



Pto-powered rotary splitter mounts on wheels so it can be moved around easily.

Rotary Woodsplitter Screws Through Wood

After some of his customers asked Calvin Hamm, owner of Wild Rose Machining Ltd., Didsbury, Alberta, about making them a woodsplitter, he did a little research and experimentation and came up with a pto-powered rotary splitter that mounts on a tractor 3 pt. hitch.

Hamm tried several different combinations of screw pitch and taper before hitting on one that would quickly split just about any chunk of wood he tried.

"The splitter works faster than most hydraulic splitters and customers really like it," says Jim Chaney, who works with Hamm. "Even though it mounts on a tractor, it wasn't as handy to use as some people wanted, though."

So Hamm and Chaney put their heads together and came up with a self-powered version of the splitter.

It mounts on wheels, so it can be moved around easily when splitting. It also comes with a receiver hitch mount, so it can be easily transported on back of a pickup.

The engine is fitted with a Honda 6:1 ratio gearbox. They slowed it down even more by putting a small sprocket on the gearbox shaft that runs a chain to a larger sprocket on the shaft that turns the splitting screw.

Chaney says mounting the splitter on a receiver hitch puts it at a comfortable working



Splitter also comes with a receiver hitch mount so it can be easily transported on back of a pickup.

height. "And with the splitter right there behind the pickup bed, you can split wood and toss it into the pickup. It makes loading easier," Chaney says.

The Wild Rose pto-driven 3-pt. mounted splitter sells for about \$1,220 (Canadian). The 9 hp splitter is priced at \$2,270. A smaller 5 1/2 hp. version sells for \$1,750.

Wild Rose splitters have a one-year warranty on workmanship and parts and the powered versions come with standard Honda engine warranties.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Calvin Hamm, Wild Rose Machining Ltd., No. 2 Co-Op Road (Box 95) Didsbury, Alberta, Canada T0M 0W0 (ph 403 335-8780; fax 403 335-8790; E-mail: wilrose@telusplanet.net).



Two-wheeled machine is equipped with a self-loading lift arm on one side that lowers all the way to the ground and lifts big chunks of wood onto splitting table.

"Back-Saving" Lift Arm Log Splitter

"No matter how you do it, cutting wood is a lot of work. My home-built wood splitter just makes the job easier," says Dale Halsey, Ligonier, Indiana.

The two-wheeled machine is equipped with a self-loading lift arm on one side that lowers all the way to the ground and lifts the wood up onto the splitting table. Halsey rolls large chunks of wood onto the arm, then op-

erates a valve to raise the lift arm level with the table.

The 12-in. high splitting wedge is powered by a 5-in. dia., 24-in. long hydraulic cylinder that runs off a 2-stage hydraulic pump. The pump is powered by a 10 hp Kohler electric start gas engine salvaged from an old lawn mower. A smaller 3-in. dia., 8-in. long cylinder is used to raise or lower the lift arm. The



"It can pick up, move, and split heavy logs without the operator ever having to touch the log," says Lawrie about his skid loader-mounted splitter.

Skid Steer-Mounted Log Splitter Doubles As A Tree Trimmer

After spending an entire day wrestling 300 to 450-lb. logs onto a conventional log splitter, David Lawrie of Wichita, Kansas, decided to find an easier way to do the back-breaking work. He built an "inverted log splitter" that attaches to his skid steer loader.

"It can pick up, move, and split heavy logs without the operator ever having to touch the log," says Lawrie. "It handles logs up to 30 in. long regardless of their diameter. It also works great for trimming overhanging branches along roads and fencelines."

The patent pending machine is equipped with a quick-tach universal mounting plate and operates off loader hydraulics. A heavy duty 7-ft., 8-in. long steel sq. tube is welded to a 1/2 by 8-in. slide plate and has a wedge at one end. A 5-in. dia. hydraulic cylinder attaches to a steel block that's used to push the log into the wedge. To pick up a log, the operator simply squeezes it between the block and wedge and then raises the skid loader's arms.

"It lets me pick up a 500-lb. log, move it anywhere I want, and then split it," says Lawrie. "If the log is really big I can split it in two, then keep splitting to a diameter as small as 5 in. I used it last year on my Bobcat 742 skid loader and now use it on a Bobcat 863 model. The unit is small enough that I can haul it in the back of my pickup.

"A big surprise is how well it works for trimming overhanging branches along roadways and fences. I just lift the unit up in the air and drop the wedge down over the branch to cut it. It'll snap off 3 or 4-in. thick hedge



Unit is equipped with a quick-tach universal mounting plate. It operates off loader hydraulics.



Skid steer splitter can also be used as a tree trimmer.

branches with no problem, and the wedge extends out far enough that there's no danger of the branch falling onto the operator. It's a lot safer and faster than standing on the bed of a dump truck with a chain saw, which I had been doing. What used to take me all day to trim, I can now do in only 45 minutes to an hour."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Lawrie, 129 N. Grove, Wichita Kansas 67214 (ph 316 267-6063).

cylinders are operated by separate valves.

"The lift arm has really saved my back. I've never found a chunk of wood that it couldn't lift," says Halsey. "I run the engine at half throttle when splitting. It'll split a cord of wood on only 1 1/2 to 2 quarts of fuel, which is a lot less than commercial tractor-powered log splitters use. The splitting wedge produces about 35 tons of force so it can split almost any size chunk of wood.

"I used rectangular steel tubing and steel

pipe to make the rig's axle. The main beam that the 12-in. splitting wedge sits on is 6 in. square, which is stronger than a steel I-beam. The metal racks are built from 2-in. sq. tubing and are built large enough to keep the split pieces of wood from falling onto the ground. I also made a four-way wedge that slips over the single wedge."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dale R. Halsey, 9137 N. 275W, Ligonier, Ind. 46767 (ph 219 761-2803).