

Vertical Log Splitter Equipped With Loading Arm

Ed Hollmen, Marion, N.Y., wanted a log splitter that would be easier on his back so he designed and built a heavy duty, vertical splitter that's equipped with a log loading arm.

"It makes splitting logs a much easier job because very little lifting or bending is required," says Hollmen.

The splitter stands almost 10 ft. tall and weighs about 2,000 lbs. A 12-volt winch is used to raise and lower the 5-ft. long loading arm, allowing Hollmen to stack logs from ground level and then raise the arm for use as a table. When he's done splitting logs, the arm folds up vertically for transport.

"The loading arm can easily pick up a 24-in. long, 24-in. dia. log," says Hollmen. "I like to line up logs on the loading arm platform before I start splitting them so I can work faster."

He started with a 13-in. wide by 7-in. deep, 1/2-in. thick steel I-beam that he found on Craigslist, and some surplus 1/4 and 3/16-in. thick steel panels. A 12 hp Kohler electric start engine from a Cub Cadet is used to drive the splitter's 2-stage hydraulic pump. It powers a 24-in. long, 4-in. dia. hydraulic cylinder, which is operated by a splitter valve with a detent in the return position.

Hollmen also developed a 2-stage splitting wedge that he says is extremely efficient.

The wedge consists of a 1-in. thick "razor sharp" blade made from tool steel, with a block mounted on either side of it. The log is placed on top of 2 serrated blocks placed about 6 in. apart.

"The raised blocks help keep tough logs from blowing apart," says Hollmen. "The system is designed so the wedge can split most logs using only the low pressure stage of the pump. For tough logs, the wedge will automatically kick down into the second high pressure stage and cut right through them. I designed the system so I can add a 4-way wedge if I ever need to."

"I've used it for 6 years now to split about 100 face cords of firewood, and haven't yet found a log it wouldn't split or cut."

The back of the splitter has a pair of push buttons to operate the loading arm and a control lever for the wedge. Hollmen made the hydraulic oil reservoir from a used 13-gal. air compressor tank, and part of the frame and axle are from an old boat trailer.

"I made the splitter's hitch adjustable for height so I can tow the splitter level behind different vehicles," notes Hollmen.

You can see the splitter in action by going to www.farmshow.com.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ed Hollmen (ehollmen@gmail.com); <https://youtu.be/Dv5U8Q1AT0A>.



A 12-volt winch is used to raise and lower the 5-ft. long loading arm on Ed Hollmer's vertical splitter. "Very little lifting or bending is required," he says.



A pair of push buttons are used to operate the loading arm, and a control lever operates unit's 2-stage splitting wedge.



Easy-To-Use Rotating Tri-Ball Hitch

Anyone who has more than one trailer to pull will be interested in this patent pending, rotating tri-ball hitch developed by Paul Parvin of Corinth, Miss.

"It's very easy to use because you never have to lift anything - just pull a pin, turn the 3-ball plate, and reinsert the pin," says Parvin.

The unit comes with 3 hitch balls in 1 7/8, 2, and 2 5/16-in. sizes that are welded to a steel plate. To rotate to another ball size, you

just pull a pin out of the tube, twist the plate, and reinsert the pin.

The 3-ball steel plate has a solid shaft welded on at the bottom that fits into a slightly bigger heavy wall pipe, which is welded onto an L-shaped piece that fits into the receiver hitch.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Paul Parvin, 87 County Road 547, Corinth, Miss. 38834 (ph 662 462-5669).



Rotating tri-ball hitch comes with 3 hitch balls in 7/8, 2, and 2 5/16-in. sizes that are welded to a steel plate.

Adapter Pulls Pintle Hitch Trailers

Dean Konsela needed to pull a pintle hitch trailer, but his truck had a DMI hitch, and the two didn't mix. With some trial and error, he came up with an adapter to his hitch that lets him safely connect the two. It worked so well that he has a patent pending and has started selling the adapters.

"DMI hitches can only be used with pins or balls," says Konsela. "However, they are easier to hook up than a standard receiver hitch. They can slide in and out or to the side. You don't have to be straight in line with the trailer."

Konsela's adapter offers the benefits of the DMI hitch for use with pintle hitch trailers. The steel adapter with the pintle hitch latch slides over the DMI drawbar. To fix it in place, a properly weighted 2-in. ball is inserted through the adapter and the pin hole in the drawbar. Once it has been locked in place with a nut, a bolt underneath the adapter is also tightened. It serves as a safety backup should the nut come loose or fall off.

As a bonus, the adapter also works with ball hitches, locking them in place as well. To use the adapter hitch with pin-type trailers, simply remove the ball.

The adapter is priced at \$180 plus shipping. Check out a video of the hitch adapter at FARMSHOW.COM.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Konsela



Dean Konsela came up with an adapter for the DMI hitch on his pickup, allowing him to safely pull a pintle hitch trailer.



Hitch, 4232 Madson Rd., Manitowoc, Wis. 54220 (ph 920 758-2677; www.konselahitch.com).



Darry Markle's 2-wheeled dolly makes moving his small 2-wheeled utility trailer around by hand a much easier job.

2-Wheeled Dolly Makes Trailer Hookup Easy

"My little 2-wheeled dolly took only a few minutes to put together, but it makes moving my small 2-wheeled utility trailer around by hand a much easier job," says Darry Markle, Claresholm, Alberta.

The dolly consists of a pair of 10-in. high wheels connected by a short axle that has a 6-in. high, 2 1/2-in. dia. pipe welded onto it. By cranking the trailer's jack down it fits inside the pipe. A long pipe welded to the axle forms a handle that Markle uses to move the

dolly around.

"I use the 6 by 12-ft. utility trailer to haul motorcycles and ATVs behind my pickup. Whenever I want to store the trailer in my shed I maneuver the dolly under the jack and then crank the jack to lift the tongue off the ball hitch."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Darry Markle, P.O. Box 2199, Claresholm, Alberta, Canada T0L 0T0 (ph 403 489-1956; darrymarkle@gmail.com).