

“Best Buy” Backhoe Attachment

“My 2002 Amulet HoeClamp is one of my best buys ever,” says John Lund, Rhineland, Wis., who uses the unit on his Ford 4500 loader/backhoe (ph 800 526-8538; www.amulet.com).

The HoeClamp is a pin-on, full motion thumb that fits most standard and extendable dipper backhoe loaders, with no additional hydraulics needed. Utilizing unique linkage, it’s operated by the backhoe’s bucket curl. Most models feature digging, grasping and also a stored position.

“It’s a mechanical clamp that mounts on a backhoe, replacing some of the linkage and pins,” says Lund. “The HoeClamp moves as the bucket moves. It can be pinned in 2 different locations, depending on the type of work you’re doing. I usually use it in a position where I can still dig. It’s extremely useful in building rock walls, and is easier to use than a hydraulic thumb.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Amulet Manufacturing Company, 6442 Boekel Rd., Rathdrum, Idaho 83858 (ph 800 526-8538; www.amulet.com).



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Reader Inquiry No. 134

Revolutionary New Way to Propagate Fruit Trees

An Alabama inventor, Hong Park, has come up with a new twist on the old technique of air layering. This new technique with the Air Propagator makes propagating fruit trees, shrubs and vines an easier job, more efficient especially dealing with camellia, pear, apple, citrus and rose family.

Air layering is a method of reproducing plants by inducing roots to form on the plant stem without cutting off the stem from the parent plant. It’s an excellent way to replicate an existing plant with less disturbance of the parent plant. Air layering can produce larger plants which readily mature much faster than growing them from seeds or cuttings. This technique would also work for Japanese maples and ginkgo trees.

The process works like this: 1) Remove a ring of bark from the stem and enclose the exposed stem with a moist potting soil or peat moss; 2) Keep the stem moist until enough roots for transplant are formed; 3) Cut off and use your new plant.

Air layering with the Air Propagator clones trees, vines, and shrubs within 30 to 120 days while conventional methods can take as long as 2 to 3 years to bring them to maturity. This saves rooting time and helps nursery growers have more plants to sell quicker.

The Air Propagator is a plastic ball that comes in two halves, which are filled with the rooting medium and placed around the branch and secured with self-locking feature. As an option you can buy a unit with one half made

of clear plastic, which allows you to see the root growth process without disturbing the root system. The unit comes in a small, medium, and large size and can be purchased individually or in a kit or bulk. The kit contains the Air Propagator shells, rooting medium, rooting hormone, zip ties and instructions.

“As the owner of Brad’s Backyard Nursery in Ridgeville Corners, Ohio, I’ve successfully used the system,” says Brad Miller. “It’s super simple and easy to use, and it takes a lot of labor and time out of the propagating process. I’ve successfully used the idea on peach and pear trees as well as Goji vines. This summer I’m using the Air Propagator on 20 different varieties of fruit and nut trees in my mini orchard.”

Buy 1 Get 1 Free – Until May 31, 2018

(Orders from foreign countries excluded)

3-pack Air Propagator Shell Only:

\$6.95 (small, 2”), \$7.95 (medium, 4”)

Air Propagator Kits:

\$10.95 (small, 2”), \$12.95 (medium, 4”)

How-to videos are available on the company’s website.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hong Park, Parkway Greenhouse, 13605 Memorial Parkway S.W., Huntsville, Ala 35803 (ph 256 650-4644; cell 256 694-2169; or www.airpropagator.com).

Reader Inquiry No. 65



Air-layering involves removing a ring of bark from the plant stem, and then enclosing the exposed area with moist potting soil until roots form for transplant.



The Air Propagator is a plastic ball with 2 halves which are filled with the rooting medium, placed around the stem. One side can be transparent.



We at Parkway Greenhouse successfully propagated male Ginkgo Biloba Trees.