

No More Bales That Are Too Tight Or Too Loose

On-the-go density control is a big plus for small square baler owners who now must either stop and adjust tension at the bale chamber or put up with making bales that are often too tight or too loose. Bales of consistent size and weight stack and ship better providing hay buyers with added value.

The Airbaler is a complete bale density control system for small square balers that replaces spring or hydraulic systems. It uses air pressure instead of springs or hydraulics to ensure tension applied to the bale chamber remains nearly constant. The Airbaler also includes an optional Density Adjustor mounted in the tractor cab that allows the operator to increase or decrease the density of bales without even slowing down.

In a 2009 customer survey, 100 percent of Airbaler users who responded reported

an improvement in bale density and 98 percent said they would recommend the Airbaler to others. These are just some of the benefits reported by hay growers across North America:

- Bales are more uniform and consistent
- Bales are easier to collect with a hay stacker
- Bales stack better in the barn and during transportation
- Less time spent checking and adjusting bale density
- Fewer bales that are too loose or too tight



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Reader Inquiry No. 76



"It's the only one-man firewood operation I know of," says Gary Olsen about his firewood processor that quick-taches to a skid loader.



System lets operator pick up whole logs, saw them to firewood lengths and split the blocks, all without leaving the skid steer seat.

One-Man Firewood Processor Mounts On Skidsteer

You can start a one-man firewood operation with a new processor that quick-attaches to a skid steer loader. With the new Hahn HFP160 Firewood Pro, you can pick up whole logs, saw them to firewood lengths and split the blocks, all without leaving your seat.

"This is the only one-man firewood operation I know of," says Gary Olsen, President of Hahn Machinery in Two Harbors, Minn. "It usually requires someone on a loader and someone to run the processor. Our system takes the processor right to the woodpile, and there's nobody on the ground."

The 2,020-lb. processor needs a big enough loader to handle its weight. In addition, the processor needs a standard auxiliary hydraulic flow of 20 gpm for optimum performance and three hydraulic connections.

"All functions on the processor are operated by 8 push buttons," Olsen says. They are on control modules tied to the skid loader's joysticks and connected by a detachable

cable to the processor.

Logs are picked up with the processor's forks, rolled onto the in-feed trough, and moved up to a butt plate by a chain conveyor and roller. Once in position, a high-speed chainsaw activates. When the block is cut, it falls into the splitting trough and is split with a 4 by 24-in. cylinder. The processor can cut wood into lengths up to 20 in. (28 in. optional) and can split the wood into 4, 6, or 8 pieces, depending on the choice of splitting heads. While it's designed for a skid steer loader, some customers are making modifications to put the processor on excavators and tractors.

The HFP160 was in development for two years. In January 2009, it completed an extensive 6-month field trial on a commercial woodlot. Improvements were made, and Hahn began selling the processor that spring.

"Currently, the processor carries a base price of \$34,500, including a hydraulically adjustable 4-way splitter and two cut

lengths," according to Olsen. "That's still on the low end for a commercial grade firewood processor.

"We've been building heavy-duty logging equipment since 1972," Olsen says, "but this is our first venture into firewood processing machinery."

This past summer, Hahn introduced the HFP150 Compact, a smaller, lighter, less expensive processor intended for people who use a lot of firewood but don't need the production capacity offered by the larger HFP160.

The processor can be purchased directly from the company. Hahn ships anywhere in the U.S., Canada and overseas.

Videos of the processor in action can be seen on Hahn's website.

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Reader Inquiry No. 77