

“No Hydraulics” Barrel Grabber

Moving big barrels around is an easy job with this new universal attachment called the Barrel Grabber, designed to mount on a skid steer loader. Inventor Bob Bork says the patent pending Barrel Grabber is designed to lift, transport, stack or unstack, and pour. It uses heavy duty hinged wings that lock onto barrels by use of gravity.

“It works without hydraulics, or springs, which keeps the cost down,” says Bork. “Works great on both plastic and metal barrels – 30 or 55-gal. - but you can also use it with a variety of other containers including bins, garbage cans and plant pots.”

The Barrel Grabber uses hinged orange metal brackets with a radius cut out between them that match the size of the barrel. Another set of 3 yellow hinges can be flipped inward to reduce the radius size in order to handle smaller barrels.

Two models are available. One quick-taches to the skid loader arms and the other slides onto a set of forks. Only the quick-tach model can be used to pour. “The combination of 2 different size hinged wings lets you handle 3 different size barrels,” says Bork.

To use, the operator lowers the hinged

wings over the top of the barrel until the wings pass over the desired ring on the barrel. The wings will fall down, and then automatically lock in place as the operator raises the Barrel Grabber.

To release the barrel, he tilts the Barrel Grabber downward while backing up the skid loader, allowing the hinges to automatically open up.

A winch and 4-in. wide tie-down strap, bolted into one corner of the Barrel Grabber’s frame, are used to pour. The operator wraps the strap around the barrel in a figure 8 design, hooking the strap up to the opposite corner of the frame. A metal rod is then used to tighten the strap.

“It works good. I haven’t found a barrel yet that it can’t pick up,” says Bork.

Bork is looking for a partnership with an established company to market and manufacture the Barrel Grabber.

You can watch a short video of the Barrel Grabber on YouTube on www.farmshow.com.

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Barrel Grabber uses heavy-duty hinged metal wings to lock onto barrels by use of gravity. Wings automatically lock in place under barrel ring as operator raises unit. Another set of 3 yellow hinges can be flipped inward to handle smaller barrels.



Winch and tie-down strap, bolted into one corner of Barrel Grabber’s frame, are used to pour. Strap wraps around barrel in a figure 8 design to keep it secure.

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Reader Inquiry No. 97

Re-Used Vinyl Billboard Signs Make Strong Tarps

Need a strong waterproof vinyl tarp? How about an industrial strength 14 by 48-ft. for only \$55? Billboard Tarps re-uses former vinyl billboard signs and sells them as tarps at deep discount prices. Once a billboard is expired and taken down off the frame, Billboard Tarps has the exclusive national contract to get them. You can buy them one at a time, by the pallet, or in truckload quantities. Customers include farmers, contractors, lumber yards, commercial pond builders, steel mills, government agencies, schools, storage facilities, marinas, winter guard gym floor covers, and many more.

Many of the large billboards that you see driving down the highway are made of an industrial strength material called Flex Vinyl. This material is 3-ply with PVC vinyl on the 2 outside layers and a polyester mesh material in the middle. The billboard vinyl comes in weights of 9 and 13 to 16 oz. per square yard. (The typical polyethylene blue tarps weigh 3 to 4 ounces per square yard). The thickness ranges from 11 to 17 mil. These also have a UV protective layer and are anti-mildew. The material is waterproof and is designed to withstand years of hot, cold, wet and dry weather. The middle mesh layer makes it tear and fray resistant. “These are really tough pieces of vinyl that have many applications.”



Customers continually come up with new uses for the heavy-duty tarps.

Billboard Tarps also carries new vinyl tarps constructed with the same heavy-duty vinyl used for billboard signage. They are available in black or white, and have even longer lifespans than the reused material. Available in weights including 9, 13 and 20 oz., this new vinyl material is ideal for applications such as pond lining, hoop buildings, hay tarps, roof covers and more. Through their relationships with vinyl manufacturers across the country, Billboard Tarps is able to provide new vinyl at prices nearly as low as their reused material.

“Due to the high quality of the material, these vinyl tarps originally cost about \$600 to \$3,000 to manufacture, depending on the size. We sell them for only a fraction of that cost. Also, by re-using this material, you can lower your carbon footprint by eliminating additional energy needed for manufacturing

new product. It’s great to find alternative uses for the material instead of throwing them into a landfill.”

Billboard Tarps has many sizes to choose depending on their current inventory. Some popular sizes are: 14 by 48 ft, 28 by 48 ft, 20 by 60 ft. They also make custom sizes over 1,500 sq. ft., so you can get any XL size you need. Some popular sizes are 40 by 60 ft., 50 by 70, 100 by 100, and even 200 by 200 ft. Please call or email with the size you need at info@billboardtarps.com

Or call toll free at 1-877-771-8277 (TARP) Must call ahead for local pickup.

www.BillboardTarps.com

Contact information: Sky Group, Inc. (DBA Billboard Tarps), 2645 26th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55406 Email: info@billboardtarps.com

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