Seedbed Roller Snap-In Dibbles Instruction Manual

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Traditionally the Seedbed Roller excelled at preparing a smooth, firm seedbed for direct seeding applications. With the introduction of the Snap-in Dibbles, it is now just as effective for transplanting. The mesh serves as a grid for placing the dibbles in configurations suited for almost any plant spacing needs.

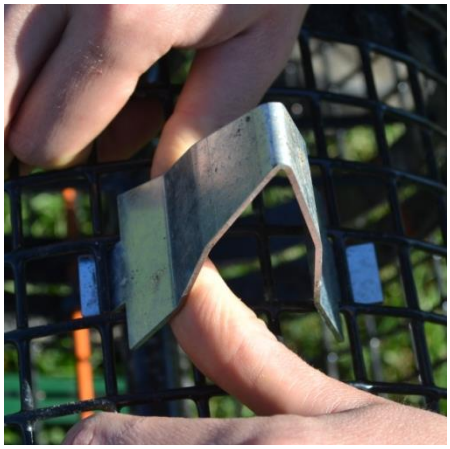


The dibbles come in 3 sizes. While they do create holes in the soil, their main purpose is to create a guideline for seedling placement – the holes need to be expanded before planting. However, the different size dibbles can make planting different size transplants more efficient.

Dibble	Plug Size	Transplant Recommendations
Small	1”	Onion sets
Medium	1½”	Herbs, flowers, kale
Large	2”	Tomatoes, peppers, squash

ATTACHING THE DIBBLES:





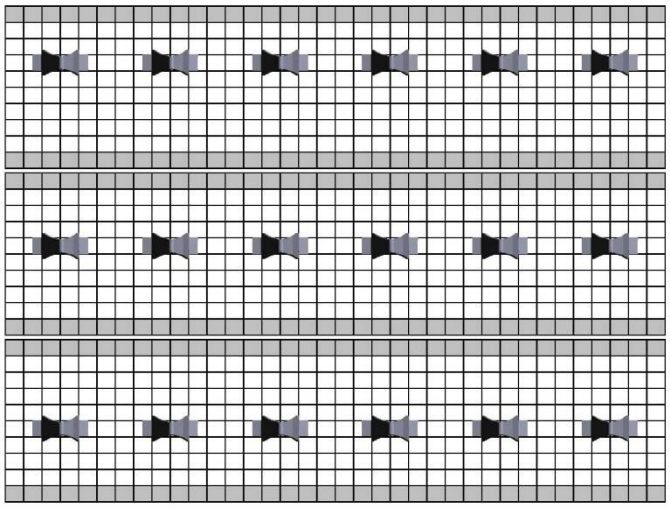
1. Turn the Seedbed Roller over so it is resting on the rack and handle with the roller facing upward.
2. If not already installed, insert the orange ganging rod through the hex nuts that are welded on each end of each roller. Secure with cotter pin.
3. Install dibbles by inserting the up-turned tab first, such that it is facing away from the handle when the dibble is on top of the roller. Compress the dibble just enough to allow the opposite tab to slip into the mesh beneath it and release. If the dibble doesn't spring back completely, ensure a good fit by spreading the dibble apart within the mesh so that it is fully seated in the mesh. Repeat for the remaining dibbles, based on your desired dibble configuration.
4. When installed correctly, the upturned tab side of each dibble should contact the soil first as the roller is pulled down the bed.



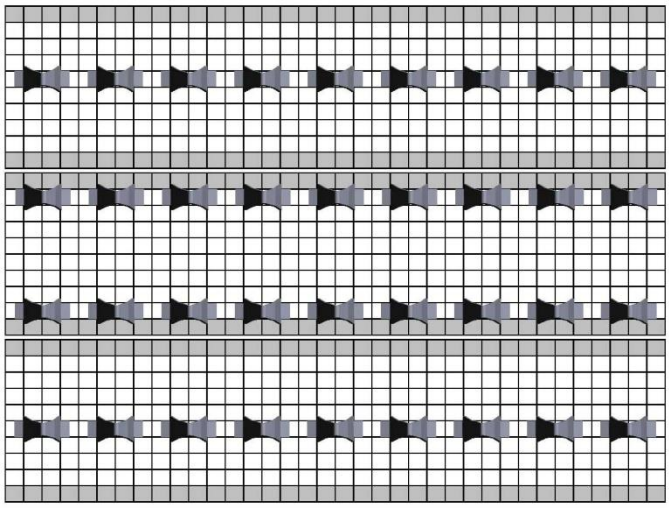
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DIBBLE CONFIGURATIONS:

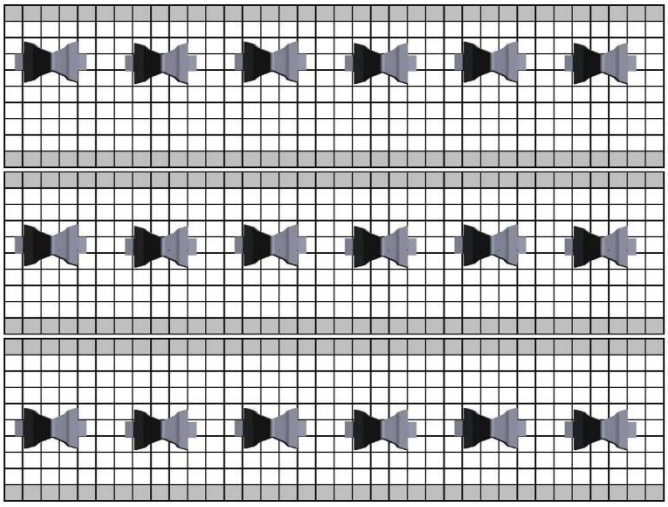
There are many dibble configurations possible with the Seedbed Roller and Snap-in Dibbles. The roller's 1" mesh, 36" circumference, and 30" width make dibble arrangement simple and intuitive. The possibilities are limited by a couple of minor physical limitations: dibbles cannot be installed where the roller's frame rims are and they are not easily (if at all) installed in the mesh slots near the seam where hog rings connect the mesh together. Here are some example arrangements that could be used or may spur you to create something better suited to your own planting system.



