



Some-one must have noticed that I like good gardening tools. I have just been sent a new one to try out- the Buck Hoe designed by Laurie Buckingham- a Farmer and metal worker. And it is good.

The picture shows the Buck Hoe in the middle. My main small weeding tools are the Nunki weeder- the top image with the curved bronze blade. I use it a lot with emerging weeds between rows of plants. The bottom one-knife like is the Niwaki Hori Hori- great for deeper weeds- I have a major problem with the raspberries invading the raised beds- this does removing them well and other deeper rooted weeds.

When weeds are in amongst plants or veg I do slightly struggle- the Asparagus bed is an issue in particular. Using the Nunki I have removed young Asparagus tips, emerging Peas by accident- annoyingly.

The Buck Hoe I tried over the last weekend. On the Asparagus bed it was wonderful for getting in amongst them- Asparagus grow in small clumps and getting weeds out from between them is tricky. The design and the notch seem to be the key- weeds just came out easily and no damage to the ferns- I will be using it a lot shortly when the ferns are cut down (I dispose of to avoid asparagus beetle rather than compost) and will be using it in other situations where close to plant weeding is required.

I can see other uses- transplanting seedlings and making a fine seed drill- I tend to be a bit haphazard with this using a dibber to create the row so it will help.

It is has gone in my shoulder tool pouch I carry around the garden- so works for me as I have limited space in the pouch. 4* rating- if it was bronze it would be 5*.

A lovely designed tool- which at the price of £15.00 is great value.

You can see it in action at the website <http://buckhoe.co.uk/the-buckhoe/>