

“Grabber” Makes Pulling Posts Easy And Safe

The inventor of a new type of post puller says his system is safe, convenient and durable, and it allows an operator to pull a large number of posts in a short amount of time.

Kent Koch of Westlock, Alberta, recently patented the “Grabber” post puller, and says it easily mounts on most dual-pronged front end loaders by simply “scooping” it up, positioning the prongs through two openings. The unit is kept securely in place with a chain stay and the whole mounting procedure takes only a couple of minutes. Once the device is ready to work, the tractor operator never needs to leave his seat.

“The operator can single-handedly pull up to a bundle of posts within an hour, at no risk to his personal safety, because instead of chains, this system uses a unique beveled lever gate to grab the posts,” Koch says. “To pull a post, the operator lowers the Grabber over the post, letting the post push up and through the gate. When he lifts the loader and tips it back, the edge of the gate bites into the side of the post, and it is pulled out of the ground. It works great. To release the post, you lower the bucket, tilt it down until the gate drops open, drive forward, and the post will be released. By tipping the loader up or down, gravity opens or closes the gate which grabs or releases the posts.”

The stationary mount prevents unpredictable swinging of posts and lessens the risk of injury from flying objects.

The Grabber will hold up to six 4-in. dia. posts at one time, so as they are pulled, they can be gathered and unloaded into piles for easy retrieval. The unit can pull all types of posts and is also very handy for railroad ties, Koch says.

The only maintenance required on the Grabber is regular lubrication of the gravity gate.

The unit is made from solid steel and has a 3/8-in. steel “grabber” plate which “bites” into the posts. According to Koch, the harder



Post puller mounts on most dual-pronged front-end loaders by simply “scooping” it up, positioning the prongs through two openings.



When operator lifts loader and tips it back, edge of gate bites into side of post to pull it out of ground.

you lift the loader, the harder it bites, so posts are easy to get a grip on and the work can be accomplished quickly.

The Grabber retails for \$1,300 (Canadian). It's available from either Kent Koch himself, or his brother Elroy Koch of Flamen Rentals at Three Hills, Alberta.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kent Koch, P.O. Box 5361, Westlock, Alberta, Canada T7P 2P5 (ph 780 954-2396) or Elroy Koch (ph 403 443-5770).

New Kind Of Loader Attachment

You won't believe all the things you can do with this simple-looking attachment for front-end loaders.

Inventor Donovan Wentling says most people have to see a video or live demonstration before they understand how the MuSHGAL (pronounced “Mooshgal”) can be used to grade dirt, haul logs or bales, fill potholes, break up hard ground, and even clear snow.

“There isn't anything on the market that does all the things this one attachment can do,” he says.

It's made from steel tubing welded into a rectangular shape. It comes in sizes ranging from 38 by 48 to 54 by 120 in. and weighs up to 650 lbs. It fits compact tractors, skid steers, lawn and garden tractors, ATV's, large backhoes and farm size tractors.

Wentling says the company will soon offer accessories for the MuSHGAL including a squeegy bar to clean slush and snow off asphalt and concrete without scratching it, a double sided removable cutting edge, a spike tooth that can cut into the ground, and a quick slip on hitch for moving wagons, campers and trailers.

Price ranges from \$850 to \$2,300. Also available to fit 3-pt. hitch.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, DW Attachments, 4650 Twp. Hwy. 98, Carey, Ohio 43316 (ph 877 396-3383 or 419 396-3383; email: dwattachments@udata.com; website: www.dwattachments.com).



MuSHGAL consists simply of a rectangular frame made from steel tubing.



Different models are available to fit compact tractors, skid steers, lawn and garden tractors, ATV's, large backhoes and farm size tractors.



Unit can be used to grade dirt, haul logs or bales, fill potholes, break up hard ground, and even clear snow.



Tom Dostal built this snowmobile with a heated cab. Most of the parts he used came from Polaris snowmobiles, including the double set of tracks, the suspension system, and the skis.



Made-It-Myself Snowmobile

“In the wintertime, when it's 40 degrees below zero, I just warm up my snowmobile and drive around in luxury,” says Tom Dostal, Badger, Minn., about his home-built snowmobile with a heated cab.

Most of the parts he used came from old Polaris snowmobiles including the double set of tracks, the suspension, and the skis.

The machine has a variable clutch that belt drives a Polaris ATV transmission, with high, low and reverse.

All he does is hit the accelerator and go. “It's like having an automatic transmission,” Dostal says.

He hand-shaped the cab's frame from sheet metal and square tubing.

The windshield is made from plexiglass and has a defroster.

The cab is heated by a transmission cooler with a fan on top that circulates hot air through the cab.

The bench seat is from a van and the steering wheel is from a Ford Escort. The differential is from a Ford Pinto.

Each track has a brake on it so you can steer with the steering wheel and use the brakes to assist. It goes up to 45 mph.

During the summer, Dostal puts a wheel kit on it and drives it in parades.

“I built it because I like to snowmobile and I wanted a nice warm place for my children to go riding in,” he says.

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Spade-Style Shrub Mover

Claude Reeson is in the nursery business and needed a way to dig out and transport shrubs. So some friends of his came up with a low-cost shrub mover that uses a bunch of ordinary hand-held shovels held together by metal bars and nylon straps.

The shrub mover hangs from a 12-ft. “boom” that attaches to the front-end loader on his tractor.

“Normally a conventional tree digger would be used to move shrubs, but mine are spaced close together and there often isn't enough room to get in next to them,” he says. “With my tractor and boom I can reach over other plants and lift shrubs right out.”

The shrub mover makes use of an even number of shovels. Each pair of shovels - on either side of the shrub - is held together at the handles by an adjustable length of pipe that clamps onto the handles.

To move a shrub, Reeson first uses a shovel to make a cut all the way around the plant to cut through the roots. He places the shovels opposite each other inside the cut at a 45 degree angle to support the rootball. Then he connects the pipes to opposite shovels and tightens a nylon strap around the base of the shovels. A series of straps runs up to a hook welded onto the end of the boom.

“It's simple, lightweight, and relatively inexpensive to build - the only cost is for shovels, clamps, straps, and pipe,” says Reeson. “The plant is being lifted from the base of the shovels. You can use as many shovels as you want as long as it's an even number. I've used it on rootballs up to 4 ft. in



Low-cost shrub mover uses a bunch of ordinary hand-held shovels held together by metal bars and nylon straps. It hangs from a 12-ft. “boom” that attaches to his loader tractor.

diameter. I use two different lengths of shovels to keep the cross pipes from interfering with each other.”

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