

## Hitch Mounts Skid Steer Attachments On Tractor

A new hitch plate lets you mount any skid steer loader attachment on a tractor 3-pt. hitch or front-end loader, letting you do the work of a skid loader without having to buy one. It can also be used on an older model skid steer so it can use newer attachments.

The SchurLok Multi-Hitch consists of a steel plate available in two models. One mounts on any Class I or II 3-pt. hitch and the other can be adapted to any front-end loader. The 3-pt. model has four square slots in it for mounting receiver hitches. A hydraulic cylinder connects the plate to the top link. The receiver slots can be used to mount anything with a square tube on it, including a hitch insert, ball hitch, flat hitch, clevis, pintle hitch, drawbar, or fifth wheel hitch. As a result, you can use the unit with such tools as a bale fork, tiller, backhoe, trencher, bucket, pallet fork, grapple fork, wood splitter, cement mixer, brush cutter, etc.

The loader model has three square slots and a round hole which can be used to mount a grapple fork. You weld a pair of metal tabs onto the plate to attach it to your particular loader.

A blank model is also available with no slots in it, allowing you to specify the kinds



Rear-mount model fits any Class I or II 3-pt. hitch.

of slots you want in the plate and their location.

All tools attach with one pin.

"You can insert any one of these tools and hitches in any configuration you want," say inventors John Gustafson and Mike Schumacher. "If you own a tractor but not a skid loader, you could rent the attachment you want to use for a day or two."

"The loader model really comes in handy for use with a grapple, which can be used to pull out rocks, move logs, etc. If you want, you can mount the plate both on front and back of the tractor. For example, you can use a tree spade on back to get a tree out of the



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Steel mounting plate accepts skid steer attachments like posthole augers, left. Photo on right shows closeup of mounting plate on loader.



ground, then turn the tractor around and use the loader-mounted grapple to grab the tree ball and set it on a truck.

"Farmers with older skid loaders can replace an older-style mounting plate with ours so they can use the newer-style skid loader attachments," they note.

Suggested retail price for the loader-mounted plate is \$595 plus S&H; the 3-pt. model \$695; and a blank mounting plate with no holes \$495.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Thor Attachments, LLC, P.O. Box 139, Fall Creek, Wis. 54742 (ph 715 877-1400).



"It was far less expensive than buying a new commercial lift," says James Newell about the "cherry picker" he made out of the front axle and wheels off an old dump truck.

## "Cherry Picker" Looks Factory-Built

"It's handy and a real labor saver," says James Newell, Jonesville, Mich., about the "cherry picker" he made out of scrap material and the front axle and wheels off an old dump truck.

A 3 by 36-in. hydraulic cylinder powered off a battery-operated hydraulic pump lifts the 19-ft. long boom, made of 6-in. dia. steel gas pipe. The boom pivots on a 1 1/2-in. dia. rod. Newell also made a bucket for the boom that attaches to the end of the boom. Pivots on the pipe and boom keep the bucket level at any height.

He estimates it cost him \$1,400 to build the cherry picker. "It was far less expensive than buying a new commercial lift," he says. "I bought the hydraulic pump and cylinder new from Northern Tool. A neighbor gave me the truck axle, and I got the gas pipe free from a local utility. I came up with the idea because it's so much safer than working from a ladder when trimming trees or working on pole lights and TV antennas, and other such jobs. I've gotten a lot of use out of it on my own place and also helping neighbors."

"The bucket can be raised or lowered from the ground or the bucket. It can also be locked so it won't swing," he notes.

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Bucket attaches to end of 19-ft. long boom, which is made of 6-in. dia. steel gas pipe.

49250 (ph 517 849-2602; email: redding2@earthlink.net).

## Refrigerator Nesting Box

When it's time to collect the eggs from his small flock of chickens, Clark Carpenter doesn't have to go inside the coop. Instead, he just opens the door to his refrigerator.

The Hamilton, Mont., farmer cut a hole the size of the refrigerator into one corner of the chicken coop, then fitted the refrigerator into it with the door to the outside. The back side of the refrigerator was cut out. He put a plywood tray over each of the shelves, with a lip on front and back to keep straw and eggs from falling out. Perches and ramps make it easy for the chickens to enter the back side of the refrigerator.

"People are amazed when they first see it. One woman thought I kept the chickens inside the refrigerator permanently," says Carpenter. "It's nice to be able to reach in from the outside without having to walk through manure. It also eliminates the need to build nests inside the coop. The chickens seem to like it, and the eggs stay clean. The coop has about 20 chickens in it, and I've seen up to



Carpenter cut a large hole into one corner of his chicken coop, then fitted a refrigerator into it with the door to the outside.

three chickens sitting on each shelf at a time. A bigger double wide refrigerator could be used to accommodate even more chickens."

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## Slick 3-Pt. Mounted Post Puller

"My 3-pt. mounted post puller really works great," says Brad Smidt, Lennox, S. Dak.

The post puller was built from a hitch off an old anhydrous ammonia applicator, and some heavy railroad track angle iron. It consists of a steel jaw that's hinged in the middle and is attached to a hydraulic cylinder. Extending the cylinder closes the jaw around a post. The 3-pt. is then raised to lift the post out of the ground.

"It works a lot better than having someone else walk alongside to wrap a chain on the post. That can be a very tiring job when you have miles of fence posts to pull out," says Smidt. "I've used this idea for 1 1/2 years. It will also work on wooden posts, too, if they're small enough to fit into the jaw area. The main thing is to build it heavy because there's a lot of pull on the jaw area, especially with old posts that have been in the ground for 80 to 100 years."



Post puller consists of a steel jaw that's hinged in middle and is attached to a hydraulic cylinder. Extending the cylinder closes jaw around post.

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