

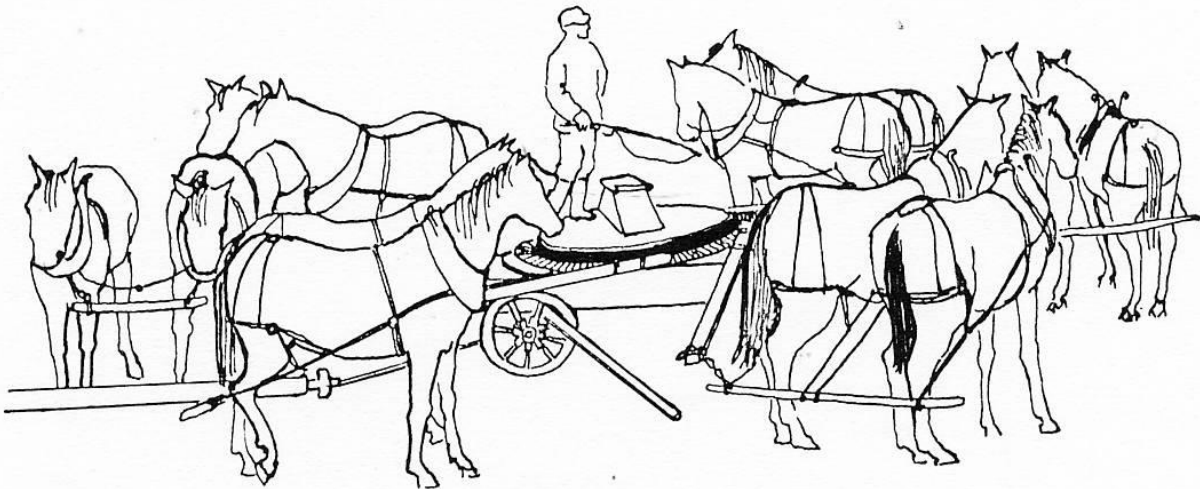
Sweep power

Sweep power consisted of units which used as many as 14 animals (usually horses) walking in circles similar to a merry-go-round. Power was transferred from the unit to the machine which required the power, by a system of gears, belts and pulleys.

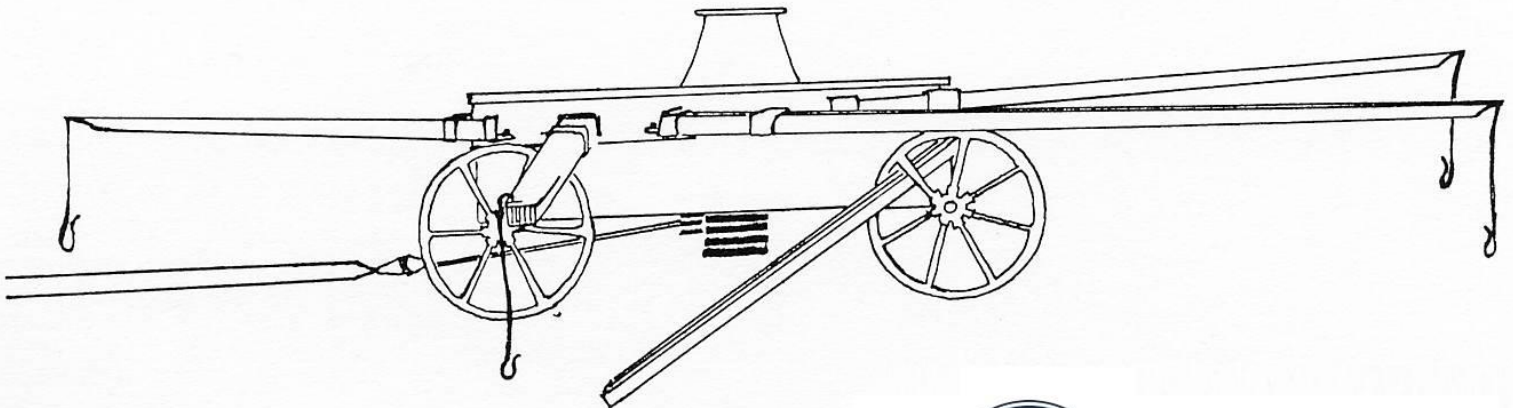
Sweep power driven by 12 horses. since it was impossible to use reins with these animals, the driver had to manage them by tone of voice.

Sweep Power Mechanism

From: Marvin McKinley. **Wheels of Farm Progress**, American Society of Agricultural Engineers, Michigan, 1980, pp. 26-27.



A sweep could be belted-up to a machine and as the horses moved, that power would be transferred to the machine. Types of machines that could run with a horse-powered sweep include: a threshing machine, a hay bailer, or a circular saw.



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