**“Log-Claw” Arch Lifts Both Ends Of Log**

“It lifts the log from the front and back at the same time so I can get logs out of the woods fast, and without getting a lot of mud and dirt on them,” says Edward Hollmen, Marion, N.Y., about his home-built “Log-Claw” log arch.

Hollmen operates a sawmill and hauls a lot of big logs out of the woods. Some of the logs weigh up to 1,500 lbs. He looked at the log haulers on the market, but then decided the best way to do the job was to build his own. His 2-wheeled model is equipped with an adjustable ball-type trailer hitch on front, and operated by a remote-controlled winch.

“With most commercial log haulers there’s no way to lift the front end of the log off the ground, and no way to secure the log without using chains. My Log-Claw lifts the entire log off the ground, and it works fast,” says Hollmen. “I can pick up the log and head out of the woods in just 30 to 40 seconds.

“I use my Deere 4100 4WD, 20 hp tractor to pull it. It’ll lift logs up to 24 in. dia. by 12 ft. long with no problem.”

The arch is equipped with a battery-operated winch, a big claw on the back, and a pair of steel lift prongs up front. The winch cable runs around a double pulley system on back of the machine and then forward to the lift prongs.

The claw is fitted with a pair of metal bars that pivot at the middle and are connected, forming an overcentered cam. As the claw is lowered the bars contact the log and pivot upward, causing the claw to grasp the log. At the same time, the cable drops the front lift so the prongs can pivot under the front end of the log.

“The cable doubles around at the tongs and then goes up over a pulley and on toward the front, where it goes around another pulley and down to the lift prongs,” says Hollmen. “As a result there’s twice as much pulling power on back as on front, which is necessary because the back end of the log is raised first and requires the most lifting power.”

The log arch has a sliding support in the center, so if the log is too short to reach the lift prongs on front a chain can be used to steady it. If Hollmen wants he can also wrap a safety chain around the log, hooking the chain onto slots cut into the back part of the machine’s frame to secure the log for long distance transport.

Hollmen spent about $700 to build the log arch and cut all the parts on his home-built hydraulic system. The single axle, 12-ft. long, 80-in. wide, lifts powered by the on-board electric over the woods.

“With most commercial log haulers there’s no way to lift the front end of the log off the ground. The “Log-Claw” log arch allows you to do this easily, but especially low clearance machines need to be aware of this issue.”

**“Pincher” Turns Tractor Into Nifty Log Skidder**

Tom Repko has the ideal attachment to turn your tractor into a log skidder. The mechanical engineer and woodlot owner developed the 3-pt. hitch skidder to harvest firewood and thin Douglas fir trees on his 40 acres of timber. He now manufactures units for sale.

“Poison oak (and blackberry vines) are very prolific in this area,” he notes, from experience cutting to 10 cords of firewood each year. “This tool helps avoid contacting those hazards.”

The skidder has been on the market for 4 years and sold mostly to woodlot owners and woodlot association members. Some have been shipped overseas.

“It’s not intended for large commercial operations, but some have been purchased for small-scale logging,” Repko says.

The attachment is powder-coated and weighs 75 lbs. (Shipping costs vary according to location, but a recent delivery to Maine was about $80.)

Repko also sells optional accessories on his website – quick hitch adapter, drop-on hitch receiver, and a choker and clevis.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom Repko, Small Wood Lot Tools, LLC, 2080 Cherry Knoll Rd., Dallas, Ore. 97338 (ph 503 949-2209; www.smallwoodlottools.com; sales@smallwoodlottools.com).

**No Ramp, Easy-Load Trailer**

Drop deck tilt trailers from Kemco Manufacturing make loading any equipment easy, but especially low clearance machines like scissor lifts and forklifts. Ervin Miller, Kemco, says the trailers offer a loading angle of less than 10 degrees.

“These trailers were designed for anything that can’t get up a ramp,” says Miller. “They also work great for skid steers and other equipment.”

The lowboy bed is mounted on hydraulic lifts powered by the on-board electric over hydraulic system. The single axle, 12-ft. long, 60-in. wide model can lift and carry 5,000 lbs. The 16-ft. and 20 ft. long, 80-in. wide, double axle models can lift and carry 10,000 lbs. Miller is currently field testing a triple axle unit with even greater carrying capacity.

Base prices are, $7,294 for the 12-ft. model, $9,411 for the 16-ft. model and $10,000 for the 20-ft. model.

“Our trailers are loaded with options, including hardwood decking, winches, wireless remote for up and down, multiple tire options and custom colors,” says Miller. “We also offer on-board trickle chargers and solar chargers. The on-board battery recharges through the auxiliary plug on the truck.”

The trailers are equipped with LED brake and safety lights and torsion suspension with full torsion axles. “We wanted to avoid the problems such as tire wear and turn-out that can occur with stub axles,” says Miller.

“Our torsion axles ensure good tire life and smooth rides.”

Drop deck tilt trailers from Kemco offer a loading angle of less than 10 degrees, so they work especially well for loading low clearance machines.

All on-board electronics and hydraulic systems are enclosed in the systems box over the hitch of the trailer. It also provides space for load straps, chains and tools.

“Safety is a big concern for us,” says Miller. “We weld the fenders on for strength and include locks on safety chains so they don’t have to be twisted to the right length.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kemco Mfg., 617 E. Plymouth St., Bremen, Ind. 46506 (ph 574 546-2025; embremenbroach@gmail.com).

**CNC plasma table. He says he plans to build a longer hitch that will let him also use his truck to pull the log arch.**

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, eholmren@gmail.com.

**Lift prongs are located behind log arch’s adjustable, ball-type trailer hitch.**

Edward Hollmen’s 2-wheeled log arch is equipped with a big claw on back and a pair of steel lift prongs up front, which together lift the entire log at the same time.

“Poison oak (and blackberry vines) are very prolific in this area,” he notes, from experience cutting to 10 cords of firewood each year. “This tool helps avoid contacting those hazards.”

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