

Measuring 6 ft. wide by 4 ft. deep, Wipf's 3-pt. carrier works great for hauling everything from pressure washers to buckets of feed, and even his young son.

## 3-Pt. Mounted "Cargo Carrier"

"It lets me haul everything from pressure washers to buckets of feed, and even calves and riding mowers," says Israel Wipf, Oakville, Manitoba, about his home-built, 3-pt. mounted "cargo carrier". He uses it on multiple tractors.

The carrier measures 6-ft. wide by 4-ft. deep and has a 3-ft. high "backstop" and a floor made from 2 by 8 boards, which are bolted to an angle iron frame with self-tapping screws. The sides are made from 2-in. square tubing.

The carrier hooks up to the quick-tach mounting brackets on Wipf's 3-pt. hitch. He replaced the top link screw on the 3-pt. hitch with a hydraulic cylinder, allowing him to tilt the carrier down to the ground and level with it, without having to get off the tractor. A pair of small steel plates bolt on between the cylinder and the quick tach mounting bracket, extending the stroke of the cylinder to provide an even greater tilt angle.

"We use it for a lot of different chores," says Wipf. "It's the same width as our smaller tractor so it'll fit through barn doors when



Carrier hooks up to quick-tach mounting brackets on 3-pt. hitch.

carrying buckets of feed. We also use it with our pressure washer to wash our house and other buildings, and it works perfect for cleaning up around the yard. We've used it to move push and riding mowers around, and to haul calves in calf cages. The metal sides make it safe for my son to ride along on it."

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Removable canopy and bed attach to riding mower without any welding.

## Riding Mower Fitted With Canopy, Stake Bed

"I wanted a canopy and a stake bed for my White riding mower but couldn't find anything. So I built my own removable canopy and bed that attach to the mower without any welding," says Rob Davis of Schell City, Mo. "I use this riding mower a lot around my yard, and the stake bed works great to haul hay bales, buckets, tools and so forth."

The stake bed measures 2 ft. long by 2 1/2 ft. wide and has 10-in. high wooden sides, which are held in place by lengths of 1/2-in. tubing that fit into 3/4-in. tubing. Metal tiedown rails are welded onto all 4 sides of the bed. The bed's wooden floor sets inside an angle iron frame. A pair of metal brackets underneath the bed are used to store a shovel.

The canopy measures 3 ft. long by 2 ft. wide. It's made from cotton canvas attached

to a frame made from 3/4-in. tubing, which is triangulated with 1/4 in. tubing for strength. Davis waterproofed the canvas by covering it with a fiberglass resin that he applied with a paint brush. "The fiberglass is very hard, which makes it virtually indestructible," says Davis. "I used the same resin to attach the canvas to the frame."

The canopy's frame fits inside a pair of 2-ft. high uprights made from 1-in. sq. tubing, which fits inside pockets on front of the stake bed. "By pulling 2 bolts I can quickly remove the canopy from the stake bed," says Davis, who added a hitch under the stake bed so he can tow his small 8 by 5-ft. trailer.

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Cradle on motorized carrier tips back, allowing Sager to pick up a 4 to 5-ft. section of log or even a big stump - and carry it away.

## **Stump Walker Helps Remove Trees**

David Sager's Stump Walker makes removing a tree from someone's backyard easy. The cradle lifts a stump or section of log into place, and the motorized unit carries it away. It can fit through a 3-ft. or smaller gate.

"My neighbor is an arborist and cuts trees for a living," says Sager. "He wanted to be able to remove a log or stump and not have to cut it up into small pieces or use a tracked loader that would root up the lawn."

Sager's solution was the Stump Walker. It can pick up a 4 to 5-ft. section of log or stump and wheel it away. The cradle is built like a utility cart, but heavier. It has a 3/8-in. thick steel plate for its base with 1/8-in., 1 by 2-in. steel tubing for its sides and cross members. Tipped upright, the plate rests on the ground. Quarter inch thick steel paddles on either side keep the log section from rolling off.

Once the section of log is in place, the cradle pivots back on a 1-in. steel rod suspended from pillow bearings. They are mounted to 2 by 2-in. steel tubes that can telescope out of the 2 1/2 by 2 1/2-in. main frame of the Stump Walker. Two short uprights on the first cross bar of the mainframe provide rests for the cradle.

"I mounted the frame on 2 sets of wheels and drive axles off of old snowblowers," says Sager.

The Stump Walker is powered by a Vanguard gas engine with a gear reduction on it. For simplicity and cost's sake, Sager went with a single speed drive. It gives the Stump Walker a top speed of about 3 mph, just about walking speed.

Roller chain from the gear reduction drives a larger sprocket on a jackshaft, which in turn drives the rear axle. Two roller chains from sprockets on the rear axle transfer power to the front axle.

"I set it up to be 4-WD, but then unhooked the 2 front wheels to allow easier turning," says Sager. "The remaining wheels provided all the pull needed."

The entire project, which Sager did at cost as a favor to his neighbor, ran about \$1,600. That included the new motor and gear reduction.

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## "Hammock" Makes Piglet Restraint Easy

This hammock-style pig handler makes it easier to restrain piglets. It was developed by Tess Faulkner and Gillian Greaves, who work for South West Ontario Veterinary Services in Stratford, Ontario. It's designed for piglets weighing up to 25 lbs.

The women recently shared the honors as winners of the 2020 Dr. F.X. Aherne prize for innovative pork production. They designed the hammock because they were involved in a research trial that required euthanizing a lot of pigs. But they say the hammock can be useful any time a piglet needs to be restrained. And, it can be made inexpensively using a few items found in the local hardware store.

"We came up with the idea because we found it difficult to euthanize an animal with a captive bolt, on our own, with just a board," says Faulkner. "The hammock is a less stressful way to restrain a piglet because it allows both the operator and the animal to relax. The operator places the pig's feet in the mesh and then folds the hammock, which keeps both hands free to safely operate a captive bolt gun."

The device measures 40 in. long, 12 in. tall, and 3 in. wide when folded, and 22 in. wide when opened. It's made from 2 sections of 1 1/2-in. dia. ABS pipe connected together by a carriage bolt/washer/nut combination. The 2 sections are set within each other, allowing the hammock to fold in and out easily. Once the sections are folded out, a piece of plastic snow fence with large openings is zip tied onto both sections to hold the hammock in place.



Hammock-style pig handler is designed for piglets weighing up to 25 lbs.

"The hammock is easy to clean and lightweight, yet it's strong enough to restrain the pig. It folds easily so it can be hung on a wall for storage and easy access," says

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