

Changing Times and Tools at The MERL!

Explore changes in tools and machinery, putting them in chronological order. Write a number in the yellow circle to put them in order with the oldest tool first and the newest tool last.



Seed Drill 1953 (61/48)

This wooden seed drill was used for sewing seeds on farms in West Sussex. It was used up until 1953. No information is known by the museum about when or where it was made.



Threshing Machine 1900 (52/42)

This threshing machine was built in Worcestershire in 1900. It was used for completely preparing a cereal crop; from threshing to bagging up the grain.



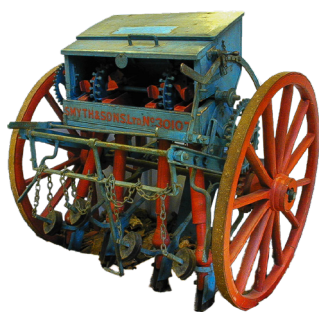
Fordson Model N 1937 (80/44/5)

The Fordson tractor was first made by Ford in 1917 in the USA, and thousands were brought to England during and at the end of the first world war. This tractor was registered in 1937 or 1938.



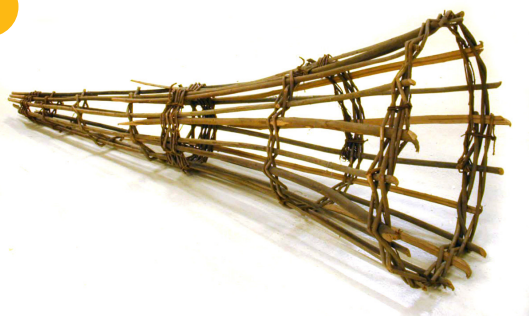
Seed Lip 1965-1966 (66/267)

A seed lip would have been hung from the sowers left and he would have cast with his right hand. On the way back across the field, he would have swapped over. This willow and cane seed lip was made for the museum in 1965-1966.



Seed Drill 1890 (65/326)

This red and blue seed drill is made from metal and wood. It was used to sowing seeds in bulk. This drill is from Suffolk.



Salmon Trap 1964 (64/23)

This is a putcher, a basket for catching salmon, in use since the 10th century. It would have been assembled with others on poles across a river.

Other names for the putcher include 'putcheon' and 'putchard' in Gloucestershire, 'fish-garth' in Cumberland, and 'kiddle' in Thames and Medway.



Horn Lantern 1849 (51/584)

This is a farmhouse lantern or a shepherd's lantern. It is made of sheet iron with horn panels and three sets of ventilation holes.

Lanterns like this were used in farm buildings such as stables and byres, and by shepherds because they are hard-wearing and there is no danger of broken glass.



Seed Fiddle 1912 (98/12)

This seed fiddle is complete with bow, string, bag and strap.

It was used for sowing seeds by casting with rotating wheel powered by hand.



Milk Cart 1925 (59/276)

This is a three-wheeled cart used to transport dairy produce, such as milk, butter, cream and eggs, for sale.

It consists of frame made of metal bars, with a wooden floor and a metal canopy (covering).