www.ijarp.com ISSN 2456-9992 Page: 01-11

International Journal Advanced Research Publications

Research Article

Volume: 02
Issue: 04

SOLAR POWER GRASS-CUTTER

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Article Received: 22 February 2026, Article Revised: 13 March 2026, Published on: 02 April 2026

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DOI: https://doi-doi.org/101555/ijarp.9353

ABSTRACT

Grass cutting is an essential maintenance activity required in lawns, gardens, agricultural fields, and public parks. Conventional grass cutting machines generally operate using petrol engines or electrical power from the grid. Although these machines are widely used, they contribute to environmental pollution, high operating costs, and excessive noise. With the increasing demand for renewable energy and sustainable technologies, solar-powered grass cutters have become a promising alternative for eco- friendly lawn maintenance. A solar-powered grass cutter uses photovoltaic panels to convert solar energy into electrical energy, which is then used to power a motor-driven cutting blade. The integration of solar energy into grass cutting systems reduces fuel consumption and minimizes harmful emissions. This research paper focuses on the design, development, and performance analysis of a solar-powered grass cutter. The system consists of a solar panel, rechargeable battery, DC motor, cutting blade, and a mobile chassis. The solar panel captures sunlight and converts it into electrical energy, which is stored in a battery and later used to drive the motor for cutting grass. The study also reviews previously developed solar grass cutting machines and analyzes their advantages and limitations. Experimental testing is conducted to evaluate the machine's performance under different conditions. Parameters such as cutting efficiency, operating time, and energy consumption are analyzed. The results indicate that the solar-powered grass cutter is an environmentally friendly and cost-effective alternative to traditional grass cutting machines. Future improvements in solar panel efficiency and battery technology can further

enhance the performance of these machines.

KEYWORDS: Solar Energy, Grass Cutter, Solar Lawn Mower, Renewable Energy, Photovoltaic Panel, DC Motor, Sustainable Technology.

INTRODUCTION

Maintaining lawns and gardens requires regular grass cutting to ensure healthy plant growth and aesthetic appearance. Traditional grass cutting methods include manual tools such as sickles and mechanical machines powered by petrol engines. Petrol- powered grass cutters are commonly used due to their high cutting efficiency and mobility. However, these machines consume fossil fuels and produce harmfulb emissions such as carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide, which contribute to environmental pollution and global warming.

Another drawback of conventional grass cutters is the high operating cost associated with fuel consumption and maintenance. Additionally, petrol engines generate significant noise and vibration, which can cause discomfort to the operator and surrounding environment.

In recent years, the use of renewable energy sources has gained significant attention as a solution to reduce environmental pollution and energy consumption. Solar energy is one of the most abundant and widely available renewable energy sources. It can be harnessed using photovoltaic panels to generate electrical energy without producing harmful emissions.

Solar-powered grass cutters are designed to utilize solar energy for operating the cutting mechanism. These machines typically consist of solar panels, rechargeable batteries, DC motors, cutting blades, and a supporting frame. The solar panel converts sunlight into electrical energy, which is stored in a battery and used to power the motor that rotates the cutting blade.

The development of solar-powered grass cutters offers several advantages such as reduced fuel consumption, low operating cost, minimal maintenance, and environmentally friendly operation. However, challenges such as low solar panel efficiency and battery limitations still affect the performance of these machines. Therefore, further research is required to improve the efficiency and practicality of solar-powered grass cutting systems.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Various researchers have proposed different designs and improvements in solar- powered grass cutting machines.

- Sharma et al. (2016) designed a basic solar-powered grass cutter that used a photovoltaic panel to charge a 12V battery. The stored energy powered a DC motor connected to a

cutting blade. The system demonstrated the feasibility of using solar energy for grass cutting applications.

- Patil and Kulkarni (2017) developed a portable solar lawn mower with a
- lightweight frame and improved blade design. Their study focused on reducing the overall weight of the machine to improve portability and ease of operation.
- Kumar et al. (2018) proposed a solar-powered grass cutter equipped with obstacle detection sensors. The system used ultrasonic sensors and a
- microcontroller to detect obstacles and automatically stop the machine to prevent damage.
- Reddy and Rao (2019) introduced a solar grass cutter with dual battery storage to improve operating time. Their research demonstrated that using multiple batteries can significantly increase the working duration of the machine.
- Singh et al. (2020) developed an automated robotic lawn mower powered by solar energy. The system used infrared sensors and navigation algorithms to move autonomously across the lawn while cutting grass.
- Gupta and Verma (2021) conducted research on improving the blade design and motor efficiency of solar-powered grass cutters. Their findings indicated that optimized blade geometry can significantly enhance cutting performance.

