



Rock Claw can handle big boulders with no problem. Three steel arms with curved ends at their lower end are connected to a lift chain.

Rock Claw Lifts Rocks Into Place

Albert Allpress can build walls with big rocks the easy way with his Rock Claw. He says he needed the patented rock lifter when he was in the excavation business.

"People used to ask me to build rock retaining walls," recalls Allpress. "I would do it, although I didn't care for the job. Some places you can't get in with big machinery and using chains or straps is neither safe nor easy."

Allpress likens his Rock Claw to the arcade game where a claw picks up a stuffed animal. He wanted a simpler version that was all mechanical.

His solution was 3 arms cut from high-grade steel with curved points or claws at the lower end and connected to a chain at the upper end. Each arm is pinned to a 3-pronged steel plate at a point about 3/4 up the length of the arm. This creates a pivot point for each arm.

The 3 chains gather at a ring on a swivel that can be hooked to a loader arm, blade or other device. With the claws in place around

the object to be lifted, the chains are gathered and pulled upward. This forces the arms to pivot at the plate and push the claws against the object being lifted, securing them in place.

"I have started selling them, and the more I sell, the lower the price will be," says Allpress. "Currently, I have 3 models ranging in price from \$320 to \$680."

The Series I Rock Claw has 1 1/2-ft. arms. Series II has 2-ft. arms, and Series III has 3-ft. arms.

"I've lifted a boulder that is 3 ft. in diameter and more than 700 lbs. with the Series III," says Allpress. "It made the backhoe tires squat, but the Rock Claw handled the boulder without a problem."

Check out a video of the Rock Claw in action at www.farmshow.com.

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Polish Seed Cleaner Finds U.S. Distributor

In the fall of 2015 Farm Show wrote about the Polish-built Sosnowski Seed Cleaner. DeVon Miller runs the Ohio business that's now the U.S. distributor for 3 sizes of the Sosnowski machine - 250, 670 or 1,400 bu./hr.

Miller says the Sosnowski machines are unique because they use centrifugal motion for the cleaning action. The machines will clean barley, spelt, rye, wheat, oats, corn, soybeans, rape seed, peas, dry beans, nuts, and all types of legumes and grasses. The cleaners have also been used for separating the stems and leaves of mint, removing leaves from frozen fruit, and separating small bits of wood and plastic from sand and bark.

"Controlling the quality of cleaning is different for each grain, and sometimes different for grain that comes from different areas of the same field," Miller says. "Differences depend on soil fertility and plant health."

Engaging the motor on a Sosnowski Cleaner activates centrifugal force to separate light impurities along with undesirable light seeds, including those that might be infected with fungus. The centrifugal speed determines the cleaning action. Miller says "the central diffusing element is the key to the Sosnowski units. It improves the cleaning quality to almost twice that of most other similar machines on the market. The machine has very few moving parts, essentially a fan attached directly to the motor." Miller adds that "unlike the complex process of seed cleaning machines that use screens, the Sosnowski units are very simple and user-friendly. They have only 2 controls, air flow and grain flow."

Sosnowski Cleaners are powered by a



Polish-built Sosnowski seed cleaner uses centrifugal force to remove trash from all types of seed.

single phase 110-volt motor. The electrical system is certified to the UL and CSA standards for the U.S. and Canada. Miller says the smaller machine is preferred by farming operations while the larger models are geared to commercial applications.

The 250-bu. model is priced at \$2,113, the 670-bu. model is \$3,335, and the 1,400-bu./hr. model is \$4,995. Larger commercial sizes are available but need to be special ordered.

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Jared Rasmussen made life easier for his dad by installing remote control on a Haybuster's discharge auger. The remote activates a 2-way solenoid to raise and lower the auger.

Remote-Controlled Discharge Auger

Jared Rasmussen made life easier for his father by installing remote control on a Haybuster discharge auger.

"My dad doesn't like getting in and out the tractor all the time when he grinds hay," says Rasmussen. "I looked for a low cost way to put remote control on the auger while retaining the option of manual control."

Rasmussen found what he was looking for with off-the-shelf components that cost him less than \$300. A two-way winch remote control from Amazon cost around \$13. A relay cost about \$10. One-way and two-way solenoids were the most expensive, totaling about \$200.

"The remote activates the two-way solenoid to raise and lower the auger," explains Rasmussen. "The one-way solenoid lets pressure flow through to the manual control valve."

He ran wires from the tractor's 12-volt system through the relay to protect the winch



Operator still has the option of manual control.



controller.

"It has worked well since I installed it," says Rasmussen.

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Self-unloading dirt scraper lets Philip Whitmoyer quickly unload dirt from his pickup. "I just hook a cable to a chain attached to a tree and drive away," he says.

Easy Way To Unload Dirt From A Pickup

"My self-unloading dirt scraper lets me quickly unload large quantities of dirt from my pickup. I just hook a cable to a chain that's attached to a tree or other support and drive away," says Philip Whitmoyer, Leesport, Penn.

He came up with the idea because he had some excavating to do near his house that wasn't accessible with large equipment, and he had to travel a ways to dispose of the dirt. His pickup was small enough to reach the area, but had one limitation. "I didn't mind loading dirt by hand into the pickup and hauling it away, but I really didn't want to unload it as well," says Whitmoyer.

To make the dirt scraper, he placed a metal shelf between the wheel wells and reinforced it with a 2 by 8 board. Then he threaded a looped cable through 2 holes drilled low into the shelf and board.

"Once I had a load on the pickup, I just

backed up to where I wanted to dump the ground, hooked the cable to a chain attached to a tree, and drove away," says Whitmoyer. "Dumping the dirt onto the cable keeps the shelf from sliding up and over the pile as the truck unloads."

"I was surprised at how little soil remained in the pickup bed after I drove away. What little did remain I was able to sweep off in short order."

Whitmoyer says he saved time, and when he was done there were no big wheel ruts in his lawn and no other major clean-up work to do. "If I ever have to do any other small dirt-hauling projects near our house again, I'll use the same idea," he says.

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