



James Lunders designed this trailer-mounted wool press to help offset low wool prices and high fuel prices.

Portable Press Makes Compact Bales Of Wool

By Loretta Sorensen

A combination of low wool prices and high fuel prices inspired James Lunders of Irrigon, Oregon, to design a portable wool press that offers sheep producers some savings.

Lunders designed an 18-ft. long, 30-in. wide, trailer-mounted hydraulic ram baler fashioned from 1 1/2-in. sq. steel tubing. It compresses 450 to 460 lbs. of wool into a nylon bag. The oblong bales, somewhat smaller than 1,000-lb. hay bales, stack snugly on a truck so a greater amount of wool can be shipped at one time.

"No one builds wool presses in the U.S.," says Lunders. "You can import one from Australia, but they're not as heavy as mine and they're also not as portable."

Lunders' baler is light enough to be moved with a 4-wheeler and manipulated by hand to fit close quarters. "Neither wool prices nor the sheep market are good so U.S. manufacturers aren't interested in making these," says



Press produces oblong bales that stack snugly on a truck so more wool can be shipped at one time.

Lunders. "Since we ship our wool to Texas now, any kind of savings helps our bottom line."

Lunders is making some improvements on a second baler that he's currently building. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, James Lunders, 227 W. Wyoming Ave., Irrigon, Oregon 97844 (ph 541 922-3518).



Duwayne Bakker mounted a pair of fat tires on front of his Bush Hog-type mower to keep the mower from digging into the dirt.

Add-On Tires Keep Mower Running Level

"I had trouble with my Deere 413 3-pt. mounted Bush Hog-type mower digging into the dirt. I tried using the tractor's 3-pt. control lever to adjust the depth, but it's real touchy so the mower usually went too far up or down. I solved the problem by mounting a pair of fat tires on front of the mower. Now I can just drop the 3-pt. and go without having to adjust anything," says Duwayne Bakker, Riverton, Wyoming.

The 4-ft. wide rig was originally equipped with a single caster wheel on back, which it still has. Bakker welded a 2-in. dia. pipe axle across the front of the mower, then welded a

metal plate with matching wheel holes in it onto each end of the pipe. Then he bolted 12-in. wide wheels, which he bought at Wal-Mart, onto each plate.

"The wheels keep the mower's front end about 2 in. off the ground, while the back end stays about 3 in. off the ground. I tried using narrower tires at first, but the mower is so heavy that the tires sank into the ground and made deep wheel ruts," notes Bakker.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Duwayne R. Bakker, Box 6057, 12557 U.S. Highway 26, Riverton, Wyoming 82501 (ph 307 857-5626).

Cat. IV hitch allows 4-WD articulated tractors to lift big equipment, such as 24-row planters and 50-ft. wide field cultivators.



Cat. IV Hitch For Big 4-WD Tractors

John Redekop with Mandako Agri Marketing, Plum Coulee, Manitoba recently called FARM SHOW to tell us about the new Cat. IV 3-pt. hitch his company introduced. It's designed for big 4-WD articulated tractors that range from 250 to 475 hp.

"As far as I know we're the only company that sells Cat. IV 3-pt. hitches," says Redekop. "We've been selling Cat. III 3-pt. hitches for 2-WD and front wheel assist tractors for years. However, farmers who own big 4-WD tractors tell us they need a hitch that will lift big equipment such as 24-row planters and 50-ft. wide field cultivators. These tractors pivot in the middle, and an ordinary 3-pt. hitch isn't built strong enough to withstand the side forces during the lifting process. By adding a Cat. IV 3-pt. to the tractor many farmers may use their big implements without having to buy a newer tractor."

According to Redekop, the Cat. IV 3-pt. hitches are built to withstand both the side torque forces when lifting and the torquing action of the tractor itself. "These hitches are built heavy and weigh from 1,200 to 1,900 lbs., with a capacity of up to 10,000 lbs.," he says. Many of them go on Deere 60, 70, 80, and 90 series 4-WD tractors as well as on the



Mandako also makes Cat. III hitches, such as this one mounted on a Deere 4630.

Bueller 435 series, New Holland 92 series, and Case IH Quad Trac and 4-WD models."

The company offers a quick hitch that can be fastened onto the Cat. IV 3-pt. hitch. "The same hitch can also be used on our Cat. III hitches as well," notes Redekop.

Prices for the Cat. IV hitch start at \$9,000 and go up to \$12,000. The quick hitch sells for \$1,250.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mandako Agri Marketing, Inc., P.O. Box 136, Hwy. 306, Plum Coulee, Manitoba, Canada R0G 1R0 (ph 888 525-5892 or 204 829-3348; fax 204 829-7712; mandako@mandakoagri.com; www.mandakoagri.com).

3-Pt. Hitch Turns ATV's Into Tillage Machines

Cycle Country's 3-pt. hitch turns larger 4-WD ATV's into versatile units that will hook up to a variety of small tillage equipment.

According to Cycle Country's Marketing Director Don Carnes, the 3-pt. hitch is a standard category zero hitch. With the mounting hardware in place, the hitch can be attached or removed in minutes.

"The electro-mechanical, screw-driven lift provides years of reliable operation and, because the hitch locks out the ATV's rear suspension, it provides much better precision and control than lightweight pull-behind implements," he explains. "Also, a built-in float provides smooth operation of the implements in the ground."

The hitch hooks up to the company's plow, disk, harrow, furrower, cultivator, rake and rear blade. They range in price from \$80 to \$713.

The hitch sells for \$779.92 and a model-specific frame mount kit sells for \$156.47. A toolbar for most implements also sells separately for \$172.

Cycle Country sells through a network of distributors that support over 3,000 dealers internationally.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cycle Country Powersports Accessories, Box 257, Spencer, Iowa 51301 (ph 712 262-4191 or 800 841-2222; fax 712 262-0248, ccac@cyclecountry.com; www.cyclecountry.com).



Electro-mechanical, screw-driven lift provides better control than lightweight pull-behind implements, says Cycle Country.



Hitch hooks up to company's plow, disk, harrow, furrower, cultivator, rake and rear blade.