

# Handy New Ways To Saw And Split Logs



## Backhoe Wood Splitter

"It works great, especially for splitting big chunks on the ground," says Billy Joe Wood, Grand Rivers, Kent., who mounted his made-it-myself wood splitter in place of the bucket on a backhoe.

The advantage of the vertical splitter is that you don't have to lift wood up onto a

splitting table. It splits logs standing on end on the ground using the up-and-down bucket cylinder.

Wood used a section of lightweight metal tubing to extend hydraulic controls from the levers on the tractor to the splitter so one man can operate the splitter.

## 3-Pt. "Travel Table" Splitter

"It loads itself and takes less power to split big logs," says Don Scott, Moscow Mills, Mo., about his "travel table" 3-pt. mounted splitter.

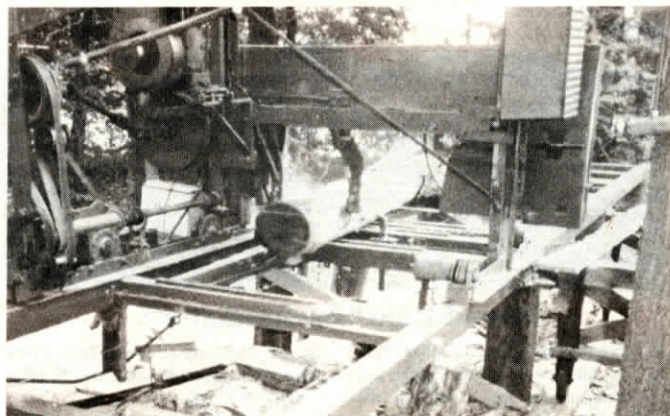
Scott's splitter is unique in that it's got a 3-ft. wide, 4-ft. long table that slides back and forth with the splitter cylinder ram. The sliding table helps move the log into the splitting wedge, reducing the splitter's power requirement. What's more, because the splitter mounts on a tractor 3-pt., it can be lowered to the ground so heavy chunks of wood can be rolled right onto it. Once the wood is on the table, the splitter can be raised up again to a comfortable height for splitting.

The 4-in. dia. splitter cylinder (with a 28-in. stroke) and the splitter table mount on top of a 6-in. I-beam. Scott digs a trench beneath the I-beam so the splitter's "travel



table" can be lowered flush with the ground, when necessary.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Don Scott, Rt. 1, Box 146, Moscow Mills, Mo. 63362 (ph 314 356-4525).



## Home-Built Bandsaw Mill

"It's got features you won't find on commercial sawmills that cost \$10,000 or more," says Joseph Balsam, an 80-year-old retired farmer who spent "about \$550" to build a bandsaw mill that'll handle logs up to 36 in. in dia. and 18 1/2 ft. long.

Balsam used all junk parts to build the mill except for the lumber he used to construct the saw table, and some other miscellaneous parts he bought new. It's powered by a 9 hp. Wisconsin motor. "That's not a lot of power for a mill but it's enough for my purposes. The saw has a small 1 1/4 in. blade so it doesn't take much power to run it."

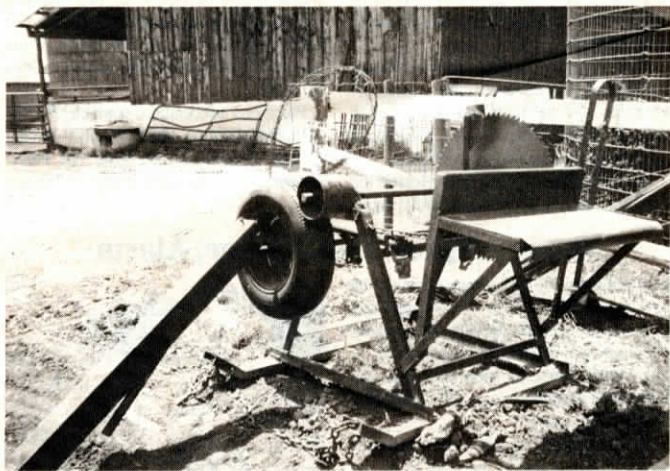
The saw carriage is powered back and forth the full length of the 20-ft. saw table by a 20:1 reduction worm gear and is also powered up and down, making it easy to set the depth of saw cut. The operator rides

back and forth with the saw carriage controlling movement of the saw with a simple joy stick and levers that control clutches on belt-driven driveshafts.

One feature Balsam's saw has that you can't find on commercial mills is that the log holders that keep the log in place and square it up for cutting are pushed over by the saw carriage and brought back up automatically when the carriage reaches the end of the saw table. "On most commercial units you have to turn them down manually and then turn them back up again. It's a nuisance and takes time," he says.

Balsam uses his mill to cut lumber for a nearby campground.

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## Pto Buzz Saw Drive

Iowa farmer Wayne Jenkins says the pto conversion he rigged up for his belt-drive buzz saw makes wood cutting easier.

"I got tired of always having to keep the belt in line and the saw anchored solidly. I remembered that years ago a company made a kit to convert belt-driven hammermills to pto drive and thought I could come up with my own pto drive," says Jenkins.

His solution was to mount a car tire next to the drive pulley. He drives the tire with a pto and it turns the pulley by friction.

"I used the power shaft, bearings, and the drive pulley hub from a junked Gehl chop-

per. I machined the pulley hub so it would fit the hub on a 13-in. car tire and then drilled and tapped holes to fit the lug bolts used to hold the wheel on.

"I then lined up the tire against the pulley and mounted bearings on the saw frame. To get the right pressure of the tire against the pulley the bearings can be adjusted up or down or the air pressure in the tire can be adjusted."

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## Giant Farm Splitter Handles 4-Ft. Dia. Logs

Dean Montgomery, Jerseyville, Ill., built his own giant log splitter so he could handle even the biggest tree trunks - up to 4 ft. in dia. and more - without having to cut them up or lift them onto a splitting table.

"We wanted a splitter that would work from a vertical position and that would let us drive right up with logs in the front-end loader bucket, split them in the bucket, and then haul the wood away," says Montgomery.

The log splitter it mounts on its own tandem axle trailer. The splitting wedge and cylinder mount on an I-beam that pivots hydraulically from its horizontal transport position to its vertical splitting position. The splitter has its own motor and self-contained hydraulics that supply up to 32 tons of pressure to the splitting wedge. The wedge cuts all the way through and into the ground which Montgomery says works great for fibrous wood.

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