

Latest New Trimmers, Cutters To Trim Up Your Trees



High Reach "Scissor-Type" Trimmer

You've never seen anything like this new bucket-mounted hydraulic tree trimmer that works as high as a loader can reach.

Designed to slip over the end of a bale spear, the trimmer can also be mounted on a tractor 3-pt. and used to shear trees off at ground level.

John Parkhurst, Hughesville, Mo., got the idea out of necessity. "Last summer I had numerous tree limbs I needed to cut out of the way because they interfered with mowing and the movement of machinery. Although the end of each limb was low, the main part of the limb would be too high to reach except standing on a ladder or in a front-end loader bucket. I wasn't comfortable using a chainsaw that way so I decided to find a better way."

After working out a design on paper and making scale models, Parkhurst built a working model last November. The unit

has since been redesigned numerous times and tested on different types of wood, including rock hard hedge wood.

The scissor-type trimmer is fitted with a single 4 by 8-in. cylinder and self-centering tempered steel blades. It slips over the point of a bucket-mounted bale spear and can be positioned in either an up-and-down position or horizontally. Parkhurst plans to offer an optional hydraulic system to rotate the trimmer from the tractor seat. He notes that you could mount any length of spear on the front loader to reach up as high as needed for trimming.

Cuts through limbs up to 6 to 6 in. diameter. Parkhurst hopes to sell the trimmer for under \$450.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John W. Parkhurst, P&W Engineering, Rt. 1, Box 2, Hughesville, Mo. 65334 (ph 816 826-4570 or 827-5856).



Long Reach "Jaw Blades" Cutter

Thanks to this first-of-its-kind "long reach" tree cutter, you can now cut trees 7 ft. in front of a tractor or skid steer loader without having to cut off branches just to get to the tree.

The new "QuickCut" tree cutter consists of a 7-ft. long steel frame that quick taches onto your skid steer or front-end loader. It uses two slowly rotating "jaw blades" mounted in front to cut through trees up to 18 in. in dia.

"It has a much longer reach than shear-type tree cutters and can cut much larger trees," says Dave Hubertus, vice president, Lincoln Mfg. Co., Lincoln, Neb. "Most shear-type tree cutters can cut trees no larger than 10 in. in dia. and are coupled close in to the tractor. The QuickCut cuts trees at about the same rate as a shear tree cutter, but it lets you cut more trees per hour because you can cut right through large trees instead of having to work your way around them making several cuts. Some farmers have cut up to 300 trees per hour. The extended reach lets you use it in ditches and ravines and remove trees along fence rows. It works great for

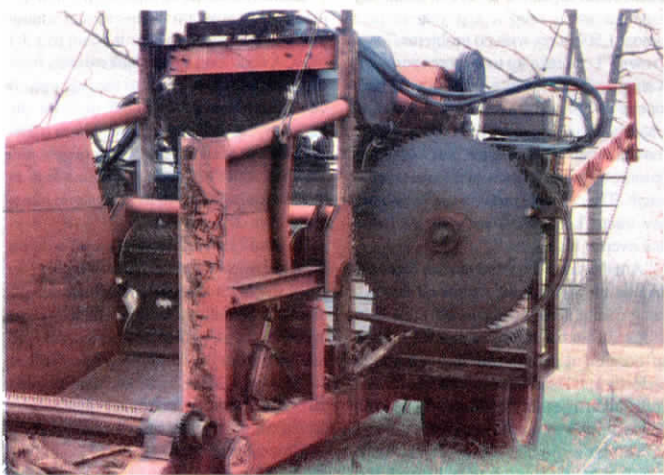
cutting overhead branches because it reaches up to 20 ft. high on a front-end loader. If the ground isn't real hard you can also cut 1 to 2 in. below the ground."

The frame is equipped with a 5-in. dia., 30-in. stroke cylinder that's powered by the loader's hydraulic system. The blades mount on a chain-driven hub. You approach the tree with the blades open and then activate a cylinder which rotates the blades 180 degrees inward.

