Collinear Hoe Instruction Manual

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The Collinear Hoe is a type of “draw hoe”, which is meant to be pulled toward the user. This particular draw hoe has been designed to be used in a comfortable, upright position with an ergonomic “thumbs-up” grip; as you grip the handle, your thumbs are pointing away from the metal working end, and not toward it. The blade should be positioned flat against the soil, allowing it to skim just under the soil surface and easily slice off the roots of weeds. The design allows the blade to easily reach under crops with low growth habits, such as lettuce, without disturbing the roots or the foliage. Using the hoe should feel somewhat similar to sweeping the floor with a broom. In looser soils, a back and forth motion may also be achieved for added speed.

It has been designed to function as a fine weeding tool and is not intended for the same rough use that other heavier hoes are generally designed for. We highly recommend viewing the 2 minute video of this product on our website.

An excerpt from *The New Organic Grower** by Eliot Coleman

“Hand and Body Position. When using a hoe, the cultivator should be standing upright, in a comfortable, relaxed position. The traditional bent-over position and resultant sore back is a consequence of the chopping hoe, not the cultivating hoe. Body position is determined by hand positions on the hoe handle.

With both thumbs pointing up the handle, the cultivator can stand comfortably upright. This is not a new technique to learn, only a new application. Most people instinctively hold a broom or a leaf rake in the thumbs-up position. If one thinks of a cultivating hoe as a “weed broom” to be used with a pulling or drawing motion, the hand position comes naturally. The hands are moved in unison to draw the hoe and are adjusted separately to idealize the working angle of the blade to the ground. These are very similar movements to those made by the hands and arms when sweeping or raking. With a little practice, the quick, accurate strokes that so effectively deal with weeds will become second nature to you.”



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