



# THE PLOTMASTER

## Information & Instructions

Benton Soil & Water Conservation District  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

The PLOTMASTER is the perfect tool for sportsmen, homeowners, land managers, gardeners, landscapers, and small-acreage farmers. The PLOTMASTER is ideal for planting food plots in a variety of areas, including rough, hard-to-get places such as firebreaks, narrow power line right-of-ways, small forest openings, and swamps. The PLOTMASTER was donated to the Benton Soil & Water Conservation District from the Rice Area Sportsmen's Club, the Benton Chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation, and the Benton/Mille Lacs Chapter of Pheasants Forever.

### Features of the PLOTMASTER:

1. Heavy-duty electric lift system used to raise and lower the unit for transportation and proper depth control for tillage and planting.
2. The PLOTMASTER has both a one-point hitch and three-point hitch system. It can be pulled by ATVs, small tractors, and large lawn mowers.
3. It has six, 16-inch heavy duty disks used to break up the soil prior to planting.
4. A unique dual-use culti-packer packs the soil to ensure good soil/seed contact to improve seed germination.
5. Multi-use drag which levels the soil and covers the seed for optimal production.
6. Flexible metal grating attached to the drag provides for a smooth "infield" finish and helps provide even coverage of soil over your seed.



### Facts about using the PLOTMASTER

- Use an ATV that is 300cc or larger (with 4 WD) - ATVs should always be used in low range or four-wheeled drive.
- You can plant a wide variety of seeds, from very small seeds (clover, rape, chicory, etc.) to large seeds (up to the size of soybeans, peas, or small chufa).

### Cautions when using the PLOTMASTER:

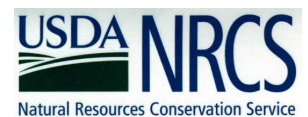
- Know your soil: If planting on hard/compacted soil, it may be beneficial to break up the soil before planting the seed to ensure an even planting and successful germination. More than one pass may be needed.
- Know what depth to plant your seed: Different seed varieties require different depths of planting. In order to maximize the success of your food plot, plant your seed at the appropriate depths by using the electric lift system of the PLOTMASTER to adjust your depth.
- Know your seeding rates: Check your seed information or talk to your seed vendor about what rate to plant seed in your food plot. Adjust the seeding rate by using the seed control lever.



14 2nd Avenue West  
Foley, MN 56329

Benton Soil & Water Conservation District  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Phone: (320) 968-5300 Ext. 3  
Fax: (320) 968-5304  
Website: [www.soilandwater.org](http://www.soilandwater.org)



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# *The PLOTMASTER Facts*



Once you've determined the location of your food plot you can begin to prepare the soil for planting:

- You should always mow, spray with herbicide, or use other techniques to remove unwanted grasses and vegetation prior to disking or plowing the soil. This step will reduce competition between wanted and unwanted plants in your food plot. Reduction of vegetation will also improve disking and plowing, taking less time and doing a better job.

There are four depth adjustments on the PLOTMASTER:

- For a normal cut, use the second hole from the bottom.
- If the soil is hard, you may want to put more pressure on the plow tips by dropping the plows and using the third or fourth adjustment holes (adjustment hole #1 is at the bottom).
- If you have very hard soils, put the disc in the second or third position and use the chisel plow points on the plow attachment. The chisel plow points will dig down easier to break up hard soils.

**NOTE:** If vegetation is clogging up the plow attachments you may also want to use the chisel points, since they are narrow they will let more debris pass through. In mature vegetation areas where mowing is not possible, the second and fourth plow tines can be removed and build-up should not occur. The plow attachment may also be removed when disking is required.

**NOTE:** When preparing soils for planting, the culti-packer should be in the raised position.

**Planting Tips:** Once the ground has been prepared for planting, the PLOTMASTER is designed to make planting a "one-pass" operation. The unit should be level to make all parts work together and plant properly. The disc should be in the "light" or "medium" disc mode and the plow attachment should be in the second or third position.

The seed gate within the seeder can be adjusted using a detent seed control lever. There are five detents that lock the seed gate into place, making seed rates consistent.

**#1** is ideal for planting small seeds such as clover and alfalfa

**#2** and **#3** are ideal for planting seeds such as wheat, oats, rye, and sorghum sized seeds

**#3** and **#4** are for seed mixtures containing oats, iron clay peas, Austrian winter peas, and other similar size seeds

**#5** is for large seeds such as soybeans