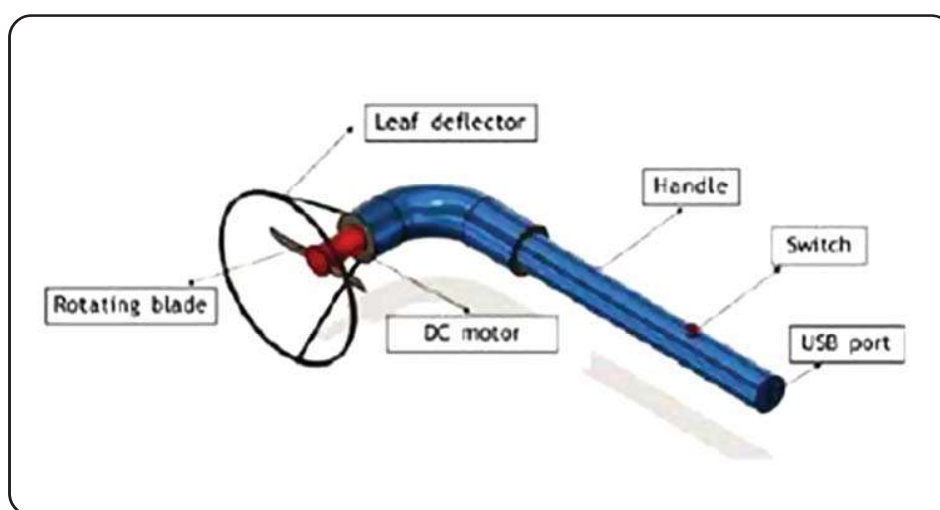


Name of the technology : **Hand held battery operated Topping Tool in tobacco**

Year (s) of development : 2021

Technology details

Topping is a unique cultural operation in tobacco, arrests the apical dominance, aid in increasing the size & weight of leaves and thereby overall yield (20-25%) per hectare. Farmers generally do topping manually, which is tedious and time consuming. To replace the manual topping, ICAR-CTRI has developed hand held battery operated topping machine consisting of rotating blades with leaf deflector, DC motor, battery and PVC handle. The machine will run up to 8 hours with 3 hours of charging. For ease of convenience, an USB port was provided for charging and can be used with a regular USB cable.



Impact of the technology

Topping at right time and effective control of suckers will help the plants to utilize the nutrients and water efficiently in turn lead to accumulation of more photosynthates in leaves. Effective Topping and sucker control is proved to increase leaf yield by 25% along with better quality. The machine is evaluated in burley tobacco and found to be effective in terms of ease of topping, saving labour and time.

Publications/Commercialization

- ICAR-CTRI Annual Report 2021.

Investigators/ Developers

ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry.