

Flywheel (Disc) Chippers VS Drum Chippers

• Flywheel (Disc) Chippers - Vertically oriented rotating disk

With a Flywheel chipper rotating as it does, wood is chipped across the grain.

Larger units require towing by Ride-On Tractor or ATV

Drum Chipper - Horizontally oriented rotating drum
The drum cuts generally along the length of the grain and in somewhat of a scooping motion.

Drum chippers are generally smaller in size and are more portable for the home/hobby farm user and the can be moved by hand.

Both utilize cutting knives on the rotating mass (Flywheel or drum) to do the chipping. Most of the heavy work is done most efficiently from the middle to the bottom of the cutting medium.

Another difference between the two is the size of the overall unit. "A Flywheel-style chipper, essentially, only uses half (the bottom) of the disc to cut, so as the size of the chipper increases (meaning the diameter of the product processed), you start needing a cutting disc that is fairly large compared to a drum-style chipper. With that, the overall size and weight of a Flywheel-style chipper increases.

After the size, decisions need to be made based on what type of material you are cutting. The general industry feeling is that a drum-style chipper can process palms and palm fronds (Fibrous Vegetation) more effectively than flywheel style chippers and also self-feed easier.

The most important maintenance tip with either style is to maintain sharp blades. As blades wear down, chipper knives will begin to beat the material more than cut it. That is when maintenance issues such as increased fuel or oil consumption, slowed engine performance, and increased wear and tear kick in.

Flywheel (Disc) Chipper

- High chute for Filling Bins, Trailers
- 270° Rotating Discharge
- Towable

Drum Chipper

- Ergonomic and Easy to Move
- Wide Hopper Less Trimming Before Chipping
- Easy Access for Servicing/Blade Sharpening



