



Caster wheel-mounted bale stacker is designed to always trail in line with baler's bale chute.



"It lets you load and haul bales out of the field faster and easier," says Kendall Jensen of TR Salvage.

## Stacker Speeds Big Bale Retrieval

"A relative was looking for a way to double up his 3 by 3-ft. bales in the field, so we sat down and brainstormed this bale stacker," says Kendall Jensen, TR Salvage, about his Stack II machine. "There are only a couple moving parts and no electronics or hydraulics. Just a trip release triggered by the second bale."

The caster wheel mounted cart is designed to always trail in line with the bale chute. The main structure is fabricated from 2 1/2-

in sq., 3/8-in. steel tubing with a 4 by 4-in. sub-frame. Jensen used flexible links to attach it to the baler hitch.

"It can be installed on most balers, new or old," says Jensen. "We custom-make the links to match the baler."

Key to the design is the floor pan of the carrier. When loaded, its center of gravity is behind its pivot point. When the first bale exits the baler chute, the bale drops down on the carrier floor and hooks on two spikes

mounted ahead of the floor panel. When the second bale slides into place, it trips a release on the floor panel. When the rear weighted floor tips, the lower bale clears the spikes and the two bales are dragged off the carrier by ground friction. Once the bales have slid off, the floor pan returns to position and automatically relates.

"I had seen something similar for small square bales years before," says Jensen. "It lets you load and haul bales out of the field

faster and easier."

Jensen direct-markets the carrier for \$7,500, but is also looking for dealers who might want to offer it.

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## Loader-Mounted Mower Deck Spins On A Dime

J. Edwin Shirk turned a big mower deck into a zero-turn rough-cut mower by mounting it on skid steer loader arms. He likes the visibility and flexibility it gives him when using it in thick brush.

"We have a stream where sumac and other brush grows thick," says Shirk. "I can drive up to the brush and lower the 'Bush Hog' over the top of it, shredding it to the ground without getting too close to the water."

His only concern is keeping the mower at an angle so chips don't fly back at the operator. "You have to keep it tilted so you never see the blade," he says. "Other than that, I can tip it at any angle and run it. It works really well for cleaning up around fence lines."

Shirk welded 3-point mounts to a steel plate with quick-tach mounts. Instead of a variable length top link, he used steel plate. To adjust the angle or height of the deck, Shirk simply tips the loader arm plate. Not modifying the mower means it can easily be returned to a traditional rear mount on a tractor.

To drive the pto-powered mower, Shirk mounted a hydraulic motor to the quick-tach faceplate. He used one that runs 600 rpm's on the skid steer's 12 gpm hydraulics. This allows him to reach 540 rpm's without keeping the engine revved up.

"You need to match the capacity of the motor to the hydraulics of the skid steer," he says.

The only modification he made to the hydraulics was to install a check valve between the two hoses. This accomplished two things. He can't run the motor backwards by switching flow, and the mower doesn't stop suddenly when the flow is cut off.

"With the check valve, the oil simply circulates through the motor until the mower blades stop spinning," says Shirk. "You just need to be sure the arrow on the check valve is pointed toward the high pressure hose to get the circulation correct."

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"I like the visibility and flexibility it gives me in thick brush," says Shirk, who turned a zero-turn rough-cut mower into a big mower by mounting it on skid steer loader arms.

## Pop Bottle "Deer Rattler"

"I call it my deer rattler. It's an effective but simple way to keep deer out of any garden," says Elroy Lindaas, Mayville, N. Dak.

He simply pushes a metal electric fence post into the ground and then places a 20-oz. plastic pop bottle upside down on top of the post.

"Just the slightest breeze will cause the bottle to rattle," says Lindaas. "It works because deer have very sensitive ears and get scared off by the rattling noise. I haven't had any deer come near our garden since I started using this method. I usually use two or more rattles per garden, depending on the size of the garden."

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To keep deer out of his garden, Elroy Lindaas places a 20-oz. plastic pop bottle upside down on top of a post. "Just the slightest breeze will cause the bottle to rattle," he says.

## Non-Slip Steps For Deere Tractors

"After I got hurt slipping off a Deere tractor tire, I designed these non-slip fuel and access steps for Deere 20, 30, 40, 50, and 60 series tractors. They make it much safer to work around the tractor," says Harold Fratzke, Cottonwood, Minn.

The fuel step provides a safe place to stand when filling the gas tank or checking the radiator. It mounts to the tractor frame with two bolts (provided). No drilling is required.

The access step bolts onto the right side of the tractor and provides access to the battery box step for easy window cleaning. It can be used on all 2-WD and front wheel assist tractors as long as there are no fenders and the tire size is no larger than 24 in. An access step handrail is also available.

The fuel step sells for \$119 S&H included; the access step for \$71.40 S&H included.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harold



Non-slip fuel and access steps make it safer to work around Deere 20, 30, 40, 50, and 60 series tractors.

Fratzke, 234 Shoreview Drive, Cottonwood, Minn. 56229 (ph 507 423-6341).