



BCS 622 reaper binder has a working width of 55 in. and is available as a motorized cutting bar without binder.

Walk Behind Binder Built For Small Fields

Readers with small grain fields or other crops will soon be able to cut and bind them with the 622 Binder from BCS. A new version is being tested in the field before introduction to North American growers.

"We've had quite a few inquiries over the past 5 years from growers across the U.S. and Canada who have seen it on the internet," says Charlotte Maitland, BCS America. "The 622 was where BCS got its start. It was introduced in the 1940's as the 242, the first engine-driven mower in the world. Later, the binding mechanism was added. It's been in its current style for the past 15 to 20 years."

Sold extensively in India, it's been used to cut and bind small grains, rice, sesame, lavender, reeds and more from 14 to 63 in. in height. However, the diesel engine powering the machine was not EPA compliant. "We replaced the diesel with the 13-hp. Honda DX390 gas engine," says Maitland. "In order to use it, we had to reverse the driveshaft direction on the reaper binder."

The 622 has a working width of 55 in. and weighs just over 1,000 lbs. when equipped

with the reaper binder and a sulky seat. The design allows crops well over 30 in. tall to flow under the deck, with sheaves tied off at a height of 11 in. The diameter of the sheaf can be adjusted.

The 622 is also available as a motorized cutting bar without the binder. A price has not yet been established with or without the binder. Plans are to introduce it sometime in 2023.

"We have a list of people who have asked about it, and we'll be reaching out to them when the 622 reaper binder is available," says Maitland. "Contact us if you'd like more information."

Maitland adds that they're exploring the availability of small threshing units as well. "We'd like to hear from FARM SHOW readers who know of any," she says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Charlotte Maitland, BCS America, 14151 Fir St., Oregon City, Ore. 97045 (ph 503-261-4399; toll-free 800-543-1040; www.bcsamerica.com).



Jim Schoonhoven used pieces from an old truck frame to build this "upside down" wood splitter that attaches to his Bobcat excavator.

Truck Frame Splitter Hangs From Excavator

Jim Schoonhoven was looking for a safer, easier way to split firewood and logs. His solution was to build a wood splitter using steel pieces from a truck chassis. The device hangs from his excavator on heavy-duty log chains, splitter side down.

"Using this rig, I can split large logs, even some 2 to 4 ft. in diameter, that I certainly can't lift by hand," Schoonhoven says. He lowers the splitter onto a log, pushes a button from the operator's seat, and the hydraulic ram splits the log. He then uncurls the bucket and sets the next log in place. Schoonhoven never has to leave the comfort and safety of the excavator cab.

"I'm doing all the work sitting 10-ft. away," Schoonhoven says. "It's much easier on my back and safer than using a splitter on wheels."

He connects the splitter to the bucket of his Bobcat E-85 excavator with heavy-duty chains. Two long hoses connect to the

excavator hydraulics, which he controls from a joystick in the cab.

"With this setup, there's no engine to worry about starting or stopping, no hydraulic pump and no oil reservoir. It's simple and easy to use." Another advantage is that he can adjust the oil flow on the excavator to split at any speed, from very slow to very fast. "The excavator has high volume oil flow, so I can definitely split faster than a gas engine splitter," he says. "It worked like a charm from the first time I used it."

Schoonhoven says someone else building this type of splitter could use it on a skid steer or tractor loader that has high volume hydraulics. "Mine works fast, and it's effortless," he adds.

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Spider discs or plates, run ahead of the 26-in. fingers and control weeds beside the trees or vines while the fingers weed within the vines. They're also mounted on a flexible arm making them safe for plants even over uneven terrain.

Weeding Equipment Uses Vegetable Garden Technology in Vineyards

With a background in vineyard management, Ryan Thiessen recently branched into vegetable farming. He soon took note of the weed control equipment those farmers were using and decided he could adapt similar techniques to the vineyard world.

As the owner of Thiessen Tillage Equipment, he created the Adaptive Cultivator System (ACS).

The weeding fingers of his invention were already being used, but he designed the torsion and spring system allowing his unit to float across the ground without damaging sensitive crops.

"The fingers are polyurethane, either plastic or rubber. They're flexible and mounted on the spring-assisted arm," says Thiessen. "The beauty of it is it's all ground driven. Most vineyard weeding solutions require hydraulic sensor arms but ours uses no additional hydraulics, electronics or operator input. The only hydraulics you need is to lift it up at the end of the row."

Spider discs or plates, run ahead of the 26-in. fingers and control weeds beside the trees or vines while the fingers weed within the vines. They're also mounted on a flexible

arm making them safe for plants even over uneven terrain. The fingers are also able to flex up and down.

Soil pressure moves the weeder in and out of the rows running the fingers right up to and around the crop, leaving no unworked areas. When near a plant or grapevine, it pushes harder on the soil flexing the arm away.

Thiessen says the equipment works on all soil types with many customers using it in heavy clay.

"The ACS uses a 2-in. square arm and can be mounted on a 3-pt. hitch toolbar, either on the front or back of the tractor, or to a vertical hydraulic lift in the center. Each tractor is slightly different but there are many standard mounts in the vineyard world using this type and size of mounting."

The entire ACS without the tractor mount sells for \$5,295 CAD or approximately \$4,100 USD plus S&H.

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Two spools of barbed wire sit on top and slowly spool out along the fence posts as you move to allow one person to quickly and easily build a barbed-wire fence.



Wire Wizard Makes Fencing Fast

A family of ranchers invented the patent-pending Ranch Hand Wire Wizard to quickly and easily unroll barbed wire for fencing projects. They designed the double-spooled barbed wire unroller to save time and protect fingers.

The fencing tool features a rugged design and can be pulled behind a 4-wheeler, tractor or truck. Two spools of barbed wire sit on top and slowly spool out along the fence posts as you move to allow one person to quickly and easily build a barbed-wire fence.

The weight of the spool of wire creates tension, which prevents the wire from unwinding on its own. Instead, the unroller releases the wire at a controlled rate to avoid tangles and kinks and protect hands from cuts.

The U.S. fabricated Wire Wizard is built with 3-in. steel tubing and features a durable

powder-coat finish. High-speed wheels and tires with tapered roller bearings ensure they will last through decades of use. A built-in center rack will hold over 30 steel fence posts. Though the tool acts as a trailer, it's small enough to fit in the bed of a pickup for easy transportation. And once the project is done, the Wire Wizard stands up for space-efficient storage.

The Ranch Hand Wire Wizard costs \$1,295 plus shipping. The unroller is also available for daily rental in regions across Missouri and Kansas. Pricing starts at \$100 per 24-hour period, with discounts available for weekly rates.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ranch Hand Wire Wizard, Weston, Mo. 64098 (ph 816-803-0150; or 816-718-2018; info@ranchhandwizard.com; www.ranchhandwirewizard.com).