

"Lickety-Split" hauler requires no hydraulics or electronics. It's equipped with two side-by-side, spring-loaded cradles that can haul up to 18 round or 10 big square bales at a time.



Each cradle consists of 2 adjustable rails made from 4 by 6 rectangular tubing mounted at an angle. Bales can be loaded from either the side or rear.

"Lickety-Split" Hauler Handles Round, Square Bales

"Our new Lickety-Split Hay Hauler is equipped with two side-by-side, spring-loaded cradles that can haul up to 18 round or 10 big square bales at a time. Cradle width, and the distance between the two cradles, can be easily adjusted to accommodate various sizes of round or big square bales, while maintaining minimal overall transport width," says E-Z Trail, Inc., Arthur, Ill.

The patent-pending hay hauler measures 37 ft. long and requires no hydraulics or electronics. It's available in 2 models: a gooseneck model with tandem axles, and a pull-type, 4-wheel-steer model with a pair of single axles.

After dumping a load, the cradles automatically spring back to the latch

position. The width of each cradle, and the spacing between cradles, can be quickly adjusted by using an impact wrench. The 2 rows of bales are dumped independently by flipping a lever.

Each cradle consists of 2 adjustable rails made from 4 by 6 rectangular tubing mounted at an angle. Threaded metal rods run through lengths of slotted tubing that extend across the rails. The rods have left hand threads at one end and right hand threads at the other end, and there's a big nut welded onto one end of each rod. Rotating the rod spreads the rails or moves them closer together.

"It has a simple design and is built lightweight but strong. You can load bales either from the side or rear," says the company. "The rails are suspended in the air, which lets you load bales on back of the machine and then push the row forward one bale at a time as you continue to load bales. Loading bales from the side works great with net-wrapped bales because there's no need to spear the bale."

A big advantage of being able to move the cradles in is that your overall road transport width is always at a minimum. For example, when two rows of 6-ft. round bales are brought in as close together as possible, they take up no more space than two rows of 4-ft. bales.

The 4-wheel-steer model sells for \$8,760; the gooseneck tandem axle model for \$10,695



Threaded metal rods run through lengths of slotted tubing that extend across rails. Cradle width, and spacing between cradles, can be adjusted by using an impact wrench to turn rods.

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"Made It Myself" Wheeled Bale Accumulator

"It rides on wheels that go between the furrows on our flood-irrigated hay fields," says Chris Kornkven, Whitewater, Colo., about his home-built hay accumulator.

He built the accumulator from the scrap yard "right down to the tires" and spent only about \$300 to build the machine.

Most commercial hay accumulators slide along the ground, but Kornkven says he didn't want to use them in his fields.

"Here in western Colorado we have a lot of furrow irrigation. Sliding an accumulator along the ground would push dirt into the furrows and eventually cause them to plug up," he says.

Kornkven used the wheels and hubs from a scrapped mini van and 2-in. channel iron for the frame. He used 3/4-in. well pump rod to build the bale cage and rear gate. "The back side of the cage is hinged to the frame. I can raise the front end of the cage so bales slide back by gravity, or I can lower the front end down to the frame and use the accumulator as a trailer," says Kornkven.

A spring-loaded latch keeps the gate closed. "Once there are 3 bales on the accumulator

I pull on a rope from the tractor to open the latch. The bales then push the gate open and slide out the rear. Gravity then causes the gate to swing closed and it automatically latches itself shut for the next load."

To build the floor, he cut lengths of 1-in. pvc pipe in half and attached them to the accumulator's 3 center rods with hose clamps so the bales will slide easier.

A wedge bolted to the baler's bale pan starts to direct bales sideways as they exit the baler. "As the bales continue to slide down the accumulator they hit lengths of 1/2-in. rebar attached at angles to the rods. The rebar guides the bales to the side and eventually they slide all the way to the back, where they're ready to be discharged."

Kornkven also welded together a heavy duty hitch for the baler. "It's built strong enough to pull a full-size hay wagon," he notes.

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Home-built bale accumulator rides on wheels that go between the furrows on flood-irrigated hay fields.

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Kornkven also built this bale grapple to handle up to 4 bales at a time. It was featured in FARM SHOW'S Vol. 40, No. 1.