

# Summary

The design and field performance of a reel beater for harvesting seeds of *Brachiaria* sp. are described. The machine was developed in 1973 by technicians of the seed-production enterprise, Semillano Ltda., of Villavicencio, Colombia. Basically, the beater comprises (1) a frame or support that keeps the machine fixed to the front part of the tractor; (2) a reel that strikes and detaches the mature spikelets; and (3) a drive system from the tractor to the reel. This machine is easy to build, can be attached to any kind of tractor, does not damage plants, and can harvest up to 30 ha per day.