



**Bale Sweep can be used with a skid loader or front-end loader. "The forks follow the contour of the ground without digging in," says inventor George Krizenawski.**

## Bale Sweep Picks Up Bales Fast, Clean

"Our claim to fame is we aren't dragging hay on the ground," says George Krizenawski, owner of Rocky Mountain Bale Sweep, who designed and sells the hay accumulator for small square bales.

He came up with the design in 2007 with the goal of creating a reasonably priced accumulator that could be used with a skid steer or front-end loader with a quick-attach system.

"The bale sweep is forgiving; the forks will follow the contour of the ground and not dig in," he says, because of the spring-loaded front end.

It also picks up the hay instead of pushing it across the field where it can pick up rocks and dirt, scrape off leaves and wear bale strings. No hydraulics are needed, just the skid steer or tractor controls.

Powder-coated and made in the U.S.,

the accumulators come in five sizes from a 3-pack to a 10-pack, ranging from \$2,500 to \$4,000. The most popular size is the 8-pack, Krizenawski says, and it can be operated with a 45-hp. tractor or skid steer. To accommodate the weight on the front, tractors may need ballast in the rear tires or weight on the 3 pt. hitch. Once the accumulator is filled with bales, it loads easily onto a wagon or stack on the ground.

Rocky Mountain Bale Sweep also sells a grapple and can ship anywhere. Check out the video online and contact Krizenawski for more information.

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**Worth Harman mounted a SpeeCo SplitMaster wood splitter alongside his Allis Chalmers C tractor. It's powered by a pump that runs off the pto.**

## Splitter Side-Mounted On Old Allis

Steve and Worth Harman gave new purpose to the family's old Allis Chalmers C by mounting a wood splitter on its side. The splitter is powered by an 11-gpm pump that runs off the pto.

"My dad started heating his house and shop in his 40's with wood he split by hand," says Steve. "When he was in his early 80's, he decided it was time to get a splitter. We decided to take the old C and give it a dignified use. We finished in 2009. At 93, my dad still uses it along with an 80-year-old logging trailer."

Worth's father bought the C in 1950 with a hillside plow, cultivator and a disc, all for \$1,700. The C was designed to be fitted with an undercarriage mower. The Harmans used 11 gauge, 2 by 2-in. steel tubing to fabricate a support frame for the splitter, the Barnes 2-stage pump, a 10-gal. reservoir and a tool pan. They modeled the frame after the mower frame with the splitter to the right side of the tractor. The 12-gauge steel, 10 by 10 by 24-in. reservoir sits between the splitter and the tractor. A 48-in. long, 13 1/2-in. wide by 10-in. deep tool pan for axes, chainsaw and other tools is centered under the support frame. At the rear, the framework replaces the OEM drawbar yoke assembly to mount the pump and hitch.

"We put the splitter as close to the tractor as we could without worrying about a split log hitting the engine," says Harman. "When we flip it vertical, the base rests on the ground."

The splitter is a SpeeCo SplitMaster. It pivots on a piece of 2 by 2-in. steel tubing

attached to the support frame.

The Harmans took advantage of the C's belt pulley shaft that emerges at a 90-degree angle to the rear pto shaft. Initially they used a belt drive from the shaft to the hydraulic pump. Excessive slippage led them to replace it with a chain drive, which in turn was replaced with a toothed belt drive.

"The chain drive worked, but it was noisy and created a lot of vibration," says Harman. "The toothed belt drive has worked fine. We fabricated a shield over it to keep out little fingers."

A 6 1/2-in. drive pulley on the belt pulley shaft drives a 2 3/4-in. pulley on the pump shaft. The pump is mounted to a sliding angle-plate assembly with the shaft secured in single-row ball bearings retained by snap rings.

The plate assembly is bolted to a slotted bottom plate welded between the rear ends of the support frame square tubes. Belt tension is adjusted using 2 horizontal 3/8-in. bolts threaded through the assembly and against the bottom plate.

