

One-Man Firewood Processor Mounts On Skid Steer Loaders

"I worked in and around the logging and trucking industry for years and would often hear people wish there was equipment for skid steers that would handle, cut and split firewood in one operation," says Glen Halverson, a Pine River, Minn. inventor. "So I built a small, affordable machine that's ideal for home owners, farmers, and small firewood producers."

Halverson says it took him more than a year to build his first prototype and 2 1/2 more years to perfect his machine. It's a combination log fork, squeeze arm, chain saw, and log splitter that attaches to skid steers with a universal mount. The compact HWP-130 and HWP-140 are built to handle logs up to 10 ft. long and 10 to 15 in. in diameter.

"The processors fit most 40 to 60 hp. machines, allowing one man to handle, cut and split about 1 1/2 to 2 cords an hour under ideal conditions," Halverson says. The machines need a minimum of 15 gpm hydraulic flow at 2,800 psi.

Halverson says "The key to my processor's efficiency is the 22-in. long chain bar with an effective cutting length of 18 1/2 inches. It's a heavy-duty bar and chain, with an automatic oiler, driven by a hydraulic motor. It took me a long time to get this idea perfected, including design work by a hydraulic specialist. When a log is held in place by the hydraulic clamp, the operator activates the saw and it makes a straight cut in just seconds. The piece of cut wood drops onto the splitting platform and is pushed through the splitting wedge by a 3 1/2-in. hydraulic cylinder with a 27-in. reach. The cylinder and ram delivers 27,000 lbs. of force. The whole operation is done from the driver's seat inside the cab."

In addition to the cutting and splitting platform, the processors have 2 reinforced lift arms made of 3-in. tube steel. The end of each arm has a 3 by 8-in. metal bracket to help lift logs from a pile and keep them from sliding off the lift arms as they're tilted up. The working width of the processor is just over 12 ft.



One-man firewood processor is a combination log fork, squeeze arm, chainsaw and log splitter. It attaches to skid loaders with a universal mount.

Halverson says both models of the processors have been sold to customers across the U.S. and Canada and have been "virtually maintenance free". The HWP-130 sells for \$12,500 and slightly larger HWP-

140 sells for \$15,490.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Halverson Wood Products, 199 College St., Pine River, Minn. 56474 (ph 218 587-2065; www.halversonwoodproducts.com).

"Reach Anywhere" Attachment For Power Washer Spray Wands

Anyone who uses a power washer will be interested in this new rotating attachment for power washer wands. It lets you adjust the spray tip to multiple angles anywhere up to 90 degrees, and then lock it in place.

The 4-in. long, brass Wand Wizard is designed to attach to the wand on most any pressure washer. It has a male coupler at one end and a female coupler at the other, and a spring-assisted locking collar in the middle. You remove the wand's original spray tip and attach the Wand Wizard in its place, then attach the spray tip back onto the Wand Wizard (a thread-type model is also available).

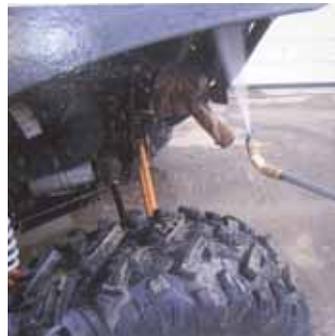
To change the spray angle, you slide the locking collar back with one hand and use your other hand to twist the spray tip up or down and then lock it in place.

"It's very handy to use because you can reach areas you could never reach with a straightaway spray wand," says inventor Gene Johnson. "One customer uses it to get behind a valve body on his combine where oil and debris collects, and if the valve body gets hot it could start a fire. He couldn't reach this area with a straightaway wand, but he can with the Wand Wizard. It has many other uses, including washing debris away from under lawn mower decks."

According to Johnson, the Wand Wizard will work on 90 percent of the pressure washer spray wands on the market. You can check out a short video of it at www.thewandwizard.com.



The 4-in. long Wand Wizard has a male coupler at one end and a female coupler at the other, and a spring-assisted locking collar in the middle.



Rotating attachment lets you adjust the spray tip on your power washer at multiple angles, anywhere up to 90 degrees.

Sells for \$36.95 plus \$5 S&H. Dealer inquiries welcome.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gene Johnson, 426 N.W. 48th Place, Des Moines, Iowa 50313 (ph 515 480-4646; www.thewandwizard.com; gjohnsonmail@yahoo.com).

New Latch Fits All Types Of Fences

The Universal Gate Latch is Tony Dinatale's latest idea for making life easier on a farm or ranch. We first met the Deer Park, Wash., inventor more than 10 years ago when he told FARM SHOW readers about his "Fastest Fence Staple Puller in the West" (Vol. 30, Issue 6).

Dinatale says his latch is as useful as his staple puller.

"I have several gates on the ranch with chains holding them shut on fixed latches that do not adjust. I decided to develop a latch that would fit any type of gate, wood or metal," he explains. "I wanted it to be adjustable vertically and horizontally, because posts have a way of moving. So it can be adjusted up to 1 in. after mounting."

Made of powder-coated steel and mounted with stainless steel hardware, it is built to last in any weather.

An upright lever makes it easy to open while on horseback or with an elbow when carrying something.

"Another big factor is the spacing between the post and fence," Dinatale says. "The latch works from 1 1/4 in. to 5 in. That makes it easier to mount."

After 5 years of testing and 4 revisions, he recently began marketing his patent-pending latch. Dinatale sells the latches (with mounting instructions) for \$25 (plus \$5 shipping).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tony Dinatale, 1601 E. Eloika Lake Rd., Deer Park, Wash. 99006 (ph 509 276-8552; cprspokane@aol.com).



An upright lever makes the Universal Gate Latch easy to open while on horseback, or with an elbow when carrying something.



New latch can be installed anywhere there's a 1 1/4 to 5-in. spacing between post and fence.

Robot Manure Vacuum Keeps Dairy Barns Clean

Netherlands-based Lely company has developed a manure robot, to vacuum up manure in dairy barns. It can even be controlled by a phone app.

Dan Schreiner, Feed and Barn Manager for Lely North America, says the Discovery 120 was developed after Lely R&D teams listened to farmers' concerns about managing manure on solid floor barns.

Solid floor barns can leave cows standing in manure, which makes it harder to detect foot problems. Conventional barn cleaners tend to be noisy and disruptive to the cows. The Lely 120 System is much more quiet, and cows just step around it as it makes its

rounds.

The 120 Robot, which is about 2 ft. tall, 56 in. long and 47 in. wide, looks somewhat like a miniature ice rink Zamboni. Schreiner says it is basically a vacuum with 90 gal. of holding capacity. Water is sprayed out the front to add liquid to the manure, making it easier to vacuum. Water is sprayed out the back to make the floor less slippery after the machine passes. Both the front and rear water tanks are rubber bladders, which efficiently deflate to create more room for holding manure.

When the cleaner is full it automatically returns to its docking station to empty out, refill its water tanks, and get recharged if

necessary. A full recharge can be done in about 10 min. Schreiner says one machine can handle the cleaning needs of a 100-cow barn.

The robot is initially taught its route by taking it through the perimeter of each cleaning zone. It then automatically calculates the cleaning area and is ready to work. It uses ultrasound and bump points along the route to navigate and avoid any obstacles. Its phone app can be used to change routes or adjust the amount of water spray.

The Discovery 120 will have limited availability by the second half of 2017. Pricing isn't yet available.



Lely manure robot is designed to vacuum up manure in dairy barns. Cows just step around it as it makes its rounds.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lely North America, 775 250th Ave., Pella, Iowa 50219 (ph 641 621-2700; www.lely.com).