

Notes - 1 The width of the model shown is made for weeding between plants along the row especially beans.

2 Wider versions of 120 mm cover the ground more rapidly but may have limitations between plants

3 Blade material - the thinner and narrower the better to reduce energy input and blockage especially in wet condition.

Band saw blades work well. hand hacksaw blades are better but fragile and attaching to the side plates is difficult except by bronze welding.

The blade should be less than 3 mm thick and the only commercially available material here is a grass slasher but it is thick and requires much grinding.

This is a major unsolved problem for mass production but suitable materials no doubt are available.

4 Handle length - Short handles require bending but allow one handed use with the other able to move plants aside for complete removal.

Long handles may be easier but require more energy if soil surface is hard. It is a question of choice through evaluation.

