

## PATENT ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEET

Electronic Version v1.1  
Stylesheet Version v1.2

EPAS ID: PAT7086180

<b>SUBMISSION TYPE:</b>	NEW ASSIGNMENT
<b>NATURE OF CONVEYANCE:</b>	ASSIGNMENT
<b>CONVEYING PARTY DATA</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Execution Date</b>
MATT SPAHN	09/10/2021
JOSH SMYTH	09/10/2021
<b>RECEIVING PARTY DATA</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	DUBUQUE STAMPING & MANUFACTURING, INC.
<b>Street Address:</b>	3190 JACKSON STREET
<b>City:</b>	DUBUQUE
<b>State/Country:</b>	IOWA
<b>Postal Code:</b>	52001
<b>PROPERTY NUMBERS Total: 1</b>	
<b>Property Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>Application Number:</b>	17448800
<b>CORRESPONDENCE DATA</b>	
<b>Fax Number:</b>	(515)288-1338
<i>Correspondence will be sent to the e-mail address first; if that is unsuccessful, it will be sent using a fax number, if provided; if that is unsuccessful, it will be sent via US Mail.</i>	
<b>Phone:</b>	515-288-3667
<b>Email:</b>	patentdept@ipmvs.com
<b>Correspondent Name:</b>	MCKEE, VOORHEES & SEASE, PLC
<b>Address Line 1:</b>	801 GRAND AVENUE
<b>Address Line 2:</b>	SUITE 3200
<b>Address Line 4:</b>	DES MOINES, IOWA 50309-2721
<b>ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER:</b>	P13341US01
<b>NAME OF SUBMITTER:</b>	KIRK M. HARTUNG
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	/Kirk M. Hartung/
<b>DATE SIGNED:</b>	12/21/2021
<b>Total Attachments: 8</b>	
source=2021-12-21_SPAHN_P13341US01_AssignmentAF#page1.tif	
source=2021-12-21_SPAHN_P13341US01_AssignmentAF#page2.tif	
source=2021-12-21_SPAHN_P13341US01_AssignmentAF#page3.tif	
source=2021-12-21_SPAHN_P13341US01_AssignmentAF#page4.tif	

source=2021-12-21\_SPAHN\_P13341US01\_AssignmentAF#page5.tif  
source=2021-12-21\_SPAHN\_P13341US01\_AssignmentAF#page6.tif  
source=2021-12-21\_SPAHN\_P13341US01\_AssignmentAF#page7.tif  
source=2021-12-21\_SPAHN\_P13341US01\_AssignmentAF#page8.tif

A S S I G N M E N T

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency whereof are hereby acknowledged, the undersigned hereby sell, assign, and transfer unto **Dubuque Stamping & Manufacturing, Inc.**, an Iowa corporation having an address of 3190 Jackson St., Dubuque, Iowa 52001, its successors and assigns the entire right, title and interest in the invention or improvements of the undersigned disclosed in an application for Letters Patent of the United States, Serial No. 17/448,800, filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the 24th day of **September, 2021**, entitled **GRASS BAGGER STORAGE STAND**, including rights of priority under the International Convention of Paris (1883) as amended and the entire right, title, and interest in and to any and all patent applications, patents, continuations, continuations-in-part, divisionals, and reissues based thereon which may be filed or granted therefor in the United States or any foreign country, and in any reissue or extension thereof.

The undersigned hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents to issue said Letters Patent to said **Dubuque Stamping & Manufacturing, Inc., Assignee.**

For said considerations the undersigned hereby agrees, upon the request, and at the expense of said assignee, its successors and assigns, to execute any and all Patent Cooperation Treaty, non-provisional, divisional, continuation, and substitute applications for said invention or improvements, and any necessary oath or affidavit relating thereto, and any application for the reissue or extension of any Letters Patent that may be granted upon said application, and for the said considerations the undersigned further agrees upon the request of said assignee, its successors or assigns, in the event of any application or Letters Patent assigned herein becoming involved in any post grant administrative proceedings, to cooperate to the best of the ability of the undersigned with said assignee, its successors or assigns in the matters of preparing and executing documents for filing and giving and producing evidence in support thereof, the undersigned hereby agreeing to perform, upon request, any and all affirmative acts to obtain said

Letters Patent of the United States and vest all rights therein hereby conveying in the said assignee, its successors and assigns whereby said Letters Patent will be held and enjoyed by the said assignee, its successors and assigns to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by the undersigned if this assignment and sale had not been made.

And for said considerations the undersigned hereby assigns to said assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in said invention or improvements for any and all foreign countries and agrees upon the request of assignee, its successors and assigns to execute any and all documents that undersigned shall be requested to execute in connection with any and all applications for foreign Letters Patent therefor, including the prosecution thereof, and to execute any and all documents necessary to vest title in said foreign applications and patents in assignee.

The attorneys of record are hereby authorized to insert the serial number and the filing date in the above blank spaces when received from the Patent Office.

Dated: 9/10/21 Matt Spahn [Signature]

Witness my hand.

