

Chapter 10 D . Habitat Management Tools: Mechanical Tools

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A wide variety of mechanical tools in various configurations are available for use in maintaining early-successional habitats. The type of specialized equipment selected will depend upon many factors including the size class and stocking of existing vegetation, site terrain, and area of the treatment site. The information presented in this section is a sampling of the more commonly used equipment used in the Northeast. Local land clearing and agriculture equipment supply companies can offer a wealth of information for those individuals not familiar with a specific type of machine.

The information presented in this section was obtained from the US Forest Service Technical Report 0051-2826-MTDC, *Understory Biomass Reduction Methods and Equipment Catalog*. The use of trade, firm, or corporation names in this document is for the information and convenience of the reader, and does not constitute an endorsement of any product or service to the exclusion of others that may be suitable. For a more detailed and complete listing of equipment, readers are encouraged to refer to the technical report available by contacting the Missoula Technology and Development Center of the US Forest Service at (406) 329-3978, or download it off of the web at <http://www.fs.fed.us/vegtools/techniques/mtdc.php>.

Machine mounted vertical-shaft brush-cutters



Make/Model	Hydro-Ax 621E and 721E
Manufacturer	Blount, Inc. (919) 269-2438 www.blount-fied.com
Attachment Type/Model	Rotary ax attachment
Maximum Treatable Material Size	7 in
Cutting Mechanism	2 free-swinging blades
Cutting Width	8 ft



Make/Model	Gyro-Trac GT-18 XP Brushcutter
Manufacturer	GyroTrac, Inc. (888) 490-8722
Attachment Type/Model	Rotary ax attachment
Maximum Treatable Material Size	7 in
Cutting Mechanism	2 free-swinging blades
Cutting Width	8 ft



Make/Model Klearway 800-1 and 1200
 Manufacturer Kershaw Manufacturing Co.
 (334) 215-1000
 Attachment Type/Model Kershaw Cutter Head
 Maximum Treatable Material Size Model 800-1: 6in
 Model 1200: 8in
 Cutting Mechanism Twin rotor discs
 Cutting Width Model 800-1: 7 ft 8 in
 Model 1200: 9 ft 9 in

Machine mounted horizontal-shaft brush-cutters



Make/Model FS4000 Brown Bear Shredder
 Tractor
 Manufacturer Brown Bear Corp.
 (515) 322-4220
www.brownbearcorp.com
 Attachment Type/Model Flail shredder
 Maximum Treatable Material Size 8 to 10 in
 Cutting Mechanism 54 free-swinging knives
 Cutting Width 8 ft 2 in



Make/Model Delta DT-953C Track-Mounted
 Mower/Brush Rake
 Manufacturer Fecon
 (800) 528-3113
www.fecon.com
 Attachment Type/Model BH 250 Delta 75
 Maximum Treatable Material Size 240 hp: 6 in
 450 hp: 15 in
 Cutting Mechanism Fixed
 Cutting Width 7 ft 6 in



Make/Model Klearway 1200 with
 Bull Hog 100
 Manufacturer Kershaw Manufacturing Co.
 (334) 215-1000
 Attachment Type/Model Bull Hog 100 Wood Shredder
 Maximum Treatable Material Size 10 in
 Cutting Mechanism 42 fixed hammers on rotor
 Cutting Width 6 ft 6 in

Skid-steer attachments



Make/Model	Davco BC 705 and BC 604 Brush-Cutters
Manufacturer	Davco Manufacturing, Ltd. (780) 532-0097
Attachment Type/Model	Vertical shaft brush-cutter ASV Posi-Track HD4500, HD4520 or 4810
Preferred Prime Mover	(800) 346-5954 www.asvi.com
Maximum Treatable Material Size	4 in
Cutting Mechanism	4 replaceable, free-swinging knives
Cutting Width	BC 705: 70 in BC 604: 60 in



