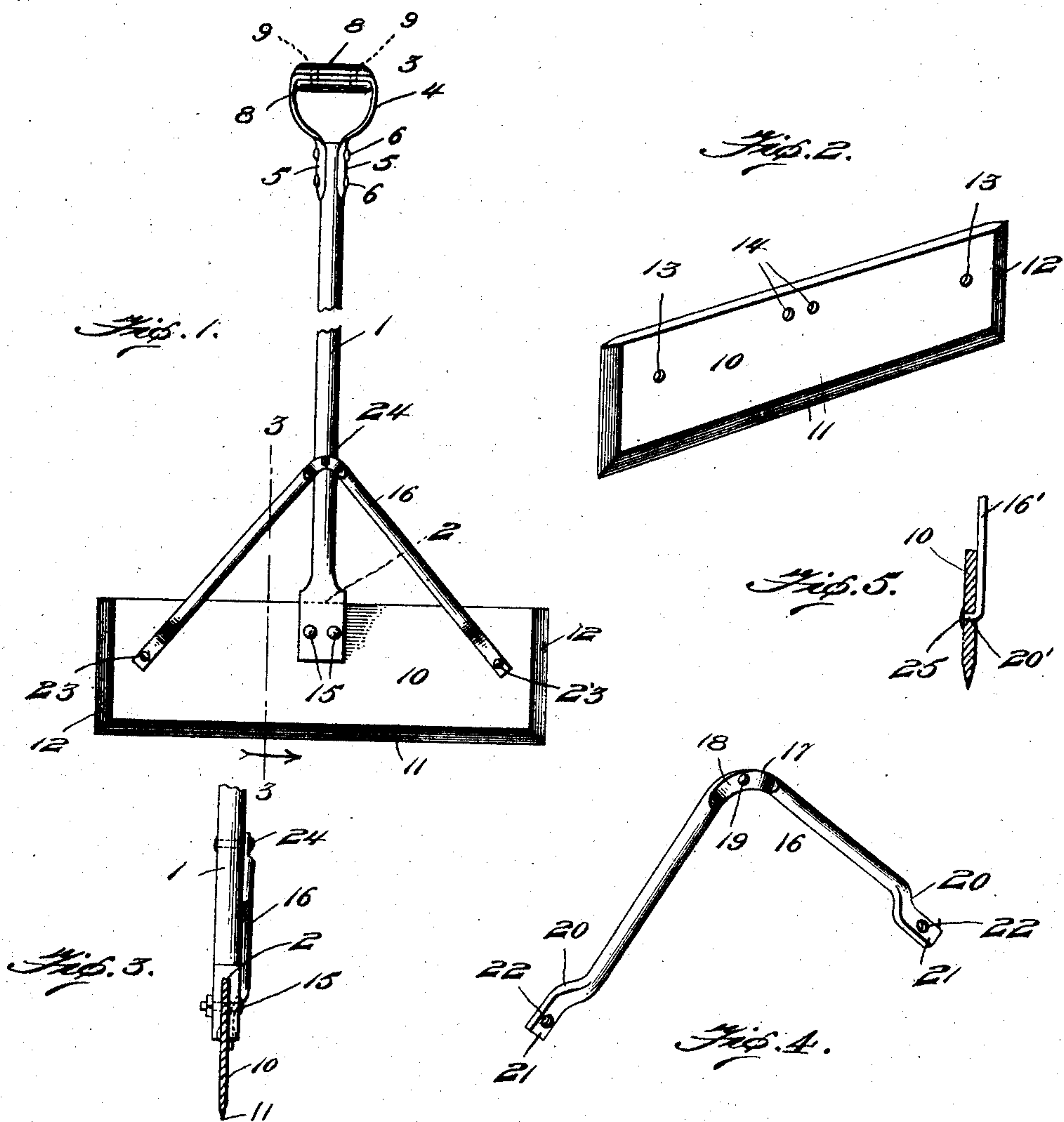


No. 864,338.

PATENTED AUG. 27, 1907.

S. SCHERTZER.
VINE CUTTER.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 24, 1907.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SIMON SCHERTZER, OF ADA, OHIO.

VINE-CUTTER.

No. 864,338.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 27, 1907.

Application filed April 24, 1907. Serial No. 370,099.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIMON SCHERTZER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ada, in the county of Hardin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Vine-Cutters, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to improvements in vine cutters, and particularly a manually operated cutter for use in the propagation of plants or vines, such as strawberries, water melons, sweet potatoes, etc.

The object of the invention is the construction of a cutter which comprises a minimum number of parts, simple to operate, and comparatively inexpensive to construct.

With this and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a vine cutter constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the blade of the cutter. Fig. 3 is a vertical, sectional view taken on line 3, 3, Fig. 1 and looking in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the bracing yoke of the cutter. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary, sectional view of another embodiment of the present invention.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, 1 designates a handle which is provided at its lower end with a bifurcated portion 2, and at its upper end with a grip 3. The grip 3 comprises a substantially U-shaped member 4 having its ends 5 secured against the handle by any suitable fastening means, as for instance, rivets or bolts 6. The member 4 is preferably formed from flat or strap-iron, and to the upper, horizontal portion 7 are secured semi-cylindrical portions 8, 8, by means of rivets 9.

