

Farming in the 1920s

In the 1920s all work was done by horses. Horses were fed in winter with large furze cut off of hills and bruised with a furze machine. The machine was fed with a hook and goolord as a man twisted the wheel. Ploughing for spuds, wheat and oats was done with the horses. Two men worked together, one on the plough single furrow and the other driving the two horses. Ploughing for spuds consisted of a five-sod ridge and sowing spuds was done with a spade with holes closed with a falkeen. Sowing the corn was done with a horse running with a mowing machine and it was threshed with an oil engine and drum. The night of the threshing was always fun, the melodeon would be pulled out and you could hear the hob nail boots scraping off the floor and the man of the house shouting 'mind the dresser'. The woman of the house would be yelling 'Mary come in!'

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Story from Barty Connolly,

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Some images of ploughing in the 1920s.





Furze Machine