



# Tines and Blades MYTH VS. REALITY

**MYTH:** Tine/spike pasture aerators can achieve the same result as a drum/blade aerator

**REALITY:**

**Weight, cutting surface** of the blades, and **ground speed** make the drum/blade aerator more productive than the spike/tine type. Not only is the drum/blade aerator much heavier, but its weight is also fully adjustable with water. This water weight is transferred **directly** to the RanchTech® Blades rather than being dispersed onto a frame and axle. RanchTech® Blades cut **6" wide** per blade opposed to a tine that may cut up to 1.5" per tine. Two-to-four mph is recommended for a spike/tine unit, which equals to 17-35 acres in 8 hours with a 10' model. On the other hand, the drum/blade aerator works best at higher speeds of six-to-twelve mph, allowing you to cover 47-94 acres in the same amount of time. The **combination of weight and speed of blades** striking the ground produces a deep shattering effect.



**MYTH:** Tine/spike aerators are just as durable as drum/blade aerators

**REALITY:**

Run a tine/spike aerator over a few rocks and you will incur major maintenance costs and downtime. Not to mention, additional weight riding on top of these aerators increases the likelihood of needed bearing and axle repairs. All these issues give tine aerator a lifespan of only a few years. Alternatively, the drum/blade is constructed with a thick steel drum and **forged** blades that sharpen with use. **RanchTech® Blades come with a lifetime warranty against breakage.** This means very low maintenance cost. Just grease and go!

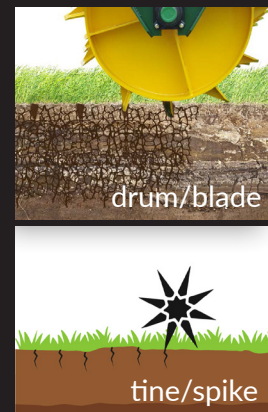




**MYTH:** They both open the soil. There is no difference

**REALITY:**

The promise of "greener grass" by tine/spike aerators can be deceiving as the roots will only be a few inches deep. The tines will poke holes in only moist/wet ground, but only 1" to 3" of soil will open. Grass roots will stay at this depth to collect moisture and fertilizer, while the soil dries quickly with sun and wind exposure. This shallow root system will create a rootbound problem along with hardpan beneath the root line. Large drums, combined with wide angled/beveled RanchTech® blades, easily penetrate hard/dry soil (cutting the root and rhizome) fracturing to a depth from 6" to 20". This deep fracture allows water to percolate deeper increasing the field capacity.



**MYTH:** Cheaper is the better deal

**REALITY:**

Drum/blade aerators are significantly heavier than tine/spike aerators because of the amount of steel used in the design. This makes the drum/blade style more expensive but **highly effective and much more durable**. Those who want "aeration" and try to spend as little as possible often end up purchasing a bar/tine setup. Like many times in life, purchasing the cheapest or the lowest price leaves consumers less than satisfied with the results.

**IN EVERY CASE**, the blade/drum design outdoes the tine/spike by a factor of 3 to 4, but drum/blade aerators are not 3 to 4 times the price. If you're going to spend money wisely, spend it once and get what you pay for.



For additional information, scan the QR code or visit <https://ranchworx.com/tine-and-blades-myth-vs-reality>