



Jeremy Meinert says he had never seen a video of any other similar wood splitter when he built this one last fall.

“Mystery Wood Splitter” Built By Pennsylvanian

After reading the report in our last issue on a hand-powered “mystery wood splitter”, Jeremy Meinert sent us photos of a similar wood splitter that he built last fall and uses in front of his wood shed. He had never seen a video of any other similar wood splitter.

Basically, it’s a heavily weighted, spring-loaded arm with a splitting head on the end. The operator splits chunk after chunk of wood with little effort.

“It works fast and lets me stand up straight while working. I had never seen another one before I built it,” says Meinert. “My friends didn’t think it would work, but once they tried it they were surprised at how little effort is needed to operate it. It can split one cord of wood per hour with no problem. It cost next to nothing to build.”

He welded an old splitting maul to a solid steel, 500-lb. weight made from a 3-ft. length of 5-in. sq. steel tubing. The weight is attached to one end of a 5-ft. long arm made from 5-in. sq. tubing with 1/4-in. thick walls. The arm pivots on a bracket that’s bolted to an old telephone pole sunk 4 ft. deep into the ground.

The arm moves up or down on a big coil spring welded to a metal upright that’s bolted to the pole.

“It’ll split anything that I could split by hand,” says Meinert. “It can’t split really twisted wood, but the wood doesn’t necessarily have to be straight-grained for it to work.”

“I lift the 500-lb. weight by hand to start the process, then let go of it to bring the splitter down. It takes a lot of strength to lift the weight at first, but once the spring starts moving it takes over and I can easily move the splitter up or down with one hand.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jeremy Meinert, 311-B Dorseyville Rd., Pittsburgh, Penn. 15215 (ph 412 963-8801; jeremymeinert21@yahoo.com).

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Reader Inquiry No. 93

Replace Tractor Points With Electronic Ignition

Converting to an electronic breakerless ignition system is a simple option for owners of old tractors with points and condensers. It improves fuel economy and makes starting easier.

“It only takes 15 to 30 min. to install,” says Gary Catron, president of CBS Performance Automotive, which is a distributor of Ignitor® Electronic Ignition systems (www.pertronix.com). Remove the points and condenser, install the Ignitor module, push the Ignitor’s magnetic sleeve on the distributor’s cam lobes, and connect the module wires to the coil.

CBS sells systems for all 2-cylinder and older 4-cylinder tractors for \$89. Ignitor systems for some unique tractors run slightly higher. It’s not required, but customers often change the coil (\$39) when they upgrade to the electronic ignition.

“I get feedback that they are getting 10 to 15 percent gas savings,” Catron says. Tractor pullers install the electronic ignition to get more horsepower and torque, and the Ignitor extends spark plug life.

Best of all, there are no points that require constant tune-up. Ignitor has rotating cobalt



Electronic breakerless ignition system replaces points and condensers on old tractors.

magnets and a 1/4-degree timing accuracy from zero to 15,000 rpm’s. It’s encapsulated and protected from moisture, dirt and dust.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, CBS Performance Automotive, 52 Co. Rd. 5, Divide, Colo. 80814 (ph 800 685-1492 or 719 687-1794).

Reader Inquiry No. 94