

Planting corn over the years

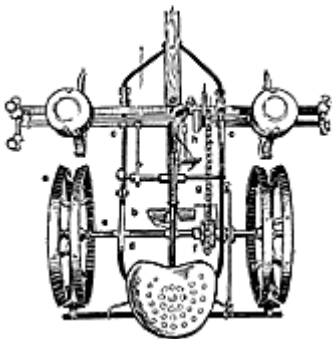


"The Three Sisters" of Iroquois legend are a harmonious trio of corn, pole beans and squash planted together by hand to support and thrive off one another.

Early settlers planted seed by hand or by broadcasting and using a hoe.



In the 1800s, hand corn planters were simple devices, designed to speed planting and to reduce the labour of the older hoe method.



In 1839 Rockwell patents a planter that becomes the basic design for machines that later become successful.

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In 1900 the a planter was basically a two-horse machine, built almost entirely of steel, with two seed boxes.



In 1924 with the introduction of the row crop tractor, 4-row planters are first developed.

From 1925 to 1965, during the depression, the war years and the stagnant '50s — with the exception of converting to central drive systems and the development of larger planters — no significant innovations took place.



During World War II, Harry Ferguson, Inc., did develop a 2-row-mounted drill-type planter using 3-point linkage and featuring front-mounted fertilizer tanks. This was introduced in late 1948.

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In the 1970s new planters arrive and it is the first significant improvement in planting technology in decades.



From this point on, advancements in modern manufacturing processes and new developments in row unit refinements take off.