

SLIP CLUTCH FOR AGITATOR SANDER

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In 1958 the Lowville Nursery decided to build a new seedbed sander of the agitator type as described by Ira W. Bull in 'Tree Planters' Notes No. 18, December 1954.

This machine was put into operation in the spring of 1958 and was very efficient both for sanding seedbeds and mulching 1-0 and 2-0 seedlings with sawdust.

However, the sander had one troublesome weakness: unless the sand and sawdust were almost entirely free of sticks and stones, they would jam in the agitator and a broken crank shaft and a very costly repair bill would result.

Something had to be done to overcome this, so our mechanic made a slip clutch similar to that found on the sickle bar mower attachment of the Gravely garden tractor. This was mounted on a drive shaft in front of the sander as shown in the accompanying photograph.

Since installing this new clutch, the sander has operated for 3 years without a single breakdown.

