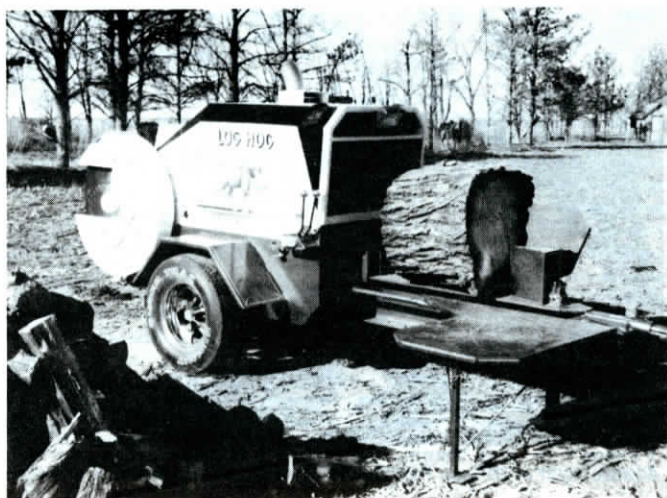


Build Yourself A Low-Cost Log Splitter



"Log Hog" Buzz Saw, Splitter Combo

"We built this machine because we were tired of all the different pieces of equipment we needed to split wood. This machine is equipped with both a buzz saw and a splitter and it's built like a tank. There isn't any wood it won't split," says Don Brooks, Clayton, Kan.

The Log Hog is equipped with both a 6-cyl., 230 cu. in. Chevrolet engine, which powers the buzz saw, and an 8-hp. Tecumseh engine that powers the splitter. The main splitter frame was built from 8 by 10-in. I-beam that runs the full length of the machine. An oil reservoir is built into the right side and a gas tank into the left side. The Chevy engine is coupled to a right angle gear drive to power the saw. A combination clutch-brake lever at the left rear of the

machine engages the saw. The splitter is fed by a 22 gpm pump which powers a 5 by 30-in. cylinder. The log lift, for heavy chunks, has a 2 by 8-in. cylinder equipped with flow control valves. Machine has dual levers on both sides to run both the splitter and lift. A control panel at rear monitors oil, water, amps, fuel, engine rpms and is fitted with an AM-FM radio and cassette player. The hood tips up for easy access to motor. For appearance, Brooks added chrome wheels and a professional paint job. The Log Hog is rigged with lights for over-the-road travel.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Donald R. Brooks, Brooks Manufacturing, Clayton, Kan. 67629 (ph 913 693-4380 or 4508).



Garden Tractor Log Splitter

A Wisconsin farmer turned a "junked" garden tractor into portable wood splitter that lets him drive to wherever wood is stacked.

Earl Hillestad, Deer Park, Wis., says that when the engine wore out on his older model Pennsylvania garden tractor, he hated to throw the frame away. So he came up with plans for the mobile splitter and took them to his local blacksmith.

The first step was to cut away the front-end of the tractor and replace it with a heavy 6 by 8-in. sq. steel box beam that serves both as splitting table and 12-gal. oil reservoir. The beam was welded to the front axle and extends right through the dash of the tractor. The original front wheels and steering linkage remain intact but Hillestad had to lengthen the steering shaft.

Both the garden tractor and splitter are powered by a 16-hp. Briggs and Stratton engine that drives a 22 gpm two-stage hydraulic pump. The pump runs an orbit motor

that provides power to the rear end of the garden tractor, and powers the 24 by 5-in. hydraulic cylinder that does the splitting. The 1-gal. gas tank mounts on a frame above the engine and runs the splitter for about an hour.

"This idea should work with virtually any splitter. We like it because it makes it easy to move the splitter around the yard," says Hillestad.

He's got another use for the garden tractor-splitter. He welded a pto spline shaft to a metal bracket and bolted that to the center of the rear left tractor drive wheel. He uses it to run a pto-powered bale elevator by jacking up the tractor rear end and applying a brake to the opposite wheel. He runs the elevator at slow speeds so he says exact centering of the pto shaft wasn't necessary.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Earl Hillestad, Rt. 1, Box 230, Deer Park, Wis. 54007 (ph 715 269-5290).



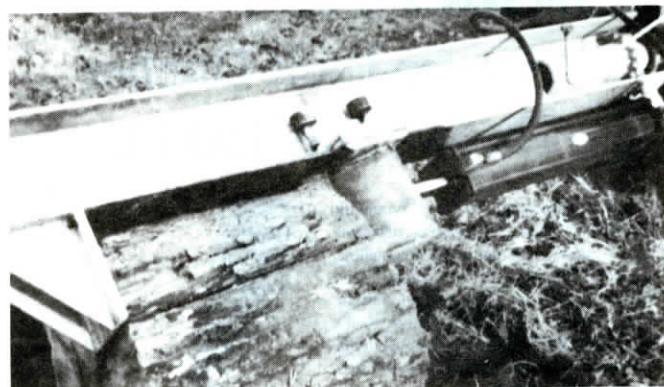
"Guillotine" Log Splitter

Neil Butts, Goodland, Kan., built a "guillotine" log splitter that he says outperforms any other splitter he's ever seen.

He built the splitter 12 years ago. The key feature is the 10-ft. high guillotine-style splitting mast that's equipped with a 4 by 24-in. cylinder and a heavy 2-ft. wide blade. Butts says the upright design gives the splitter the power and leverage to instantly split even the toughest wood. Once split, wood chunks fall away onto a conveyor that carries them onto a pile or into a truck. Splitter height can be adjusted upward at the top of

the mast for longer logs. A lifting platform raises heavy logs up to the splitter. Power is provided by a Model A Ford combine engine that powers a hydraulic motor and a jackshaft that powers the wood conveyor. The splitting mast lowers to the bed of the trailer for transport with the aid of a second hydraulic cylinder located beneath the bed of the trailer.

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Tractor Splitter Rotates 180°

A Kansas farmer says his rotating tractor splitter eliminates the need to hoist heavy or awkwardly large chunks of wood onto the splitting table.

Harlan Courtney, who farms near Oskaloosa, says his splitter hydraulically rotates 180° with the flick of a lever. "Sometimes we flip the splitter upside down over onto the top of a piece of wood to start the splitting process and then flip the splitter over and finish the job. Other times we set the splitter sideways and roll the block of wood into it. With smaller, easy-to-handle wood chunks we just leave the splitter in the upright position," says Courtney.

He made the splitter rotate by welding a salvaged semi-trailer stub axle to one end of

the I-beam. He replaced the axle bearing adjusting nut with a pinion gear. The pinion gear is turned by a gear rack fastened to a hydraulic cylinder. A 3-pt. frame attaches directly to the semi wheel hub for mounting on the tractor, which is fitted with twin remote valves to power both the splitter and rotating cylinder. Courtney uses extension rods from the tractor's hydraulic levers to control the splitter from the ground. He notes that the splitter's rotating cylinder and gears are positioned at the front of the splitter between the hitch arms where they're out of the way and protected.

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