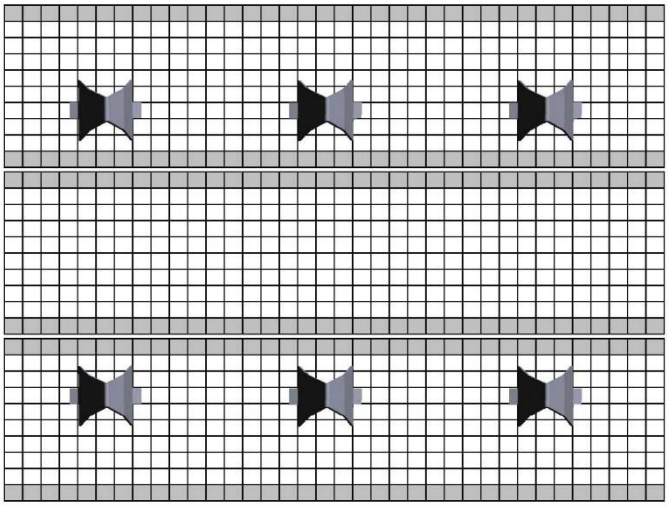
18 Small Dibbles, 3 rows, 11" between rows, 6" in-row



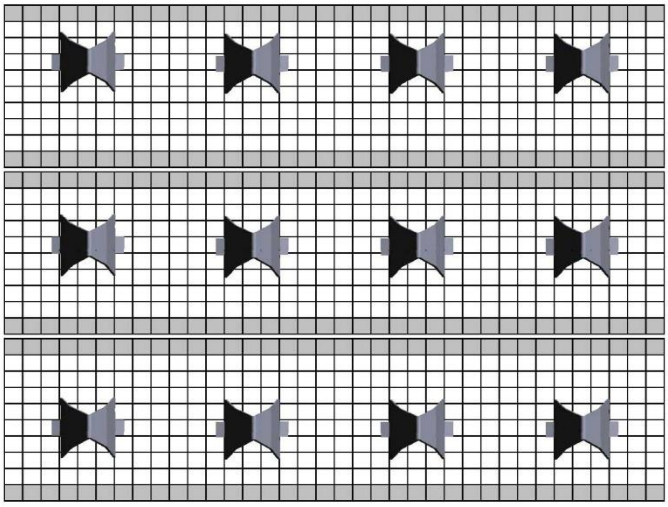
36 Small Dibbles, 4 rows, 7" between rows, 4" in-row



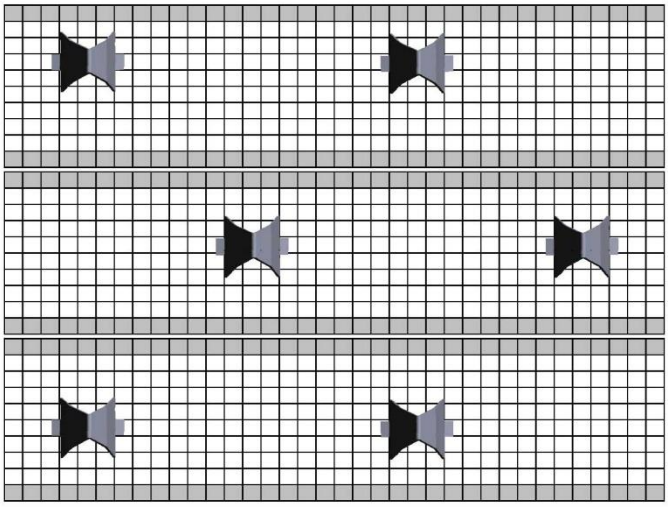
18 Med Dibbles, 3 rows, 11" between rows, 6" in-row



6 Large Dibbles, 2 rows, 17" between rows, 12" in-row



12 Large Dibbles, 3 rows, 11" between rows, 9" in-row



6 Large, 3 rows staggered, 11" between rows, 18" in-row

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DIBBLING OPERATION:

- Dibbling operation requires pulling the roller. Position it at the end of the row that will be dibbled with the handle pointing down the row.
- The roller may be pulled by 1 or 2 people. If pulling with 2 people, position the handle in the middle by loosening the thumb screw in the middle of the handle bar, adjusting the handle laterally to the middle, and retightening the thumb screw. If operating with 1 person, adjust the handle to the side the person will be pulling from.
- Pull the roller down the row, keeping the roller centered on the bed as you go.
- Stop briefly, and ensure that you are getting the desired soil penetration with the dibbles. Add weight as necessary. Thick concrete pavers or cinder blocks work well for this task. Some weight will likely be necessary for good penetration. More will generally be needed for larger dibbles, difficult or drier soils, or dibbling through plastic mulch.
- Continue down the row to the end. Lift the roller and reposition at the end of the next row to continue.
- For ease of transport without removing dibbles, the roller may be tilted up on one side and rolled from place to place.
- The Seedbed Roller Dibbles work just as easily on plastic mulch as they do on open soil.











REV 11/01/2016 RC, MN

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