

“High Lift” Jack Drops Trees In Place

“This idea really helps when I’m cutting down trees and don’t want anything to go wrong when they fall. I just add a long pipe to a high lift jack so that I can drop the tree exactly where I want it,” says Herman Schulte, High Level, Alberta Canada.

He recently sent FARM SHOW photos of how he used a 48-in., 3-ton lift jack to push down a tree. The pipe rests on the nose of the jack and is held in place by a bolt at the bottom and a 1-in. pipe collar at the top. The pipe collar is welded to a metal bracket that’s bolted to the top of the jack. A gripping device is secured to the top of the pipe where it meets the tree.

Schulte uses a chainsaw to cut a notch on one side of the tree. He sets the jack against the tree at an angle, then pumps the handle to push the pipe against the tree periodically as he finishes cutting it down.

“It’s a simple and inexpensive idea, and it works great,” says Schulte. “The pipe can be whatever length is needed. If I want to use the jack normally again I just remove the pipe.”

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Long pipe added to high lift jack lets Schulte drop tree exactly where he wants it.



Ron Anderson pulls a stripped down dump rake, fitted with plastic sheets or conveyor belt, behind his 8-wheel Argo to make moving dams along ditches.

Moving Dam Makes Flood Irrigation Fast, Easy

Ron Anderson flood irrigates his fields fast with moving dams. Pulled by hand or with his 8-wheel Argo, he can quickly flood 40 acres. All he needs is a stripped down dump or scatter rake and a sheet of plastic to make the dam.

“I can watch the water spread out and adjust my speed moving down the ditch,” says Anderson. “If I need to, I can stop and let more water run over the side of the ditch.”

While center pivots and other types of sprinklers have edged out flood irrigation in a lot of areas, in Anderson’s valley, it remains the most economical.

“We have only 30 frost free days a year,” he says. “It is hard to justify expensive irrigation equipment with our short seasons and limited crops.”

However, dropping temporary dams into ditches to flood a field always meant a lot of heavy labor. Dams had to be weighed down with rocks and wood placed behind them for support. A few years ago Anderson tried pulling a temporary dam behind a ditcher hooked to his tractor.

“It was fine on dry land, but if I hit wet soil, I could sink in,” says Anderson. “I realized the wheels and axle from an old dump rake would be ideal and the Argo would be perfect to pull it.”

Anderson now has 3 moving dams that he has made by attaching plastic sheets and conveyor belt to rakes stripped of their tines.

“I use pieces roughly 4 or 5 ft. wide and the span of the rake, usually about 12 ft. long,” says Anderson. “I chain the conveyor belt to



Conveyor belting hangs by chains from wheel rake axle.

the rake. With ag plastic sheets, I just tie them to the rake with twine.”

With the sheet attached, he simply drives down the ditch in the direction of the flowing water. When he slows or stops, a head of water builds up behind the dam and flows over the lower side of the ditch.

“On our soils, we need a good head of water to spread out across the field,” he says. “If it’s not enough, the water will quickly sink in.”

While conveyor belting is heavy enough to follow the contour of the ditch and hold the water, light plastic bagging material can float to the surface.

“I hang weights on the plastic to hold it down,” says Anderson. “Then I just need to go slow so I don’t outrun the water.”

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Pivot Pro works like a telescoping bicycle “kickstand” to brace against high winds.

“Kickstand” Keeps Center Pivot From Blowing Over

Strong winds can overturn center pivot irrigation systems, causing major damage. A Missouri company has a solution.

The patented Pivot Pro was introduced at the recent Husker Harvest Show near Grand Island, Neb. It works like a telescoping bicycle “kickstand”, with one on each side of a tower, to brace against high winds. Made from galvanized square tubing, it attaches without special tools to all pivot makes and models. Once installed on the tower, it takes only about one minute to deploy.

A long telescoping tube fitted with angle iron brackets U-clamps to the top and bottom of the tower, with a shorter telescoping brace near the bottom.

“It’s easy to install and easy to deploy,” says distributor Trey Curtis. “It can be folded flat against the tower or left extended to rest just above the pivot wheel, depending on whether you’re irrigating corn or soybeans.”

He says a Nationwide Insurance agent came up with the idea a couple years ago, after straight line winds in Missouri caused

112 center pivots to roll over in just one county. “The agent thought there had to be some way to stop that from happening, so he and an engineer came up with the design,” says Curtis.

“The Pivot Pro has been tested in simulated straight line winds of up to 200 mph without rolling over, so we know it works. Nationwide now offers a premium discount to Pivot Pro customers.”

However, center pivot manufacturers aren’t as enthusiastic about the Pivot Pro, says Curtis. “About 60 percent of the new pivots sold today are the result of pivot roll-overs caused by high winds.”

According to Curtis, the Pivot Pro can be custom made to fit articulating corner end pivots.

The Pivot Pro sells for \$1,500 per tower plus S&H.

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Mole Tunnel Pilot (MTP) enlarges and firms up mole tunnel, making it easier to place Trapline Mole Trap.



Tool Prep Mole Tunnels For Trapping

Bob Jameson increases his mole trapping success rate when he uses his Mole Tunnel Pilot (MTP). The lightweight tool he designed and developed enlarges and firms up the tunnel, preparing it for his favorite trap, the Trapline Mole Trap. The professional wildlife control specialist says the combination of trap and MTP is deadly for moles.

“I used a wooden device for years as there was nothing else out there to firm up tunnels,” says Jameson. “The MTP eliminates any interference with rocks, obstacles or loose dirt. It makes it easier to place the trap in the tunnel.”

The L-shaped MTP has a long leg that matches the size and shape of the Trapline trap. It is inserted into the tunnel end until the short leg abuts the end of the tunnel. Hand pressure on the surface compresses the dirt around the MTP, leaving a throat for the mole entering the trap. The process is then repeated on the other open tunnel end. Once traps are

inserted, sod is replaced.

“The MTP lets you set the trap upright or upside down,” says Jameson.

At first he treated the tool as his own trade secret. Soon, however, others began asking for it. He looked into making one from stainless steel, but settled on aluminum. He finally introduced it about a year ago. It is priced at \$59.00 plus shipping.

“Students of mine started talking to people online about it, and suddenly, we couldn’t supply them fast enough,” says Jameson, who also produces and sells a line of attractants. “It’s been hard to keep up with demand. I didn’t realize there were so many people with interest in trapping moles.”

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