

FARM MACHINERY

Domries
SINCE 1924

STEEL FABRICATION

BERM CULTIVATOR

NEW!

BERM CULTIVATOR



PHOTO: MODEL BC-1266 (6 BLADE UNITS) WORKING IN APPLES

- ★ UNITS CAN CULTIVATE THE SOIL TO OR AWAY FROM TREES
- ★ OPTION: A-FRAME AND TOOL BARS AVAILABLE

★ THREE SIZES OFFERED

MODEL NO.	NO. OF BLADES	CUT
BC-1255	5	2' 8"
BC-1266	6	3' 2"
BC-1277	7	3' 8"

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**HIGH QUALITY
FARM MACHINERY
SINCE 1924**

MODIFIED DISC SAVES ORCHARD PASSES

By Marni katz, *Assistant Editor*

A San Joaquin Valley tree fruit grower has helped develop a modified low-profile disc that allows him to mow orchard berms in one pass without damaging roots and low-hanging limbs.

Ken Seibert had been relying on chemical sprays to control weeds in his 150 acres of apples and cherries in Mendota until he decided to switch to mechanical control. But discing too was proving difficult because discs were either too tall and broke limbs or dug too deep and damaged roots.

A new customized harrow disc designed by Seibert in conjunction with Madera, CA equipment manufacturer Domries avoids that problem and also allows Seibert to till berms in one pass through the row instead of two.

The customized disc can be added to border makers to cultivate berms on each side to avoid extra passes through the orchard. Normal implements only till one side of a berm slope in each pass, so this cuts the number of passes in half.

The disc harrow is 3-feet-wide and has six 12-inch discs on a gang rod. The low profile avoids overhanging branches while the adjustable disc pitch and angle fits the shape of the berm and allows Seibert to cut hard surfaces and still cut shallow to avoid damaging roots.

So far Seibert said he is very pleased with the results of the disc.

"It works real well," he said, "I wish I had done this years ago."

Domries president Bernie Domries said the basic design holds potential for other growers under similar conditions.

"I don't see a reason in the world it won't catch on," he said.

Domries manufactured the specialized plow according to Seibert's needs. Through the years, he said, Domries has developed thousands of different machines based on grower ideas.

"They're the best ones to tell you what they need in the field," Domries said.