These studies show that solar-powered grass cutters have evolved from simple
manually operated machines to advanced automated systems equipped with sensors and microcontrollers.

Research Gap

Despite the significant progress in solar-powered grass cutter technology, several limitations remain. Many existing designs have limited cutting power due to the low energy output of solar panels. This restricts their ability to cut dense or tall grass effectively. Battery capacity is another critical issue that limits the operating time of the machine.

Additionally, many automated solar grass cutters involve complex control systems and expensive components, making them difficult for small-scale users and farmers to adopt. Some systems also lack efficient navigation and obstacle detection mechanisms, which reduces their reliability in real-world conditions.

Therefore, there is a need to develop a solar-powered grass cutter that is lightweight, cost-effective, energy-efficient, and capable of providing reliable performance under different

environmental conditions.

METHODOLOGY / PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed solar-powered grass cutter system consists of the following main components:

- Solar Panel
- Rechargeable Battery
- DC Motor
- Cutting Blade
- Chassis and Wheels
- Control Switch

The solar panel converts sunlight into electrical energy through the photovoltaic effect. The generated electrical energy is stored in a rechargeable battery to ensure continuous operation of the system.

The battery supplies power to a DC motor that rotates the cutting blade at high speed. The blade cuts the grass as the machine moves across the lawn. The entire system is mounted on a lightweight metallic chassis equipped with wheels for easy movement.

The working principle of the system can be summarized as follows:

1. Solar panel captures sunlight and generates electrical energy.
2. Electrical energy is stored in a rechargeable battery.
3. Battery supplies power to the DC motor.
4. DC motor rotates the cutting blade.
5. Rotating blade cuts the grass efficiently.

Experimental Setup :-

The experimental setup includes a solar panel with a rating of 12V and 20W, a rechargeable battery, a DC motor, and a steel cutting blade mounted on a mobile frame. The system is tested under different sunlight conditions to evaluate its performance.

The testing process involves operating the machine on a grassy field and measuring parameters such as cutting speed, operating time, and power consumption. The performance of the machine is analyzed to determine its efficiency and reliability.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :-

The experimental results indicate that the solar-powered grass cutter performs effectively

under normal sunlight conditions. The solar panel generates sufficient electrical energy to charge the battery and operate the motor for cutting grass.

The cutting blade rotates at an adequate speed to trim grass efficiently. The machine also produces very little noise compared to petrol-powered grass cutters. However, the performance of the machine depends on the intensity of sunlight and the capacity of the battery.

During cloudy conditions, the solar panel produces less energy, which affects the operating time of the machine. Despite these limitations, the solar-powered grass cutter demonstrates significant advantages in terms of environmental sustainability and cost

Comparison

Comparison

Parameter	Conventional Grass Cutter	Solar Powered Grass Cutter
Energy Source	Petrol	Solar Energy
Fuel Cost	High	Very Low
Pollution	High	Very Low
Noise	High	Low
Maintenance	High	Low
Environmental Impact	Harmful	Eco-friendly

CONCLUSION

Solar-powered grass cutters represent an innovative solution for sustainable lawn maintenance. By utilizing renewable solar energy, these machines reduce fuel consumption, environmental pollution, and operating costs. The proposed system demonstrates effective grass cutting performance and simple design. Although limitations such as weather dependency and battery capacity still exist, advancements in solar technology and energy storage systems can significantly improve the performance of these machines. Solar-powered grass cutters have great potential for use in residential gardens, parks, and agricultural fields.

Future Scope :-

Future improvements in solar-powered grass cutters may include:

- Integration of high-efficiency solar panels
- Use of lithium-ion batteries for better energy storage
- Development of fully autonomous robotic lawn mowers
- Integration of IoT technology for remote monitoring
- Implementation of AI-based navigation systems
- Use of lightweight composite materials for better portability

These improvements can enhance the performance, efficiency, and usability of solar- powered grass cutting systems.

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