



Summers Manufacturing Inc.  
103 Summers St NW  
Devils Lake, ND 58301

T: 800-732-4392  
www.summersmfg.com



VOLUME 3 : ISSUE 1

# THE ANVIL



HAMMERING OUT NEWS, EVENTS AND KNOWLEDGE FROM SUMMERS MANUFACTURING

**New 8-Bar Harrow Unveiled**

**Summers Fortifies Warranty**

**Summers Wins Two  
AE50 Awards**

**Meet the Latest  
Rolling Basket Winner!**



## SUMMERS THE ANVIL



### Summers Awarded for VT Flex Applicator, Spray Fill Xpress

Summers Manufacturing has recently been recognized with two 2017 AE50 product awards from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE). The awarded products are the Spray Fill Xpress and VT Flex Applicator.

The patent-pending VT Flex Applicator is a fully customizable fertilizer application tool, whereas the Spray Fill Xpress is a carefully engineered sprayer filling system that greatly reduces fill times and increases spraying productivity.

ASABE is an international scientific and educational organization dedicated to the advancement of agricultural, food and biological system engineering. AE50 awards honor the year's most innovative designs in engineering products or systems for the food and agriculture industries.



### Visit Us at Any of These Upcoming 2017 Shows!

**Manitoba Ag Days**, Jan. 17-19, Brandon, MB

**MAGIE Show**, Jan. 19-21, Great Falls, MT

**Sioux Falls Farm Show**, Jan. 25-27,  
Sioux Falls, SD

**KMOT-ND Ag-Expo**, Jan. 25-27, Minot, ND

**Iowa Power Farming Show**, Jan. 31-Feb. 2,  
West Des Moines, IA

**Spokane Ag Expo**, Feb. 7-9, Spokane, WA

**National Farm Machinery Show**, Feb. 15-18,  
Louisville, KY

**International Crop Expo**, Feb. 22-23,  
Grand Forks, ND

**Commodity Classic**, Mar. 2-4, San Antonio, TX

**Wichita Falls Ranch & Farm Expo**, Mar. 8-9,  
Wichita Falls, TX

**WPS Farm Show**, Mar. 28-30, Oshkosh, WI

# Hail to the Humble Harrow

*One of the oldest tillage tools in the world still has a place in modern farming.*

Twenty-first century farmers certainly have a leg up on past generations. Advancements in agronomic sciences and technological sophistication make it possible to grow bigger, healthier crops in all kinds of adverse conditions.

Yet, the more things change, the more they stay the same. Take the humble harrow, for instance. A comparatively simple tool, its utilization in farming can be traced back to Neolithic times when soil was harrowed with tree branches.

Obviously much has changed since our ancient loin-clothed relatives attempted farming amongst the mastodons. But farmers still need to prepare their seedbed for planting — including

breaking up dirt clods, root balls and smoothing the surface — and a harrow-type tool is an excellent choice.

There are several types of harrows these days; however none may be as versatile as the simple tine harrow.

#### Teeth of the Matter

Summers Superharrows are an example of tine harrows. Equipped with rows of straight, oil-tempered teeth in various diameters, they are efficient at the task of smoothing out the rough surface of a ploughed field, or managing residue left behind from harvest. Bent-tooth harrows, such as those found on Summers Harrow Packers, are another option that offers varying degrees of residue management and field finish.

Although simple, tine harrows differ in many ways that can impact their overall effectiveness:

- **Tine diameter and length:** In general, larger diameter and longer length result in more trash clearance and aggressiveness, whereas a smaller diameter and shorter length is less aggressive but leaves a better field finish. For instance, the SH3960 and SH3580 both come equipped with 26-inch tines, however because the latter has 1/2-inch diameter tines compared to 9/16-inch tines of the SH3960, it's slightly less aggressive.
- **Tooth angle:** The angle of the tooth relative to the ground can be adjusted up to 45 degrees from vertical on Superharrows. In general,

*Story continues on inside.*

## It's a New Year!

Welcome, Summers friends and family, to 2017. I'd like to reflect a bit on what we accomplished in the past 365 days, as well as discuss what's ahead.

Last year was definitely a big one. True, commodity prices had our collective anxiety high. But farmers still put up impressive, record-breaking harvest numbers across the country.

