



Winch mounted on top of arch pulls logs out of the woods.



Euart log arch is fitted with a standard ball receiver hitch.

Arch Hauls Big Logs Behind Small Tractor

Chris Euart and his son Jason's 8 hp Minneapolis Moline can transport a 1,700-lb. red oak log without any problems thanks to their innovative log arch, which can also be fitted with a rear-mounted forklift or high-reach boom.

"We've used the forklift for all kinds of things, even lifting up a cow that got stuck in the creek," laughs Euart. "The boom is handy for all kinds of jobs, such as setting building trusses in place."

Stripped of boom or forklift, the log arch gets used for hauling logs. Built with salvaged steel, the main steel beam on the log arch is about 5 ft. above the ground. It was fabricated from two 1 1/2 by 5 by 2 1/2-in. C-channels inverted and welded together to form a 12-ft. long, 4 by 5-in. tube. At the front, it angles down to end in a standard ball receiver hitch.

The arch at the end of the beam is made from more welded C-channel tubes and an angle iron frame. It rides on 2 wheels from an old Chevy truck axle. Euart cut the axle tubes off and machined them to fit bearings on the outside of the arch and flanges mounted to the inside of each leg.

"We wanted to be able to carry a 24-ft. log, so we designed it so only about 10 ft. would extend forward from the arch," explains Euart. "That balances the weight over the wheels on the arch, not on our garden tractor."

A 45-amp alternator added to the garden tractor provides extra power needed for 2 electric winches. A 2,500-lb. winch mounts to the angled portion of the main beam, while a 9,000-lb. winch is mounted to its top. The smaller winch lifts the end of the log into an inverted V on the underside of the beam. The V can be moved on the beam to adjust for logs from 10 to 20 ft. long. It stabilizes the log as it's lifted into the arch by the larger winch and chained in place.

Jason ran across a set of forklift forks being sold for scrap. He and Chris fabricated a frame for them that hinges to a crossbar on wheels with a quick-tach pin. The large winch attaches to a pair of cables that raise and lower the cross bar with the wheels riding against the angle iron frame of the arch. The smaller winch is attached to the forklift frame and controls the angle of the forks. It can adjust the forklift from hanging vertical to having the tips angled 10 to 12 in. above level.

The boom also hinges to a crossbar on the angle iron framework of the arch. Made from 2-in. dia., heavy wall, steel tubing with an angle iron cross frame near the bottom, it stands 22 ft. tall when straight in the air. The large winch cable runs through a pulley on the arch to a pulley on the end of the boom to provide lift. The small winch attaches to the cross frame to tilt the boom. Support chains



Arch forks can transport a 1,700-lb. red oak log with no problem, say inventors Chris Euart and his son Jason.

from the boom frame slip onto hooks on the arch to carry the load once the boom is in position.

Angle iron braces run from the crossbar and up about a third of the boom's length to reinforce it side to side. A 1/2-in. dia. rod runs from the tip of the boom to the bottom. It has a 4-in. spread, providing bridge truss-like support under load.

"The more vertical the boom, the heavier the load you can lift," says Euart.

The versatile arch has been used to transport large logs on public roads as well as out of the woodlot. The cable on the large winch can also be used to pull logs into position to be loaded by the arch or the forks.

"Now that we have it, we can't imagine how we got along without it," says Euart. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Chris Euart, 240 Pop Stirewalt Rd., Salisbury, N.C. 28146 (ph 704 279-6793; ceueart@juno.com).

Blue Lacy Breed Dates Back To Frontier Days

Marlo Ondrej's great-great-grandfather Frank Lacy and his three brothers developed the Blue Lacy breed in the 1800's. Since 1997, she has maintained the registry for the breed, and she is a board member of the Texas Lacy Game Dog Association.

"The breed was developed to meet the needs of frontier life and be an all around working dog," Ondrej says. Those needs included everything from driving cattle and hogs to the stockyards to hunting for game to feed the family.

Research indicates that Blue Lacy dogs were bred from greyhounds, scent hounds, and wild dogs. They are 18 to 22 in. tall at the shoulder with very short hair. The coat colors vary from a bluish light grey to dark red. They often have white markings on the toes and chest.

"They are good family dogs with training and lots of exercise, not as hyper as a bird dog. They are more like a border collie in personality – without all the hair," Ondrej says. "They are so intelligent and need interaction and training starting at a young age. You need to give them something to do."

People who don't hunt or use them to herd livestock often give them agility training, and they do well in competitions.

The Blue Lacy breed is also popular with

trappers who use them as decoy dogs or to find where coyotes travel, by watching where the dog marks his territory when it smells a coyote marking.

"I've always loved hunting, and it's important not to lose a wounded animal, so recovery is important," she says.

Though the breed's numbers dropped when herding dogs were replaced by ATV's, they are coming back. Currently about 5,600 dogs are in the registry. The breed is hardy and average lifespan is 16 to 17 years.

Registered pups range from \$350 to \$800, depending on the breeder, Ondrej says. Trained adult dogs range from \$1,500 to \$8,500.

To see the dogs in action she suggests attending a Lacy Fun Day event with exercises in treeing, herding, baying and blood trailing. One is held in Georgia in the spring and three others are held in Texas. The next one is Sept. 6 at Bay City Fairgrounds in Bay City, Texas.

Check out the website (www.lacydog.com) for more information.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Marlo Ondrej, P.O. Box 999, Helotes, Texas 78023 (ph 210 288-0553; bluelacydogs@sbcglobal.net; www.lacyregistry.com).



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