Signature: [Signature] Date 9-10-21  
Name Printed: JOSHUA L SMYTH

Signature: [Signature] Date 9-10-21  
Name Printed: David Vickerman

**ASSIGNMENT OF APPLICATION**

**INVENTOR DECEASED**

On September 10, 2021 (Date), this assignment was made by **Josh Smyth, 980 Hawkeye Drive, Dubuque, Iowa 52001**, (hereinafter referred to as executor of Ron Smyth, Assignor), and **Dubuque Stamping & Manufacturing, Inc., 3190 Jackson, St., Dubuque, Iowa 52001**, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Iowa, (hereinafter referred to as Assignee).

**RECITALS**

Ron Smyth, who is now deceased, invented certain new improvements concerning **GRASS BAGGER STORAGE STAND** during his lifetime. Josh Smyth, Executor, is going to apply for a letters patent on that invention. The invention is described and identified by the specification in an application which was filed on **September 24th, 2021**. Attached is a copy of that specification. Josh Smyth, Executor is now the sole and exclusive owner of the application and the inventions described and claimed in the specification, and of all rights in the inventions. Further, assignee desires to acquire the entire right, title, and interest in the application, the invention and improvements thereon, and in any letters patent thereon when granted. In consideration of the foregoing recitals and the mutual promises and duties set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

**SECTION ONE: ASSIGNMENT**

In consideration of \$ 1.00 received by Josh Smyth, Executor, Josh Smyth, Executor, assigns to assignee the entire right, title, and interest in the application and the invention, and in any improvements on the invention, and in any letters patent on the invention and the improvements that may be granted.

SECTION TWO: COOPERATION

Josh Smyth, Executor, agrees to cooperate with assignee so that assignee may fully enjoy the assigned rights. This duty includes the duty to cooperate in any proceedings relating to the patent application, in priority contests, interferences and the like.

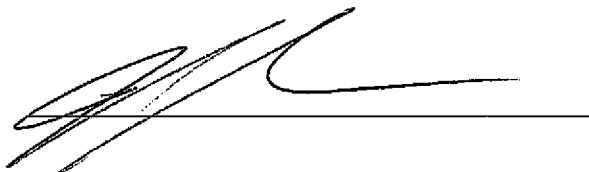
SECTION THREE: PARTIES BOUND

The terms, covenants, and conditions of this assignment are binding on the Josh Smyth, Executor, the estate and the heirs of Ron Smyth. Similarly, the assignee, assignees successors, assigns, and other legal representatives may have the benefit of the terms, covenants and conditions of this assignment.

SECTION FOUR: WARRANTY

Josh Smyth, Executor, warrants that he has not entered into any assignment, contract, or understanding which conflicts with this assignment.

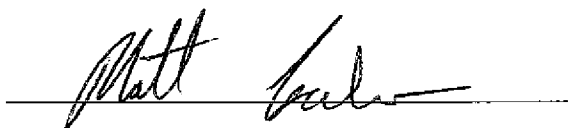
This assignment was executed at Dubuque Stampng (Location) on 9/10/21 (Date).



Signature of Executor/Administrator

9-10-21

Date



Signature of Assignee

9/10/21

Date

**TITLE: GRASS BAGGER STORAGE STAND**

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application claims priority to Provisional Application U. S. Serial No.  
5 63/198,055, filed on September 25, 2020, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Conventional baggers include a frame to support 1-3 collection bags on the rear of  
10 a lawn or garden tractor with a chute extending between the mower deck and the collection bags. A blower may be provided between the mower deck and the bags to facilitate transfer of the cut grass clippings from the mower deck to the bags.

There are times when the grass bagger is not needed, and therefore is removed from the tractor by the owner or operator. For example, if the tractor is used in the winter for  
15 snowplowing or snow blowing, the there is no need for the bagger. However, the bagger is not self-supporting when removed from the tractor, and therefore storage of the bagger becomes problematic. Often, the bagger components are simply set on the floor in a disorganized manner, with the chute and blower detached from the frame and collection bags.

20 Therefore, there is a need for a storage solution for the grass bagger components when removed from the lawn or garden tractor.

Accordingly, a primary objective of the present invention is the provision of a stand for supporting the components of a grass bagger for storage when removed from the tractor or mower.

25 Another objective of the present invention is the provision of a grass bagger stand which can be easily moved with the bagger components mounted thereon.

Another objective of the present invention is the provision of a grass bagger stand which stores the bagger components in an organized manner.

30 Still another objective of the present invention of a method and means of mounting a lawn mower grass collector onto a stand for storage, without the use of tools.

A further objective of the present invention is the provision of a grass bagger stand which is stable when the grass bagger is mounted thereon.

Yet another objective of the present invention is the provision of a grass bagger stand which provides for quick and easy mounting and dismounting of the grass bagger to and from the stand.

5 Still another objective of the present invention is the provision of a grass bagger stand which supports the grass bagger in a position off the floor or above the ground.

These and other objectives will become apparent from the following description of the invention.

### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

10 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the grass bagger stand according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is a side elevation view of the stand shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a rear elevation view of the stand of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the stand of Figure 1.

