



Hydraulic-powered platform lifts logs onto splitter table.

Log Splitter Powered By Deere Combine Engine

"It works as well or better than any commercial log splitter on the market," says Norman Smith who, along with his brother-in-law Merlin Steele, of Walsh, Ill., built a heavy duty log splitter that mounts on the frame of an old pickup.

The splitter is powered by a 40 hp 4-cyl. gas engine off an old Deere 45 combine. The engine shaft-drives a hydraulic pump taken off a Case backhoe. A grain elevator was converted to deliver split wood to a wagon. There are two splitter cylinders, one mounted above the other. Smith normally just hooks up the bottom cylinder but for tough wood he can use both.

A hydraulic-operated lift arm hoists logs up onto the splitting table, which moves with the splitter plate. The rig is also equipped with a circular saw off a David Bradley brush mower. The saw is belt-driven off the engine crankshaft. A belt drops down from a pulley on the crankshaft and drives a 5-ft. long shaft that powers the saw.

"We spent a total of less than \$500 to build it. A commercial rig with comparable features sells for at least \$5,000. I got the pickup frame from my dad and bought the engine at a junkyard for \$100. I paid \$120 apiece for the hydraulic cylinders and got the backhoe pump at work for free.

"We use the upper cylinder only to split really tough wood and engage it by flipping a valve. The extra cylinder gives the splitter twice as much power, but also makes it go twice as slow so we use it only when necessary.



Splitter is powered by a 40 hp 4-cyl. Deere 45 combine engine.

"The lift arm really saves on our backs. For example, we can roll a 24-in. dia. log onto the platform without doing any lifting. There's a tray on either side of the splitter, and both trays move back and forth with the splitter cylinder so we don't have to move the wood back in order to resplit it. We just move part of the log back onto one of the trays and return it to the lift arm.

"To convert the elevator, we removed the elevator's rubber cleats and welded in new metal ones which do a better job of grabbing the split wood.

"To set the splitter up we use a stand on each side of the wheels and one at the center of the frame under the oil reservoir. The center stand can be telescoped up and down by the same hydraulic cylinder that's used to split the wood, allowing us to tilt the splitter frame up or down when hooking up to a tractor or pickup."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Norman Smith or Merlin Steele, 7302 Walsh Road, Walsh, Ill. 62297 (ph 618 774-2960).

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Sprayer features a 60-ft. Ag-Chem skid-mount system intended for pickups.

Self-Propelled Sprayer Made From GMC Van Truck

Schram Farms built its own self-propelled 2-wheel drive sprayer out of a 24-ft. 1993 GMC van truck.

They first removed the van box and cut off the frame 10 ft. from the back. The axle and springs were moved forward and bolted to what was left of the frame.

They wanted big tires in back so they had to slow the drive shaft speed down by mounting a 3-speed dropbox in between the Allison automatic and the final drive. Driveshaft speed is 2:1 to the final drive.

The wheels are on 90-in. centers with special-built rims from Unverferth. Tires on back are 13.6 by 38 in. and the front are 13.6 by 24-in. There's a 6 1/2-in. lift on the front axle in between the axle and springs to make it level.

The sprayer itself is a new 60-ft. Ag-Chem skid-mount system designed for pickups. It's equipped with a 750-gal. tank. The boom and tank bolts to the frame.

Booms fold hydraulically from the cab. A Raven 440 monitor with radar automatically controls spray rates. The pump is driven by an 8 hp. Honda mounted on the left side between the cab and rear tires. The pump can be started and stopped from inside the cab. The foam marker tank is on the right side between the cab and rear tire.



Two-wheel drive self-propelled sprayer was built out of a 1993 24-ft. GMC van.

A 35-gal. rinse tank mounts on back of the big tank and a hand-washing tank mounts on back of the foamer tank. The truck is also fitted with cruise control.

The truck works great and the engine stays cool because the hydraulic fan is locked in. It has air conditioning, a heater, and radio. Speed ranges from 3 mph to 40 mph. Schram Farms used it all last season and they say they actually prefer it over their big Ag-Chem 1004 sprayer.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Schram Farms, W890 Hwy AA, Berlin, Wis. 54923 (ph 920-361-2743).

Hand-Held Applicator Measures, Dispenses Any Granular Material

You can precisely measure and dispense small amounts of granular materials with this new hand held, self-feeding device.

"The Applicator" is designed to dispense granular fertilizer, herbicides, and insecticides. It consists of a 1-in. dia. plastic tube with a cone-shaped hopper at one end and a short 45 degree elbow at the other. Inside the elbow there's a double baffle that holds 1 tablespoon of product.

You hold the tube at a 45 degree angle in front of you with the elbow facing down and rotate your hand clockwise 180 degrees to fill the baffle. Then rotate your hand counterclockwise 180 degrees to dispense the material, which comes out in a 1-in. wide band.

"There are no moving parts," says inventor Glen Gier. "It can hold nine cups of material. It works great for applying fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides around trees and shrubs. It also works great for spot seeding grass.

"I designed it mainly to apply polyacrylamides (PAM) directly into irrigated furrows on my farm. PAM acts as a settling agent by clumping together fine clay particles that are carried in the water. It causes them to settle to the furrow bottom, which reduces runoff."

The Applicator comes with two inserts. One insert dispenses two teaspoons at a time



Applicator precisely measures out small quantities of granular fertilizer, herbicides and insecticides.

and the other dispenses one tablespoon."

Three models are available that hold from 9 to 13 cups. The 9-cup model sells for \$35 plus S&H; the 13 cup model sells for \$55 plus S&H. Also available is a shoulder strap that makes the unit easy to carry. It sells for \$7.50 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, GRG Innovations, Inc., 3571 N. 1700 E., Buhl, Idaho 83316 (ph 208 326-4928; fax 5049).