

Tree Shear For Skid Steers

The Lyon Cub Tree Shear is a low-maintenance tree cutter for skid steer loaders that works fast to clear small trees.

Designer Jay Lyon and manufacturer Gene Schendt of G T Metal in Lawrence, Neb., have received rave reviews from people who've tried the new tree shear.

"We have copyrighted this design and applied for a patent," Lyon points out. "Everybody who's seen it work is amazed at how simple it is, how well it works, and how fast it is. It's perfect for removing small trees along fence lines or clearing second growth cedars out of pastures. Once you have the larger trees cleared out, it's a great maintenance tool for future growth."

The quick-tach tool works best on 3 to 4-in. dia. trees. The partners say they have successfully cut 6-in. dia. trees, but conditions have to be just right.

According to the pair, the unit consists of two well-braced 19-in. dia. blades made of heavy, high carbon steel. To make them, they modified new rolling cutters off a V-plow and added a good bearing with a center support. You don't have to take the center support out to change the blades, as it's just there to protect the bearings and hub, they point out.

The blades can be easily removed using

5 lug bolts, and they are reinforced on both sides with mild steel discs that bolt to the hub to take the flex out of them.

"Another selling point is that we probably have it over-built. So far, I have not been able to wreck it," Lyon says. "I have ran over 3,500 acres, taking out 5,000 to 7,000 trees. It's a piece of equipment that you can use for years and years."

"You don't need to go very fast," Schendt says. "At least a foot ahead of the tree, you roll your bucket control down with a nice fluid movement, just before you contact the tree. You need to be able to see the blades to operate it and, like anything, there's a small learning curve involved in running it."

The blades penetrate the surface of the ground and cut a small V into the soil, but they don't create a big disruption. It leaves a smooth stump, either ground level or below, depending on operator's skill.

"With real little trees, you can just go through and cut them like you would with a lawn mower, but with other larger ones, you remove them individually and just back up and move to the next tree," Schendt says.

You don't ever need to sharpen the blades, however they will eventually wear down and can become chipped from working in rocky



Tree shear consists of two 19-in. dia. heavy steel blades, which can easily be removed for replacement when worn.

areas, so you just replace the whole blade, Lyon points out.

"We used off-the-shelf bearings that can be purchased anywhere, and we'll supply our customers with replacement blades."

Retail price for the unit is \$3,200 plus ship-

ping, and the partners are currently accepting dealers applications.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, G T Metal, Box 187, Lawrence, Neb. 68957 (ph 402 756-7835 or 402 469-2157 (cell), 402 469-2085 (Jay); gtmatal@gtmc.net).



Hydraulic lift lets Duane Pung get up into a tractor. Canvas sling attaches to hooks on boom.

Lift Keeps Injured Dairyman Farming

Before he finished therapy from a 2003 vehicle accident that left him paralyzed from the chest down, Duane Pung designed a hydraulic lift to get him back up into a tractor. He gave the design to Jerry Mayer of Mayer's Repair so the lift would be ready for him to go back to farming 400 acres and caring for 150 dairy cows.

The 54-year-old Freeport, Minn., dairyman has farmed since he was a teen and was experienced at fabricating equipment. For example, he built a cattle trailer when he was a high school senior and later built his farm's stainless steel milking parlor. A doctor's comment that, "Your farming days are over" wasn't going to stop him.

"I said 'I've already farmed 24 years, I will survive this too,'" Pung recalls. Classified a C-6 quadriplegic, he regained a 14-lb. grip in his hands after tendon surgery - enough for him to drive.

Pung's lift cost \$12,000, but is invaluable for giving him access to tractors and other equipment. He has an Amish-built canvas sling that slips into his power wheelchair before he gets in it. When he's ready to go to work for the day, he takes his chair to the lift and attaches the sling loops to hooks on the boom. A helper then operates the hydraulic lift to raise him up to the cab.

"At first I wanted it to be remote control," Pung says, so he could operate it by himself.



Lift mounts on trailer, making it easy to move where needed.

"Then I thought that if something goes wrong I'd be all alone."

The boom mounts on a trailer and is made of 4 by 4-in. tubing. An electric-over-hydraulic pump and three 4-in., 15-in. stroke hydraulic cylinders provide plenty of lifting power and extends the boom up to 4 ft. to get Pung next to the tractor or skidsteer seat.

"The cylinders are large and have restrictors in the line so they go slow," Pung says. "The lift goes high enough that I can almost change the light bulb in the yard pole."

Tractors have been modified with 3/4-in. tubing on the clutch and brake so they can be hand-operated. His newer Caterpillar skidsteer with hand controls didn't require

any modifications. Pung has a remote control unit to operate the manure pump.

"The lift is plugged in all summer long," Pung says. "We have just one part-time guy. I can do all the fieldwork. My 14-year-old son follows me with a wrench, and my 16-year-old takes care of the cows."

With ingenuity, determination and plain hard work, the family is proving that the doctor was wrong, and Pung's farming days are long from being over.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Randy Pung, 228 Seventh Ave. N.E., Freeport, Minn. 56331 (ph 320 836-2435).

"Air Boots" Have Clogs Inside

There's no more fighting to get your shoes in a rubber boot with TREDs new "Air Boots". The plain and steel toe boots come with lightweight, comfortable clogs inside.

"The clog is permanently bonded in the boot so the foot stays in the clog," says Bethany Weber at TREDs, a family-owned and operated business that has been selling American-made rubber footwear since 1992.

The outer skin of the boot is made of flexible, non-cracking, 100 percent latex rubber that can stretch up to 800 percent, making it easy to slip a hand inside to fasten the clog's

strap over a heel.

"The foam foot-bed cradles the foot and provides support similar to wearing an actual shoe without the added weight and inconvenience," Weber says. "Guys who wear Air TREDs say it's like walking on clouds."

TREDs block-tread pattern soles provide good traction in mud, manure and other messy conditions. The boots work well for people in agriculture (especially dairy and pork) and construction trades. They come in 12 and 17-in. tall models and with steel-toe options. Women's sizes, 7 to 9 and men's sizes 5 to 13, come in black and a variety of

colors. Custom logo imprints are available.

Boots start at \$49.95 and are available on the TREDs website or through dealers throughout the country. Dealer inquiries are also welcome.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Advantage Products Corporation, 11559 Grooms Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45242 (ph 513 489 2283; www.treds.com).

"Air Boots" have lightweight, comfortable clogs inside them. Outer skin of boot can stretch up to 800 percent, making it easy to slip a hand inside to fasten clog's strap over your heel.