The restoration included a new paint job. While the C originally had the darker AC (Persian #1) orange, Worth preferred the brighter (Persian #2) orange introduced in 1960. The splitter was painted AC cream with an AGCO sticker for an OEM look.

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## Cement Mixer, 3-Pt. Jig Used To Place Storage Container

"I mounted a cement mixer on my loader tractor to pour footings on a hill alongside my barn, where I planned to place a shipping container I bought for storage," says Minnesota inventor Mark Rinke. "That worked a lot better than using a wheelbarrow and shoveling, or having a cement truck back across my lawn."

Rinke modified a portable mixer he purchased from Harbor Freight. He added base plates that held the wheels and footpad securely to the forklift on his 420 Deere loader mounted on his 855 tractor. He also added 2 metal safety latches that bolt to the top frame of the forklift so the mixer would ride securely on the forks without tipping.

"My setup worked really well because I had the forks set wide enough to straddle the sonotubes used for the footings. The tub dumped the concrete in without spilling," says Rinke.

The footings were positioned to support an 8-ft. wide by 25-ft. long storage container. "My larger tractor could drag the container, but doing so would leave gouges in the grass that I didn't want to deal with," Rinke says. "My solution was to build a strong metal jig for the 3-pt. hitch on my 2030 Deere tractor. I made the horizontal lift arms out of channel iron and added reinforcing tube steel braces extending vertically up the front and horizontally across and up to the lift bar on the back. The lift bar connects to a piece of 2-in. metal pipe reinforced with angle rods as braces. Log chain shackles on each end of the pipe attach to the corners of the container with swivel clips so lifting, pulling and turning wouldn't damage the lift or the container," Rinke says.



**Mark Rinke mounted a cement mixer on his front-end loader, and built a jig for the tractor's 3-pt. hitch so he could move a 25-ft. storage container into place.**



To move the container without gouging the grass, Rinke lifted it with the 3-pt. jig and set it on round wooden fence posts. "It rolled along real well and I was able to maneuver it in place on the footings very easily with the jig," Rinke says. "If money was no object it certainly would've been easier to have a cement pumper truck and a lift crane do the work, but I enjoy the challenge of building things that get a job done efficiently and economically."

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**Ground-driven spreader comes with a 4-speed web drive that adjusts unloading thickness from a light powder to a heavy coating.**

## 4-Speed, Ground-Driven Spreader

The Conestoga manure spreader is built to last for smaller operations and daily spreading of up to 50 bushels in every load. What makes the spreader different is that its ground drive has 4 speeds.

"The 38-cu. ft. CM-50 Conestoga is a well-built spreader," says Eugene Canales, Ferrari-Tractor, who specializes in the import of smaller foreign farm equipment. "I've sold them for several years without any parts requests."

The polyvinyl floor and COR-TEN 12-gauge steel box offer smoother flow and easier clean up. The 35 by 90-in. box is corrosion resistant, and the floor will not rust or rot.

The stainless steel T-rods and apron chain offer superior durability. The 12 bolted (replaceable) paddles on the 19-in. dia. beater are made with 3/16-in. steel.

The all-wheel, ratchet clutch, drive system unloads easily, whether hauling straw

bedding, shavings or mixed hay/litter. It does so with no wheel drag or slipping.

The 4-speed web drive adjusts unloading thickness from a light powder to a heavy coating. Adjusting the main apron chain is as easy as loosening 2 side bolts and turning a single front nut.

Only 54 in. wide and less than 12 ft. long, the CM-50 can easily fit through most small gates. Like other larger spreaders, the CM-50 is available with a fine spread pan, top beater, and end gate. Slide away jacks are standard.

The 825-lb. spreader can be used with a small compact tractor or a team of horses. The price is currently \$3,750.

Conestoga makes a variety of other spreaders, from 25 (also ground drive) up to 175 bushels, most with pto drive.

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