 for a new lawn mower blade each year, makes the extra work worth it, says the Chandler, Okla., heating and air conditioning retiree.

He begins by carefully measuring so that the blade length is the same as the original length. He cuts off the ends of the old mower blade using a torch. Then he heats the blade's ends to take out the temper enough to drill or punch two holes to line up the holes in the spacers that come with the hay disk mower blade. Dutton used spare blades he had on hand from his farm equipment; hay mower blades from any model will work.

"It's important on the rotation, to buy blades which go in the right direction," Dutton says. "Disk mower blades are made

for clockwise or counter clockwise rotation and must match the lawn mower's operation."

The initial setup is the most time consuming. A receptor bolt goes on to the lawn mower blade and the hay blade attaches to the receptor. Slip in the spacers and tighten the lock washers to secure the hay blades.

It's important to balance the blade before putting it back on the mower, Dutton says. He sets the blade on his pocket knife, but others use cones or other balancing tools.

"It's time consuming," Dutton says, but after it's set up, changing blades just requires removing the blade and loosening the end bolt.

The hay blades mow the same as new lawn mower blades, Dutton says, and he notes hay blades are more forgiving when they hit a solid object because they can rotate.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jerry Dutton, 870610 So. 3460, Chandler, Okla. 74834 (ph 405 258-2507).



Satellite dish is turned upside down on three rows of concrete blocks, with the blocks in each row set at different angles for better ventilation.

Satellite Dish Dog House

"After reading the stories in your last issue about farmers who recycled satellite dishes in different ways, I thought I'd send you a photo of the dog house we made for our dogs," says Jan Hoadley, Nauvoo, Alabama.

"The dome not only provides the dogs with a place to get under but also captures rainwater for them to drink. It sits under some shade trees, so during the summer it gives them a cool place to get out of the heat. Under the dome is a thick bedding of leaves for the dogs to lay in."

"The satellite dish is turned upside down on three rows of concrete blocks, with the blocks in each row set at different angles for

better ventilation. We stacked the blocks only three high. That way the dogs can reach rainwater that collects inside the lip on the dish.

"Leaves and sticks do need to be cleaned out of the lip area regularly. There are three doors/holes worked into the blocks so that no dog can be cornered in the shelter."

"I think the same idea could be used to shelter calves, lambs, goats, etc. If the dome was made taller and tied down, it might also work great for sheltering a couple of miniature horses or a small poultry flock."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jan Hoadley, 228 Third Ave., Nauvoo, Alabama, 35578; write_nowbiz@yahoo.com.