Mower Blades With Quick-Change Cutting Tips

"For years I have been working to design a standard mower blade with quick-change metal cutting tips but I was never satisfied with the performance, and they didn't pass safety tests," says Richard Kuhns, Kemco Mfg. LLC. "After seeing a hay mower at a farm show in 2015, I began to think that if rotary mower blade tips could cut hay they could surely cut grass, too."

That was the germ of the idea that led Kuhns to develop his new "tool-less" removable cutting tips. "We designed our cutting blades with a lift on the back of the tip to discharge grass (hay mower blades do not have a lift for discharge) and a quick-change mounting system that's unlike anything on the market. We have a patent pending on this unique design."

Kuhns says his Cutlass mower blades minimize mower downtime because blade tips slip on and off quickly for sharpening or replacement thanks to spring clip hold-downs. The tips are held on by centrifugal force when moving.

"Having 4 cutting edges instead of two on each blade means you'll have better mowing performance – even in wet grass – and better discharge than standard blades. The design allows the blade tips to swing back into the blade so they can bounce back if they hit something solid," says Kuhns.

When one of the blade tips gets dull, just pivot the blade tip clockwise and push straight in to remove it and sharpen or quickly replace it with a new one. No tools required. The blade body is made from high-grade steel and the tips are heat-treated and hardened for longer life.

Cutlass Mower Blades are custom-made to fit most brands of mowers on the market like Ariens, Bobcat, Cub Cadet, Exmark, Grasshopper, Husqvarna, Hustler, Deere, Kubota, MTD, Scag, Simplicity, Snapper, Toro and more.

Closeup photo shows how blade tip slips over bolt head on bottom of blade so it's free to swing.

Designed to fit in place of conventional blades on virtually any lawn mower, Cutlass blades have four removable cutting tips held in place by hold-down clips.

"They will fit mowers from small walk-behinds to riding and zero-turn mowers up to 72 in. wide," says Kuhns.

Single blades with 4 cutting tips range in price from $73.50 for a 14-in. dia. blade to $136.50 for a 26-in. blade. There are sizes to fit in place of any size regular blades.

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Shamburg built his "Swamp cooler" out of a 55-gal. plastic barrel with a fan on top that faces down into the barrel. A small pump pulls water out of the bottom of the barrel to side-mounted nozzles, which saturate "miner's moss" that covers 5 aeration holes cut into the side of barrel. Air is cooled as it passes through the wet material.

"Poor Man's" Air Conditioner

Leslie Shamburg, Monte Vista, Colo., recently sent FARM SHOW photos of the evaporative "swamp cooler" he built out of a 55-gal. plastic barrel.

"I call it a 'poor man's' air conditioner. It cost only about $150 to put together," says Shamburg.

He started with a 55-gal. plastic barrel and used a hole saw to cut the lid out. A 120-volt water pump sets on the bottom of the barrel and a 20-in. dia. fan lays face down on top of the barrel. The bottom 1/4 of the barrel is filled with water.

Water is pumped up into a clear plastic hose that wraps around the outside of the barrel, which has a row of 5 spray nozzles inside it. The nozzles, spaced 1 1/2 ft. apart, mount 1 1/2 ft. above a row of 2-in. dia. holes that Shamburg cut into the barrel. He bolted a 6-in. wide strip of "miner's moss" (Home Depot or Amazon.com) over the holes inside the barrel. The nozzles spray water onto the miner's moss and the fan blows the cool, saturated air out through the holes.

"I made it early this summer for a friend who owns a local bar and bowling alley. Cool, moist air is evenly dispersed out through the 24 holes in the barrel," says Shamburg. "I got the idea from the internet where someone was using a 5-gal. bucket with a fan on top. I used a 55-gal. barrel to get more capacity. If I want real cold air I place a block of ice in the water."

To hold the miner's moss tight against the barrel, Shamburg cut a length of plumber's strap into 3-in. long pieces that serve as washers. He uses a shut-off valve mounted inside the barrel to turn the water on or off.

He got the barrel from a local chemical dealer and says he spent about $35 for the fan, pump and fittings. "I use a 130-gal. per hour fountain pump that doesn't use a lot of electricity," he says.

Shamburg also made a similar air conditioner for his own use except that it has 2 rows of holes - 48 in all - for increased cooling ability and a 12-in. wide strip of miner's moss. He says he's willing to sell plans for the air conditioner.

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