

11.301

Agricultural Engineering Farm Equipment Development  
in the past 100 years and Important Advances  
in other fields effecting Agriculture  
during same period.

Date	Farm Equipment Progress	Other Agricultural Progress
1831	<p>Plowing with wooden plows; maybe a man could do two acres a day. A bonus given by some towns to any man who would keep a plow and use it among the neighbors. Heads wagged over the new cast-iron plows; they poisoned the land. Harrows often made of brush but in the woods.</p> <p>Grain harvested with the cradle; a stout fellow sweated to cover two and a half acres in a day. The village blacksmith was the implement manufacturer. Hauling by oxen.</p> <p>McCormick's reaper</p>	<p>One railroad with steam engine in the United States - Carbondale to Honesdale, Pennsylvania, twenty odd miles. Faraday's dynamo, momentous seed of the electric age.</p>
1833	<p>John Lene's steel moldboard plow, made with the blades of crosscut saws.</p>	<p>Royal William, transoceanic voyage with steam power</p>
1836		<p>Morse, electric telegraph</p> <p>Screw propeller for steamship replacing clumsy paddle sheels.</p>
1837	<p>John Deere's plow works, replacing old saw blades with steel made especially for plows</p>	
1839		<p>Daguerre, photography, France.</p>
1840	<p>Manufacture of grain drills begun in the United States</p>	<p>Iron hull replacing wood in steamships. Fish and fruit preserved by heat.</p>

- 1842 Parlin, pioneering work with steel plows.
- 1846 Hoe, rotary printing press, United States.
- 1849 First portable steam engine for farm use, 4, 10, and 30 horse power, \$625 to \$2300. Also before 1850, grain strippers and headers.
- 1850 Generally regarded as the end of the hand-farming era in this country; animal power getting near universal acceptance. Value of machines and implements on American farms at this date \$151,587,638.
- 1853 Brown, check-row corn planter necessary to cultivate corn both ways so hand hoeing could be eliminated.
- 1854 Johnson, disks in gangs for harrowing. Marquette iron mines discovered, Michigan
- 1855 Grimwade, dried milk, England
- 1856 Borden, condensed milk.
- 1857 Robbins, automatic check-row corn planter
- 1858 Marsh harvester, Solved the problem of delivering grain for binding
- 1859 First oil well in the United States Oil Creek, Pa. 1000 gallons a day.

- 1850-1860 Also developed in this decade: Forced feed devices for grain drills, stalk cutters, baling presses, disk harrows, feed grinders, straddle-row cultivators; improvements in mowers, threshers, reapers.
- 1860 Considered the beginning of the Industrial Revolution in America (long after England) Invention of roller process for flour manufacture. Carre, France, first practical ammonia-absorption refrigerating machine.
- 1862 Nobel, dynamite, Sweden
- 1864 Siemens-Martin open-hearth furnace. Bessemer process, invented in 1856 now in commercial use
- 1868 John Lane, Jr., soft-center steel for plows
- 1869 Garver, spring-tooth harrow
- 1870 Wide use of two-wheel sulky and gang plows. Locke automatic bundling, compressing and tying twine binder.
- 1871 In this year there were thirteen patents in the United States for steam plows.
- 1872 Hay forks, sling, carriers, developed
- 1875 Combines used on large wheat farms in California, 12, to 30 horses, 16 foot to 24 foot swath.

- 1876 Otto "silent" gasoline engine  
Manure spreaders of the wagon  
type, ensilage cutters, disk  
plows.
- 1878
- 1878 Appleby knotter, the principle  
now used on all twine binders
- 1884 Three wheel sulky and gang plows.  
In this year several firms were  
trying to popularize steam plow-  
ing.
- 1885 Corn husker-shreader
- 1887 Sled corn harvester. Corn  
binders. Side-delivery hay  
rakes, which facilitated auto-  
matic loading
- 1888
- 1890 Babcock device for testing butter  
fat content of milk. Cream sep-  
arator developed. About 26,000  
steam threshers and 3000 steam  
tractors manufactured. Two-row  
cultivators.
- 1892 A thresherman named Froelich used  
a gasoline engine to thresh wheat  
in Iowa.
- 1893 First gasoline tractor advertised  
Hansen tested gasoline tractor and  
thresher
- Bell telephone
- Benz developed a motorcycle.  
Daimler in 1886 a motorcycle  
and in 1887 an automobile
- Edison, incandescent electric  
lamp
- Parsons, steam turbine, England  
Mergenthaler, Linotype, United  
States
- Malted milk produced. Westinghouse  
air brake applied to freight  
trains.
- Burroughs, recording adding machine.
- Helvetia Milk Company, first com-  
mercial evaporated milk.
- Edison, motion pictures. Hoffman,  
by-product coke oven, Austria.

1895

Niagra harnessed. First automobile race, Chicago, 54 miles, 6 1/2 miles per hour. Diesel engine developed. Prescott, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Russell, Wisconsin University, applied pasteur's discoveries in canning.

1896

Marconi, wireless telegraph

1901 First Hart-Parr tractor

Taylor and White, high-speed steel

1902 Big multiple-bottom gang plows developed

1910 Corn pickers

1912 Production of big tractors at peak

1913

Coolidge, tungsten filament lamp a major step in making electric lighting efficient and economical

1915 Development of light tractors, small grain threshers, and so on.

1925 General-purpose tractor.