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Design and Development of Solar Grass Cutter – A Review

Gaurav Choudhari, Gajendra Shahu, Ayush Bobale, Anmol Dhamne
G.H Raisoni College of Engineering and Management, RTM Nagpur University, Nagpur, India
mrgauravchoudhari@gmail.com

Abstract

This review paper presents the design, development, and application of a solar grass cutter as an eco-friendly alternative to conventional grass cutting machines. The study highlights the limitations of gasoline and electric-powered grass cutters, including pollution, noise, and high operational costs. Solar grass cutters utilize renewable solar energy, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and minimizing environmental impact. The paper discusses system components, working principles, advantages, and challenges associated with solar-powered grass cutting systems. Additionally, it explores recent technological advancements and future research directions aimed at improving efficiency, automation, and cost-effectiveness. The findings support the adoption of solar grass cutters for sustainable landscaping and agricultural practices.

1.Introduction

A solar grass cutter is a modern gardening machine powered by solar energy, designed to trim grass efficiently while minimizing environmental impact. [2]It uses photovoltaic panels to convert sunlight into electrical energy, which is stored in batteries and used to operate a DC motor connected to cutting blades.

[6]Traditional grass cutters, powered by gasoline or electricity, face several issues such as high fuel consumption, noise pollution, and environmental hazards. Engine-powered grass cutters often suffer from starting problems, overheating, fuel inefficiency, and require frequent maintenance. They also emit harmful gases that contribute to air pollution.

In contrast, solar grass cutters offer a sustainable solution. [5]They are lightweight, cost-effective in the long run, and environmentally friendly. The development of such systems aligns with the global shift toward renewable energy technologies and green engineering solutions. According to the project study , solar grass cutters are especially suitable for residential lawns and small-scale applications.

[8]Recent innovations include automation, robotic navigation, and integration with smart systems, making solar grass cutters more efficient and user-friendly.

2.Research Gap

Most research and development in grass cutting machines focus on either high-power commercial lawn mowers or small manual tools. There exists a gap in developing cost-effective, portable, and solar-powered grass cutters suitable for small and medium-scale users.

Additionally:

- Limited research on fully autonomous solar grass cutters
- Insufficient battery efficiency for long-duration operation
- Lack of optimization in solar panel positioning and energy utilization
- Minimal work on compact and affordable designs for rural and urban households

Addressing these gaps can significantly improve the adoption of solar-powered systems.

3.Problem Statement

Conventional grass cutters present several challenges:

- Gasoline-powered cutters produce air and noise pollution
- High operational and maintenance costs
- Dependence on fossil fuels
- Bulky design and reduced portability
- Inefficiency in small or uneven lawn areas

In solar grass cutters, challenges include:

- Dependence on sunlight availability
- Limited battery backup
- Reduced efficiency during cloudy weather
- Maintenance of blades and motor systems

4.Mathematical Formulation

Torque generated by motor:

$$Power = \frac{2\pi NT}{60}$$

Where:

T = Torque (Nm)

N = Speed (rpm)

Therefore,

$$T = \frac{P \times 60}{2\pi N}$$

Maximum torque:

$$T_{max} = 1.3 \times T_{min}$$

Shaft diameter calculation:

$$T_{max} = \frac{\pi \tau D^3}{16}$$

$$D^3 = \frac{16 T_{max}}{\pi \tau}$$

Where:

D = Diameter of shaft

τ = Shear stress

5. Research Design

The solar grass cutter system consists of a solar panel, battery, DC motor, cutting blade, wheels, and control unit.

The working mechanism is as follows:

- Solar panels capture sunlight and convert it into electrical energy
- The energy is stored in a rechargeable battery
- The battery supplies power to a DC motor
- The motor drives the cutting blade to trim grass

The design ensures efficient energy transfer and minimal power loss. In some advanced models, automation features such as obstacle detection and remote control are integrated.

6. Conclusion

The design and development of solar grass cutters provide a sustainable and eco-friendly alternative to conventional grass cutting machines. By utilizing solar energy, these systems reduce environmental pollution, operational costs, and dependency on fossil fuels.

Although challenges such as limited battery life and dependence on sunlight remain, advancements in solar panel efficiency and energy storage technologies are expected to overcome these limitations. Solar grass cutters have significant potential in residential, commercial, and agricultural applications, contributing to a greener and more sustainable future.

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