15

Figure 5 is an enlarged view of the stand arms.

Figure 6 is a side view of the stand in use with the grass bagger components positioned on the stand.

20 Figure 7 is another side view of the stand in use, from the opposite side as shown in Figure 6.

Figure 8 is a rear view of the stand with the bagger components stored thereon.

Figure 9 shows an alternative embodiment of the stand, with the bagger frame and collection bags mounted thereon.

25 Figure 10 is an enlarged view showing the bagger frame mounted on the stand shown in Figure 9.

### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

The grass bagger stand of the invention is generally designated by the reference numeral 10 in the drawings. The stand includes a base 12 and a pair of upright arms 14.

30 The arms 14 include a lower portion 16 bolted, welded, or otherwise fixed to a rear portion of the base 12, and upper portions 18 extending angularly forwardly from the lower



portions 16. The lower and upper portions 16, 18 may be welded, bent, or otherwise formed into an angular or curved configuration.

In the preferred embodiment shown in Figures 1-8, the stand 10 includes a shelf 20 on the base 12 and wheels 22, such as castor wheels. A pair of plates or posts extend  
5 upwardly from the shelf 20 and are spaced laterally to one side of the arms 14.

Each arm 14 includes an upper, outwardly extending pin 26 and a lower outwardly extending pin 28, as best seen in Figure 3. The pins 26 and 28 function as receivers for hooks on the grass collector assembly, as described below. One of the arms 14 also includes a hole there through, with a nut 30 welded to the inside of the arms for receiving a  
10 securing bolt 32 through the hole.

The grass bagger or collector assembly 34 includes a frame 36, and one or more collection bags or collection bins 38 removably mounted on the frame 36 for receiving grass clippings. The bags or bins 38 have an open upper end which is closed with a pivotal cover 40. The cover is pivoted to an open position to remove the bags/bins 38 and allow  
15 grass clippings to be dumped or emptied from the bags/bins. The bagger assembly 34 also includes a chute or tube 42 having a lower end removably connected to the mower deck (not shown) and an upper end removably connected to the cover 40 so as to direct grass clippings from the mower deck into the bags/bins 38. A blower 44 may also be provided on the chute 42 to provide increased airflow for carrying grass clippings from the mower  
20 deck to the bags 38. The bagger frame 36 also includes a pair of upper arms 46 and a pair of lower arms 48, with each of the arms 46, 48 having a hook or notch, 50, 52, respectively, for mounting the frame to the mower tractor. This construction of the bagger assembly 34 is conventional.

After the chute 42 is detached from the bagger cover 40, and the bagger assembly  
25 34 is removed from the lawn mower, the frame 36 with the bags/bins 38 thereon can be mounted onto the stand 10, without the use of tools for storage. More particularly, the frame 36 can be quickly and easily set into position on the stand 10 with the notches or hooks 52 of the lower frame arms 48 received on the lower pins 28 of the stand arms 14, and the hooks 50 of the upper frame arms 46 received on the upper pins 26 on the stand  
30 arms 14. Then, the bolt 32 can be extended through a hole in one of the upper frame arms 46 and through the hole in the upper portion of one of the arms 14 for threaded receipt in the nut 30, to prevent accidental disconnection between the stand arms 14 and the bagger

assembly arms 46, 48. While one nut 30 and one bolt 32 is sufficient, a second nut and bolt combination can be utilized on the other arm 14 of the stand 10 to further secure the bagger assembly 34 to the stand 10. As another alternative to the nut 30 and bolt 32, a pin and cotter pin, or other fastener system, can be used to assure that the bagger assembly  
5 does not accidentally or inadvertently become disconnected from the stand.

The blower 44 can be set up on the shelf 20 beneath the bags/bins 38. The shelf 20 can also hold or store other parts or accessories of the grass bagger. The chute 42 can be mounted over the plates 24 so as to extend upwardly adjacent one side of the frame 36 as best seen in Figures 6, 7, and 8. The wheels 22 allow the stand 10 to be easily rolled to a  
10 desired location with the bagger assembly 34 mounted thereon.

In the alternative embodiment of the stand 10A shown in Figures 9 and 10, there is no shelf, chute plates, or wheels. The arms of this embodiment function the same as the arms 14 of the preferred embodiment to support the bagger frame 36 and bags 38. In the alternative embodiment, the lower pins 28 are replaced with bolts 54 for receiving the  
15 notches 52 on the lower frame arms 48. As seen in Figure 10, an angle iron 56 replaces the upper pins on the arms for retentive engagement by the hooks 50 on the upper frame arms of the bagger assembly. The pins 26, 28 and the angle iron 56 function as receivers to receive and retain the hooks 50,52 on the bagger frame.

It is understood that the configuration of the base can vary from that shown in  
20 Figures 1-4, without departing from the scope of the invention. For example, the arms 14 can have a forwardly curved profile. Another alternative is to replace the plates 24 with one or more pegs or a circular upstanding member defining a diameter to fit inside or receive one end of the chute 42 and support the chute in an upright position.

25