Make/Model	Brushcat Rotary Cutter Bobcat Co.
Manufacturer	701-241-8700 www.bobcat.com
Attachment Type/Model	Vertical shaft brush-cutter
Preferred Prime Mover	700- and 800-series Bobcat loaders
Maximum Treatable Material Size	3 in
Cutting Mechanism	Two blades on rotating disc
Cutting Width	60 in

Whole-tree chippers



Make/Model	1900 Track Bandit Self-Propelled Chipper
Manufacturer	Bandit Industries, Inc. (800) 952-0178 www.banditchippers.com
Cutting Width	19-in diameter



Make/Model	Morbark 50/48 Mountain Goat
Manufacturer	Morbark, Inc. 800/233-6065 www.morbark.com
Cutting Width	24 in



Make/Model	Morbark 30/36 Whole Tree Chipper
Manufacturer	Morbark, Inc. 800/233-6065 www.morbark.com
Cutting Width	18 in

Brush-cutting, thinning, shredding, and crushing attachments



Make/Model	Seppi M Brush-Cutter Heads
Manufacturer	Carlson Tractor and Equipment Co. (763) 428-5099 www.brush-technology.com
Suitable Prime Mover	Any that can lift required weight and give required horsepower to cutting head: 60 to 300 hp
Maximum Treatable Material Size	up to 18 in trees depending upon model
Cutting Mechanism	Free-swinging or fixed-tooth



Make/Model	Timberwolf DF 90 Brush-Cutter
Manufacturer	New Forest Technology, Inc. (780) 962-8061
Preferred Prime Mover	Tracked Loader
Other Suitable Mover	Rubber tired loaders with 2 1/2-yard capacity and larger
Maximum Treatable Material Size	16 in
Cutting Mechanism	free-swinging cutters
Cutting Width	55 to 90 in



Make/Model	Brontosaurus Brush Mower- Excavator Boom Mounted John Brown & Sons, Inc.
Manufacturer	888-227-6686 www.brownbronto.com
Preferred Prime Mover	Designed for tracked or rubber-tired excavators
Maximum Treatable Material Size	6-10 in depending upon model
Cutting Mechanism	Horizontal drum shredder, free-swinging
Cutting Width	30 - 48 in depending upon model

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Make/Model	Timberjack Feller Buncher Timberjack, Inc.
Manufacturer	(404) 629-9044 www.timberjack.com
Preferred Prime Mover	ASV Posi-Track skid steer with minimum 40-hp
Maximum Treatable Material Size	10 to 20 in depending on model



Make/Model	Dymax Tree Shears New Dymax, Inc.
Manufacturer	800-530-5407 www.dymaxattachments.com
Preferred Prime Mover	ASV Posi-Track skid steer with minimum 40-hp
Maximum Treatable Material Size	10 to 20 in depending on model



Make/Model	Marden Brush-Cutter/Roller Chopper-Series SB10-GK Marden Industries, Inc.
Manufacturer	800-881-0388 www.mardenind.com
Preferred Prime Mover	Cat D-6 or equivalent
Attachment Mount	Rear draw or winch cable
Maximum Treatable Material Size	4 in
Cutting Mechanism	12 fixed 1 in x 10 in knives
Cutting Width	10 ft



Make/Model	BushHog 285
Manufacturer	BushHog
Preferred Prime Mover	Tractor 30 hp or greater
Attachment Mount	3 pt Category I hitch
Maximum Treatable Material Size	2 in
Cutting Width	5 ft
Cutting Height	1.5 – 10.5 in

Seeding attachments



Make/Model	Flex II Grass Drills
Manufacturer	Truax
	763-537-6639
	www.truaxcomp.com
Preferred Prime Mover	Tractor 30-100 hp depending on model
Attachment Mount	3 pt hitch
Row Spacing	8 in
Seeding Width	4-15 ft depending on model



Make/Model	Trillion T-96 Broadcast Seeder with roller/cultipacker mechanism
Manufacturer	Truax
	763-537-6639
	www.truaxcomp.com
Attachment Mount	3 pt hitch
Seeding Width	5-10 ft depending on model