ZNFU – Conservation Farming Unit

Ox CF: Setting up Ripper and Land Preparation



The Magoye ripper can only be fitted to plough beams with rounded shanks.



The Magoye Ripper showing reversible tine and Sub-wings



Attaching the **sub-wings** to the ripper tine body. Always use the correct size spanner for the job! The **tine must be reversed when it gets worn.**



Make sure **depth wheel axle is not worn** and wheel rotates freely. Check **hitch and shackle bolts** are adjustable. Large depth wheels best.



To rip properly the Trek chain needs to be **3.5** metres long. Add if necessary.



Good ripping requires experience and skill. Furrows should be 90cms apart and straight. **Observation and adjustment makes perfect.**



Check ripping depth. Furrows should be about **15cms deep.**



If soils are very hard or furrows have been trampled by cattle a second ripping may be necessary to achieve depth.



Second ripping in progress after early showers or just before planting.



If you have planted some crops that are harvested earlier than Maize or Cotton like Cowpeas, Beans, or Soya Beans, rip after harvesting when soils are still a bit soft.



In following years always rip the same furrows as you ripped in the previous year



Have you thought of ripping for neighbours as a business? Many farmers with rippers make money ripping for other farmers who have lost their oxen or don't have any.