At Summers, we introduced a new, smaller model of the Spray Fill Xpress after hearing feedback from farmers. The SFX1630 has all the features of its big brother, but in a size that makes it a bit easier to maneuver and trailer. Also, the VT Flex Applicator was a hit. Getting fine-tuned nutrition application backed with Summers field testing and know-how is a good fit for modern farmers looking for an edge.

This year, we're excited to unveil the 8-Bar Superharrow. By producing 60 percent more work than comparable harrows with just five bars, the SH3568 is an efficient seedbed prep tool. Read about its features in this issue. And we've increased the size of our most aggressive Harrow Packers. Formerly stopping at 60 feet wide, the SH7960 will now be available in 72-, 84- and 96-foot working widths.

Like always, we'll be exhibiting at farm shows across North America. We hope you'll swing by, because we're sure Summers equipment can help your farming operation.

*Continued from cover story.*

the more vertical the tine, the more aggressive the harrowing action and the more residue that's buried. On Superharrows, the front bar adjusts independently from the rest, allowing it to work more aggressively so the remaining sections clear residue.

- **Down pressure:** The spring-loaded action of the tine harrows does a lot of the work, but it can be fine-tuned with down pressure. On-the-go adjustments from hydraulic cylinders on the toolbar allow operators to accommodate different soil conditions and residue. This also accounts for even down pressure across all harrow bars, which improves the implement's ability to follow ground contours.
- **Rows and spacing:** It stands to reason that the more tines per square foot on a harrow, the more work it can do. Assuming they're the same width, a three-row harrow doesn't do as much work as a five-row. And the new 8-Bar Superharrow

from Summers can produce 60 percent more work in a single pass than a harrow with five bars (see the article in this issue for more information). The spacing of the teeth along the rows is also key. Optimum space will allow for maximum residue management without inhibiting trash flow.

Although it may not be as fancy as some other tillage options, harrows work well on modern farms to tackle crop residue, level the surface and prepare the seedbed for planting, regardless if it's a stand-alone machine or as an attachment to a primary tillage tool. Consider the options you may need for your specific soil and crop needs, then pick a tried-and-true design your cave-dwelling ancestors would be proud of.



Check out our full line of harrows by visiting: [summersmfg.com](http://summersmfg.com)

8-Bar Superharrow  
New!



Producing 60 percent more work compared to harrows with just five bars, it's ideal for busting clods, demolishing root balls and preparing the seedbed for planting. With 1/2-inch diameter teeth and eight full rows of harrows, the 8-Bar Superharrow breaks up more residue and clumps in a single pass compared to a 5-bar harrow, allowing more surface area to be exposed for expedited decomposition. It is available in 36-, 48-, 60-, 72- and 84-foot widths.

Bar spacing is 16 inches from center to center for optimum residue flow. Hydraulic cylinders on the toolbar and wing wheels allow on-the-go adjustment of down pressure to accommodate different soil and residue conditions. Down pressure to the springs has been increased to ensure good engagement of all eight rows of tines; however the down pressure is adjustable to ensure the proper amount of material flow. Tooth angle is also adjustable up to 45 degrees from vertical thanks to a spring-loaded adjustment lever. The 8-Bar Superharrow's tine spacing is 1-1/2-inches, which ensures no ground is missed and results in a higher percentage of clumps being broken up compared to similar harrows with just five bars.

## You have our word on it!

### The Summers 3-Year Warranty

At Summers, we stand behind our work. And to show it, we've fortified our warranty. Summers now offers a 3-year limited warranty on the components and products we manufacture (terms and conditions apply). That means for a full 36 months, we'll replace — free of charge — any components we make on any product we build that inspection shows to be defective.

It's just one more way to prove that Summers customer service doesn't stop when you sign the check. For complete details, visit [summersmfg.com/warranty-information](http://summersmfg.com/warranty-information)



**BRIAN PERKUHN**  
Vice President of Sales



WIN  
ROLLING BASKETS  
AT FARM PROGRESS

### We Have Another Winner!

David Vanwyk of Ocheyedan, Iowa, winner of our giveaway at Farm Progress, proudly stands next to his new set of Summers Rolling Baskets, attached to his John Deere 2700 Mulch Ripper.



For more on the new 8-Bar Superharrow, visit: [summersmfg.com/tillage](http://summersmfg.com/tillage)