The blade 10 is, preferably, substantially rectangular in shape, and is provided with a lower, longitudinally-extending cutting edge 11, and with vertical cutting edges 12 formed upon its ends. By reason of the construction and arrangement of these cutting edges 11 and 12, upon the blade, my vine cutter can cut the vines either by a vertical stroke or by a swinging stroke.

Near each end of the blade 10, and, preferably, near the center thereof, is an aperture 13. Contiguous to the center of the blade is a pair of apertures 14. The blade 10 is positioned within the bifurcated portion 2 of the handle 1. The bifurcated portion 2 of the handle is provided with a pair of apertures that register with the apertures 14 of the blade 10, when said blade is in its normal position within the bifurcated portion of the handle. Suitable fastening means, as for instance, a pair of bolts or rivets 15, are positioned within these registering apertures, and fixedly secure the blade to the handle.

A bracing-yoke 16 is employed in the construction of my vine cutter, and this yoke is, preferably, formed of a rod in substantially an inverted V. The upper end 17 of the bracing-yoke is, preferably, flattened, as at 18, and this flattened portion 18 is provided with an aperture 19. The lower ends of the bracing-yoke are bent laterally as at 20, whereby the lower, flat ends or feet 21 will be placed against one side of the blade 10, when the bracing-yoke is in its normal position upon the handle or blade, as clearly seen in Fig. 1. Each of the lower ends or feet 21 is provided with an aperture 22, which apertures 22 register with the apertures 13 of the blade 10. Suitable fastening means, as for instance, rivets or bolts 23, are positioned in registering apertures 13 and 22 and fixedly secure the bracing yoke and blade together. Within the aperture 19, there is secured suitable fastening means, as for instance, a rivet 24, and by reason of the flattened portion 18, the head at one end of the rivet or bolt will lie snug against said flattened portion, thereby preventing any liability of fastening means 24 becoming loose upon the handle.

By reason of the bifurcated structure of the handle 1 and the substantially inverted V-shaped bracing yoke, any strain upon the blade at either of its cutting edges will be evenly distributed over the entire device, as it will be obvious that by reason of the different attaching means, to wit: the bracing-yoke, the bifurcated end, and fastening means 15, if the vertical end cutting edges 12 are used, any strain upon the blade at said ends will be distributed at a series of attaching points, whereas, if the longitudinally-extending cutting edge 11 is being used, the strain will be distributed at the center and near the outer edges of the blade, and thereby preventing the blade from working loose upon the handle and bracing-yoke, whereby the life of the vine cutter is considerable increased. In Fig. 5, I have shown the bracing-yoke 16' provided with inwardly substantially right-angled extensions 20' formed upon the lower end of said yoke, and these extensions are, preferably positioned in the apertures 13 of blade 10, and upon their extreme end is formed a head 25, similar to the head of a rivet. The heads 25 of yoke 16' constitute fastening means for securing the inner extensions of the lower ends of the bracing-yoke to the plate.

What I claim is:

1. A vine cutter, comprising a handle provided with a lower, bifurcated end, said bifurcated end provided with pairs of registering apertures, a straight, substantially rectangular blade positioned within the bifurcated end of said handle, said blade provided near its center with a pair of apertures registering with the apertures of said handle, fastening means extending through said registering apertures of the blade and handle, said blade provided near each end with an aperture, a bracing-yoke substantially V-shaped, engaging said handle and blade, the upper end of said bracing-yoke provided with an aper-

- tured, flattened portion, and its lower ends laterally bent, means securing the laterally bent lower ends of said bracing-yoke to the end apertured-portions of said blade, means extending through the apertured portion of the
- 5 upper end of said yoke, and securing the same to said handle, and said blade provided with a lower, longitudinal cutting edge and with vertical cutting edges formed at its ends.
- 10 2. A vine cutter, comprising a handle, a straight blade secured at the lower end of said handle, said straight blade provided with a lower, longitudinal cutting edge and with vertical cutting edges formed at its ends, and a bracing-yoke secured at its ends to said blade and secured intermediate its ends to said handle.
- 15 3. A vine cutter, comprising a handle, a blade provided with straight cutting edges formed at its ends and with a straight cutting edge formed upon its lower portion at an angle to the end cutting edges, and a bracing-yoke secured intermediate its ends to said handle
- 20 and secured at its ends to said blade contiguous to its ends.
4. A vine cutter, comprising a handle, a straight blade secured to said handle, said blade provided with a longitudinally-extending cutting edge and with vertical cutting edges at its ends, a yoke secured intermediate its 25 ends to said handle and provided at its ends with laterally-extending portions engaging one side of said blade intermediate its ends, and means securing said ends of the bracing-yoke to said blade.
5. As an improved article of manufacture, a vine cutter, comprising a handle, a blade secured to said handle, said blade provided with straight edges at its ends and with a straight edge upon its lower edge, said cutting edges at its ends positioned at an angle to the cutting edge at the lower edge, a yoke secured intermediate its 30 ends to said handle, and having its lower ends engaging said blade intermediate its ends, and means securing the lower ends of said yoke to said blade.
- 35 In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.
- SIMON SCHERTZER.

Witnesses:

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MICHAEL LONG.