

*Green Corn Knife.*

$\pi^0 55,614$ .

*Patented June 19, 1866.*



*Witnesses*

Wm B. Loring  
Jr. A. Service.

Inventor

J. L. Bush  
J. F. Vassar  
Der Mann etc



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JONATHAN BURT AND LEONARD F. DUNN, OF ONEIDA, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVED DEVICE FOR CUTTING GREEN CORN FROM THE COB.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 55,614, dated June 19, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JONATHAN BURT and LEONARD F. DUNN, of Oneida, Madison county, State of New York, have invented a new and useful Machine for Cutting Green Corn from the Cob; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan or top view of our invention; Fig. 2, a side sectional view of the same, taken in the line *xx*, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a side view of a portion of the same, showing its operation upon an ear of corn.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

This invention relates to a new and useful device for cutting green corn from the cob, whereby the work may be quickly performed and in a perfect manner.

The invention consists of a series of cutters, scrapers, and guides attached to a tube and used in connection with a sliding frame provided with an adjustable center rod, all being arranged as hereinafter set forth.

A represents a bed-piece, which may be of rectangular form, and has a head, B, secured to one end of it, in which one end of a horizontal tube, C, is fitted and permanently secured.

D is a horizontal sliding frame, composed of a collar, *a*, fitted loosely on the tube C, so that it may slide freely thereon, four rods, *b*, one end of which is attached to the collar *a* and the opposite ends attached to a circular plate, *c*, on a head, *d*, which is fitted and works between guides *e e* on the bed-piece A. The rods *b* are not parallel with each other, but have an oblique or inclined position, being nearer together at their junction with the collar *a* than at the plate *c*. This frame D is allowed to slide freely back and forth, and it may be operated through the medium of a treadle or other suitable means.

To the inner end of the tube C there are secured, at equal distances apart, four springs or elastic plates, *d'*, on the outer ends of which there are formed cutters *e'*, which are curved in a direction transversely with the tube C, to correspond to the curvature of an ear of corn in a

transverse direction. The springs or plates *d'* are not equal in length, two of them, which are opposite each other, being longer than the other two, which are also opposite each other, and two cutters, *e'*, will consequently be in advance of the other two, and the two cutters which are on one pair of springs of an equal length will be at right angles to the other two on the other pair of springs.

The springs or elastic plates *d'* have each an eye, *f*, attached, and the rods *b* of the frame D pass through these eyes, and hence it will be seen that when the frame D is moved in the direction indicated by arrow 1 the oblique rods *b* will expand or distend the cutters *e'*.

Each plate or spring *d'* has a curved spring, *f'*, attached to it, the shape of which is shown in both figures.

To the inner end of the tube C there are attached four spring or elastic plates, *g*, which are between the plates or springs *d'*. The outer parts of the plates *g* are curved or bent inward, and have each a scraper, *h*, formed on them. (See more particularly Fig. 2.) The scrapers *h*, like the cutters *e'*, are curved in a direction transverse with the tube C, and in consequence of having the outer ends of the plates *g* bent inward and backward the scrapers *h* have a scraping instead of a cutting action on the cob.

E represents a rod which is fitted centrally and loosely in the head *d*, and is secured at any desired point by a set-screw, *i*.

The device is used as follows: The ear of corn to be operated upon is placed in the frame D, the butt of the ear being placed against the inner end of the rod E and the point inserted between the outer ends of the spring *f'*, the rod E being adjusted in the head *d* to suit the length of the ear. The frame D is then moved in the direction indicated by arrow 1 and the ear of corn forced between the springs *f'*, cutters *e'*, and scrapers *h*, the cutters *e'* and springs *f'* being expanded to conform to the taper of the ear owing to the elasticity of the plates *d'* and their connection with the oblique rods *b*.

The springs *f'* serve to keep the ear of corn in proper position while the cutters *e'* take the corn from the cob and the scrapers *h* take off the eyes or portions which are sunken in the cob, and frequently termed the "chit"—the sweetest portion of the corn. The cob is forced

through tube C, one ear while being acted upon forcing out the cob which was previously acted upon.

This invention has been practically tested and has been found to operate well, saving a vast amount of time and labor, especially where corn is cut from the cob in large quantities for drying and canning.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The sliding frame D, in connection with the spring  $f'$ , cutters  $c'$ , scrapers  $h$ , any or all of them,

and the tube C, or its equivalent, all arranged to operate in the manner substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The oblique rods  $b$  of the frame D, connected with the plates or springs  $d'$ , for the purpose of expanding the cutters  $c'$  and springs  $f'$ , substantially as and for the purpose specified.

JONATHAN BURT.  
LEONARD F. DUNN.

Witnesses:

WM. A. HINDS,  
I. N. MESSINGER.