"The rotating blades are mounted off-center and come together like jaws to cut through the tree," says Hubertus. "It takes significantly less power than trying to shear it. That makes it much easier on your hydraulic system. It weighs only about 1,300 lbs."

A deflector bar protects the operator. Sells for \$4,995.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lincoln Mfg. Co., 4001 Industrial Ave., Box 30303, Lincoln, Neb. 68503-0303 (ph 402 464-7418 or toll-free 800 221-4109).



Giant Tree Cutter Clears 8-Ft. Swath

"It'll cut 3-ft. dia. trees at 1 to 2 in. below ground level in minutes and also clear all the brush in its path," says Nolan Howe, Neosho, Mo., about his giant home-built self-propelled tree cutter that's equipped with an 8-ft. dia. saw blade in front.

Howe, who owns a saw mill, uses the one-of-a-kind 4-WD tree cutter to clear land. What's more, he's also built a huge, totally automatic whole-log "firewood machine" that comes in afterward and chews up 4 to 5 trees at a time, turning them into firewood that he later markets as part of his profit.

"As far as I know it's the first self-propelled machine of its kind that'll cut trees at or below ground level without leaving any stumps. It leaves the ground looking as slick as a golf course and ready for seeding," says Howe, who built the tree cutter and fire-

wood machine over an 8-year period.

"The key to cutting trees below ground level is that the blade can be hydraulically tilted forward and is equipped with carbide teeth. Once the operator tilts the blade, he lets it down slowly into the ground and drives forward. It takes 15 to 20 seconds to cut a 1 1/2-ft. dia. tree but about 4 min. to cut a 3-ft. dia. tree. Most of that time is spent positioning the machine because big trees have to be cut from three directions since there's only 24 in. of cutting area on the blade. It turns slower than a conventional saw blade which allows the carbide teeth to cut through dirt and to push rocks the size of washtubs out of the way without breaking off."

Howe uses two "pusher bars," powered by air suspension bags removed from semi trucks, to push trees over as he cuts. One bar

mounts on front of the machine and one on the side. The front-mounted bar is used to lean the tree forward while the blade cuts. Howe uses one side of the blade to cut part way through the tree, then drives forward and uses the side-mounted bar to push the tree over. "About 95% of the trees fall right where I want them to," notes Howe.

His tree cutter is powered by a 220 hp Cummins diesel engine and is equipped with an 8-speed RoadRanger transmission removed from an old Diamond T semi truck. The blade is driven by a Mack truck rear end that's mounted at a 90 degree angle to the saw blade. It drives an inflated rubber tire that sits inside a 42-in. dia. steel ring welded to the center of the blade. The tire drive system lets the blade slip if it hits an immovable object.

The tree cutter's driveline also came from a Mack truck and the axles from a semi-trailer. The four 23.1 by 26 tires were taken from a pair of old Deere combines. Roller chains removed from a D-5 Caterpillar tie the two wheels together on each side and allow the machine to maneuver like a big skid steer loader. Each wheel is driven by a hydrostatic motor, and the motors are powered by a pair of hydrostatic pumps that are driven by the engine crankshaft.

The pull-type "firewood machine" can cut up complete tree tops or whole trees up to 20 in. in dia. It's equipped with two 22-in.

dia., 48-in. long feed rollers and a 50-in. dia., hydraulic-driven saw blade mounted on a track. The rollers pull the tree through and the blade moves back and forth across the tree, cutting it into 18-in. lengths that are fed into a loading conveyor. "It can cut a 50-ft. long tree into firewood in 1 1/2 min.," notes Howe, who notes that the rig is powered by a Deutz 3-cylinder 30 hp engine.

How spent about \$10,000 apiece to build the tree cutter and firewood machine. He charges \$75 to \$100 per acre (plus what's cut down) or \$50 per hour straight time.

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