



Skid steer "Extractor" lets you pull up close to a building and exert up to 15,000 lbs. of vertical force. All the leverage is against the ground, not against the machine.

Skid Steer "Extractor" Great For Close-Up Work

Ripping out overgrown landscaping such as trees up against a house wall, posts or even chunks of concrete can be tricky with skid steers or backhoes. Put an Extractor on a skid steer, though, and you can slip in and out without a problem, says Ed Rehmer, TRC, Greenville, N.C.

"Digging with a backhoe can damage the foundation, and a skid steer will often tip before it will jerk out a larger bush or even a small tree," says Rehmer. "With our Extractor on a skid steer, you can pull up close, rest the base on the ground, and exert up to 15,000 lbs. of vertical force. All the leverage is against the ground, not against the machine."

Two legs extend out 34 in. from the bottom of the 46-in. wide back plate to form the working base for the Extractor. Angled braces extend back and up to the top of the back plate, adding stability. A 49-in. high center post serves as the pivot point for the lever arm and tow hook that anchor the chain that is wrapped around the item to be moved. It is the 3-in. bore, 24-in. stroke, 3,000 psi cylinder that does the work, pushing off from the base and against the levering arm. The attachment weighs only 380 lbs. and sells for \$3,999.99 at outlets like Northern Tool.

The wide throat design makes it easy to slip in and around the target. Once the target item is out of the ground, the Extractor can be used like a loader to haul it away. A smaller size unit is also available for use on mini skid steers. It weighs only 265 lbs. and can exert a force of 10,500 lbs at 3,000 psi. It's priced at \$3,699.99.

"Skid steers are built to use hydraulic pres-



Once the stump or bush is out of the ground, the Extractor can be used like a loader to haul it away.

sure," says Rehmer. "A small or mid size skid steer will generate over 30,000 psi, but has a tipping point capacity of only 1,500 lbs. With the extractor resting on the ground, it can utilize the full 15,000 lbs. of force available."

Rehmer admits there is a limit to what even the full size unit can do. When testing the first prototype, Rehmer recalls hooking onto a 10-in. diameter mulberry tree and blowing a cylinder.

"They're ideal for landscaping, not for clearing land," he says, though the experiment wasn't wasted. "We did find out where the Extractor needed reinforcing so it would hold up."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, TRC, 671 St. Rt. 502, Greenville, Ohio 45331 (ph 937 459-8514; trc1@hughes.net; www. tea mextractor.com).

"Hog Stall" Minimizes Feed Waste

Stanchions work well with dairy cattle, and they can with hogs, too, says Kevin Thompson of Philipsburg, Penn., who reports that his home-built "hog stanchions" have greatly reduced feed waste.

"Pigs have to enter into the stalls in order to eat, so they're kept separate. There's no pushing or shoving, and they can't jump into the trough so they can't push feed out," says Thompson.

The 2-stall unit has a feed trough made out of an old 40-gal. hot water tank. He shortened it a bit to the length he needed, then welded sheet metal on the open end to close it up.

The front side of the trough hangs from a pair of chains. By adjusting the chain links, the trough can be tilted backward at different angles as the hogs grow. "We put hogs in at 35 to 40 lbs. As they get bigger I lower the trough so they can't pull any feed out," says



Front side of trough hangs from a pair of chains. By adjusting the chain links, trough can be tilted backward at different angles as the hogs grow.

Thompson.

The back side of the trough is hinged so it can be flipped up out of the way in order to clean out the stall.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kevin Thompson, 248 Thompson St., Philipsburg, Penn. 16866 (ph 814 577-5858)



Two-passenger truck has a maximum range of 55 miles between charges and can reach a maximum speed of 25 mph.

Full-Sized Electric Farm Trucks

A Princeton, Minn., company recently started manufacturing the first full-sized electric-powered truck on the market.

The 2-passenger truck has a maximum range of 55 miles between charges and can reach a maximum speed of 25 mph. Its GVWR is 3,000 lbs.

Standard 110-volt electricity is all that's needed to charge the truck's nine 8-volt batteries, which power a 72-volt, 16 1/2 hp DC motor. It costs only about 1 1/2 cents per mile to operate depending on cost of local electricity.

The new truck is legal for street driving in more than 40 states, where the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less, such as around city and community streets.

The units are reliable and virtually maintenance-free, according to the general manager of e-ride Industries, Kurt Bauerly. "They have superior quality electrical com-

ponents and simplified maintenance procedures," he says.

The truck's cargo deck is 71 by 58 in. Available options include removable glass windows, lockable rear storage unit, heater/defrost, CD player/radio, custom colors, and more.

Pricing starts at \$14,500. Two models are available.

Dealers exist across the U.S. and Canada, and additional dealer inquiries are welcome.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, e-ride Industries, 3171 92nd Ave., Princeton, Minn. 55371 (ph 800 950-4351; fax 763 389-2417; info@e-ride.com; www.e-ride.com) or e-ride Canada, 76 Richmond Cres., Saskatoon, Sask., Canada S7K 1A8 (ph 306 343-6831; fax 306 343-6856; al.creurer@shaw.ca).



New, more efficient fluorescent bulbs use only about half the energy of conventional lighting. Watertight fixtures can be cleaned with a power washer.

Brighter, More Efficient Fluorescent Bulbs

Neither cold, nor moisture, nor heavy dust can stop CBM Electronic Fluorescent Lighting from turning on quickly, glowing brightly and lasting a long time, says Bob Gillis, one of four brothers who owns Gillis Agricultural Systems, Inc., in Willmar, Minnesota, which is a distributor.

In 2006, the company started selling the bulbs, which have been manufactured in Quebec, Canada, for five years.

"These lights are smaller in diameter and more efficient," Gillis explains. Older fluorescent bulbs are 1 1/2 in. in diameter compared to these, which are 5/8 in. At the same time, the new bulbs put out a whiter, brighter light.

"Customers are very happy with the product," Gillis says. "Some have seen increased weight gain in poultry. In dairy operations, milk production is up."

The tightly sealed design of the ballasts, lights and fixtures allows producers to clean them with a power washer. By keeping moisture out, the lights last longer — 20,000 to 30,000 hours of lamp life. Their high frequency, electronic ballasts ensure they in-

stantly turn on in temperatures down to minus 22 F degrees and tolerate temperatures up to 190 F degrees.

The bulbs use about half the watts and require half the energy of conventional lighting. "They're so efficient that most power companies are offering rebates to anyone who will replace standard lighting with these new energy efficient lights," Gillis says.

Both small and large livestock producers, as well as shops and factories, have been replacing old lighting systems with the new bulbs. Existing light fixtures may also be retrofitted for the new electronic ballast and bulb combination.

Prices start at \$95 for 4-ft. fixtures with two bulbs. Four-bulb 8-ft. fixtures at \$231 are also available, and are often used in dairy freestall barns. Larger 1-in. dia. bulbs are also available.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gillis Agricultural Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 250, Willmar, Minnesota 56201 (ph 800 992-8986; sales@gillissag.com; www.gillissag.com).