



Demo-Dozer skid loader attachment can be used as a dozer, clam bucket, material bucket, log handler, 4-in-1 bucket, receiver hitch, or demolition grapple.



Bucket's 2 grapple arms operate independently, which is handy when picking up logs and other objects.

Amazingly Powerful "Do Anything" Dozer Bucket

The Demo-Dozer does just about anything you can imagine when it comes to tearing things down, picking them up or pushing them around. The unique skid steer attachment is a dozer, clam bucket, material bucket, log handler, 4-in-1 bucket and receiver hitch. It's all that plus a demolition grapple with the dexterity of a finger and thumb and the strength to break concrete.

"I had a man ask me what it could do," recalls John Waddington, Demo-Dozer Attachments. "There was a can of soda nearby, and I reached over with the Demo-Dozer and plucked the straw out of the can. Then I picked up some nearby plastic cones without crushing them before I went over to grab some concrete and busted it up."

Waddington explains that the Demo-Dozer can replace 6 to 8 attachments in one unit. "I've sold them to farmers, landscapers, construction companies and to companies in the oil fields," he says. "Customers tell me having the Demo-Dozer is like having a powerful hand on front of their machine."

Waddington got the idea for the Demo-Dozer when he transitioned from operating a landscape company to demolition.

"I bought a conventional skid steer grapple fork and used it for a week thinking it was a waste of money. All it could really do was

pick up debris," says Waddington.

He welded a blade onto the grapple arms that gripped across the full width of the bucket. That changed everything.

In the end he built a bucket with 2 grapple arms with blades. Unlike a clam bucket, the grapple arms are narrower than the blades. This makes it possible to angle the bucket and close the blades around an object like a post, grip it, and pull it vertically out of the ground. Unlike grapple arms, the blades are more like dozer blades for pushing material ahead of the bucket. At the same time the Demo-Dozer retains all the versatility of a bucket.

Waddington began building them 14 years ago. "The second one I made is still in use, and the owner says it still works great," says Waddington. "I've had no warranty problems other than a couple of cylinder leaks and one part failure, which I shipped out the next day."

He uses Grade 50 steel in the body and for most parts, Grade 80 steel in the 3/8-in. thick tines and 3/8-in., Grade 50 steel in the front dozer plates.

"I use American steel, and if I can get the other parts made here, I do," says Waddington.

Special features include removable side plates on the bucket, with 2 chain hooks and from 2 to 4 receivers on the face of the



Grapple arms can be used to pick up almost anything. Extended blade edges will grab post to pull it out of the ground.



grapple blades.

The Demo-Dozer ranges in size from 60 in. (\$4,246) to 84 in. (\$4,682) and is built by TM Manufacturing in Minnesota.

Waddington has a second style of Demo-Dozer that's designed to let dirt fall through when picking up a rock pile. It comes with a removable floor plate to expose tines spaced 6 in. apart. They also range from 60 in. to 84 in. and start at \$4,200. An optional rock insert with tines on a 3-in. spacing is priced at \$650.

"There's also a snow kit," says Waddington. "Just remove the side plates and replace them with the bucket extensions. They add 18 in. to each side. You can move tons of snow with them in place."

The Demo-Dozer is also available in a 42-

in. width for use with walk-behind mini skids.

Waddington doesn't advertise. He built the business largely by word of mouth and sometimes from places he doesn't expect.

"A guy from Texas ordered one," recalls Waddington. "He had been in Florence, Italy, and saw a Demo-Dozer being used to pull out railroad spikes, remove the rails and replace them. He asked the workers where it was built. They told him, but I have no idea how one ended up in Italy."

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Wool Pellets Trap Moisture, Supply Nitrogen To Plants

By Dee George, Contributing Editor

Karen Wilde didn't know what to think when her husband, Albert, poked bits of sheep wool around her potted plants before they left on a week-long vacation. But when the couple returned and the pots weren't dried out, she admitted that maybe he was on to something.

Since that first experiment, the Croydon, Utah, farm couple have figured out how to pelletize wool to sell to gardeners, greenhouse operators, and other growers. And they've learned that wool pellets do much more than hold 20 percent of their weight in water and then release it slowly. They also have a whopping amount of nitrogen at 9-0-2 NPK.

"We started running tomato trials and were amazed," Albert says. Tomatoes take 76 days to produce with most organic fertilizers. With the high nitrogen wool pellets, they produced in 38 days. A Utah State University study showed that wool pellets provide nutrients from the first day through the whole season.

While the pellets swell with water to hold moisture during dry periods, they also help in areas with too much water as they wick away moisture and increase porosity.

The Wildes are part of a family operation that raises beef cattle and sheep. Albert notes that only waste wool (from the belly and tags) is used for the pellets. Good wool is sold for outdoor clothing. He works with a friend who has a pelletizer to run dry wool - at 10 to 14 percent moisture - through the equipment one week each year. Modifications to the equipment are required to pelletize wool. The pellets are sold in 8 oz. bags (\$11.99), 22-lb. bags (\$135), and 2 lb. bags for the retail market as well as 1,000-lb. totes for commercial markets. Currently, most customers, use pellets in potted plants and around garden plants.

Albert is working with the University of Vermont on a row crop study to see if wool pellets protect against runoff. He would also like to see if wool heats the soil enough to protect plants from late and early frosts to extend the growing season.

The pellets are sold online from Wild Valley Farm and are available at independent gardeners - many of them on the East Coast.

"We've found that it's good for everywhere," Albert says, whether the pellets are



Wool pellets swell with water and release it slowly during dry periods.

holding moisture in arid climates like Utah, or protecting plants in water-saturated fields in British Columbia.

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Pelletized wool also contains a lot of nitrogen which plants like.

