

Back-Saving Wood-Cutting Stand

Ron Sonnenberg, McCreary, Manitoba, made a stand for cutting wood a few years ago that saves on his back and speeds up the production of firewood for his outdoor furnace.

The base stand is made from thick-walled pipe and measures 5 by 6 ft. in size. A 12-ft. pipe mounts along the front edge of the stand and has steel rerod fingers welded to it every 3 to 4 in. along its length. The ends of the fingers are bent upward at a 90 degree angle to keep logs from rolling off.

"I can cut logs to whatever length I want,

and I can slice through 2 or 3 logs at a time if they are smaller. I load several logs at once onto the stand with my tractor loader. It'll hold about a cord of wood at a time. Once the pieces are cut, I can load them onto a trailer to transport to my outdoor furnace. I never have to pick wood up off the ground," says Sonnenberg.

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A 12-ft. pipe across front of stand has steel rerod fingers welded to it every 4 in., with their ends bent upward to keep logs from rolling off.

Pto Winch Built For Farmall "C" Tractor

Retired equipment operator Don Cook built a heavy-duty winch for the back of his 70-year-old Farmall C tractor. Cook says the winch can pull logs up to 3 ft. in diameter that weigh four times as much as the tractor. "On some of those big ones, I have to hook my 'M' in front of the 'C' and the winch is still strong enough to slide both of the tractors," Cook exclaims.

Cook built the winch using scrap steel and old farm equipment parts. The 16-in. dia. driven gear is from an old hay baler. It's hooked to a 7-tooth sprocket on the tractor's belt pulley drive shaft using #60 roller chain. Cook removed the belt wheel and welded the sprocket to the removable spline. He can remove the bolt from the end of the spline and slide the sprocket off if he ever wants to re-install the pulley.

"The tractor pto provides amazing power to the winch, even when the tractor is idling," Cook says. The spool has 65 ft. of cable wrapped on a 2-in. solid axle that's set in sleeves on both sides of the frame. The spool assembly rests on a large piece of 1/2-in. plate steel that bolts to the tractor drawbar. The 3/8-in. heavy-duty cable spools in and out through a 6 by 6-in. opening made of 3/4-in. steel, with 1 1/2-in. idlers on each side.

The winch frame is reinforced with 45-degree angled braces on both sides that are bolted to the equipment clamps on the tractor axles. He has 10 ft. of chain on the end of the cable that lets him easily hook up logs and brush to tow away with the winch.

"The cable is tough to unspool by hand, so I hook the chain to something stable and drive the tractor forward, then back it up and hook



Winch spool assembly bolts to Farmall's drawbar and is chain-driven off tractor's belt pulley driveshaft.

up the log or whatever I'm pulling," Cook says. "The winch was easy to build and has the power to pull way more than what the tractor would move by itself."

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Scissor-action push bar slides big round bales off, no matter the angle of the bale lifter spears.

Stack Bales Higher With Nifty "Pusher"

When his skid steer-mounted bale lifter couldn't stack big round bales 3 high, Daryl Wiegand made a pusher to do the trick. The scissor-action push bar slides bales off, no matter the angle of the bale lifter spears.

"We built a shed to store big round bales, but when I tried stacking them 3 high with my skid steer, the loader arms couldn't quite reach far enough," says Wiegand. "I couldn't just set the bale in place and back away."

Previously Wiegand had fabricated the bale lifter spears and their quick attaching frame. He made the bale spears out of old school bus axles and used 3 by 3-in. square tubing and flat stock for the frame.

It worked great except for 3-high stacking. Fully extended, the spears and the bale were at an angle above the second high bales. As he would try to drag the angled forks away, they and the bale on them would drag down

the second high bale.

Wiegand's pusher solved the problem. It consists of a cross bar attached to short lengths of 2 1/4-in. pipes. They slide over the 2-in. dia. bale spears.

Scissors action legs are pinned to brackets on the pusher bar and to the frame of the spears. A cylinder is pinned between the rear legs and the front legs. The cylinder's ram is pinned to brackets a third the distance from the top of the scissor legs attached to the pusher crossbar.

"When I activate the auxiliary cylinder, the crossbar pushes the bale the length of the spears," says Wiegand.

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Ligtenberg converted the tongue, wheels and axle off a pull-type hay rake into a handy trailer, that makes his 3-pt. mini backhoe easier to hook up and store.

Wheel Rake Converted To Handy Backhoe Trailer

Needing an easier way to transport and store his 3-pt. mounted mini backhoe, Glenn Ligtenberg converted the tongue, wheels and axle off an old pull-type hay rake into a handy, low-cost trailer. He painted it orange to match the backhoe.

"The trailer makes the backhoe easy to hook up and store," says Ligtenberg. "Usually when you unhook a 3-pt. mounted implement you don't move it until you need it again. However, I don't think twice about moving my backhoe trailer because it rolls around so easily. If I need to get another machine in my shed, I hook up to it with my Deere loader tractor and go. I mounted the receiver hitch off an old Chevy pickup on the loader just above the bucket, so I have a great view in front of me.

"I kept the trailer's wheelbase as narrow as possible so I can back my tractor right up to the backhoe. I first hook the backhoe up to the lower lift arms on my tractor's 3-pt., and

then I connect the hydraulic hoses and move the boom to hook up to the top link."

Ligtenberg already had the Farmhand 5-wheel rake, which he had bought for parts. He stripped the rake down to the tongue, wheels and axle. However, the axle was too light to support the backhoe by itself so to reinforce it he cut part of the frame off an old Glencoe 4-row cultivator and bolted it onto the axle. He also welded steel hooks onto the trailer's axle and tongue, which are used to chain the backhoe down. The rake's tires were rotten so he replaced them with a pair of used 14-in. tires, which he bought used. A small hand-cranked jack is mounted on front of the tongue.

"My total cost was less than \$100," says Ligtenberg.

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