# Made It Myself

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## 3-Pt. Log Lifter Speeds Wood-Cutting

"I can cut four to five full cords of wood a day, compared with one to one and a-half when I was moving logs by hand and cutting them all on the ground," says Peter Silver, pleased with a labor-saving 3-pt. mounted log lifter he built for use on his 30-acre woodlot near Napanee, Ontario.

The hydraulically operated log lifter pins to the 3-pt. hitch on Silver's 1975 International 966 tractor. It has two 3-ft. long forklift-style forks which slide under logs. A heavy-duty hooked clamp at the center of the frame is pushed down by a hydraulic cylinder to hold the log securely in place.

"I've lifted 60-ft. trees 2 ft. in dia.," Silver says. "I find the approximate center of the log, lift it to waist height, and quickly cut a big pile of wood. Besides saving a great deal of time and back strain, it also saves a lot of wear and tear on my chain saw because I'm not hitting the ground or rocks as I was before.

"As a bonus, I've found it works reasonably well for moving 4 by 5-ft., 950-lb. big round bales. You back up to the end of the bale so forks slip underneath it, then lower the clamp into the center. It's particularly handy for loading bales onto a trailer, but the clamp can damage some hay so you've got to be careful."

Out-of-pocket expense was $600 (Canadian).

Silver also made a handy cutting gauge for his 039 Stihl chain saw. It lets him cut wood with greater accuracy.

It consists of a 12-in. length of marker rod off a snowplow. Silver marked off the rod with electrician's tape in three increments, factoring in the saw's 6-in. wide

motor, so he can cut 12, 14 and 16-in. logs to within 1 in. simply by using the taped rod as a guide. The gauge bolts in an existing bolt hole on the left side of the saw.

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## Calf Feeder Built From Old Hammermill

You can turn an old hammermill that no longer works into a handy calf feeder big enough to hold 1 ton of feed for 15 to 20 dairy animals.

Weld five 5-ft. long, 3-in. dia. pipes around the hammermill to serve as legs. A metal octagon-shaped feed trough is then welded to the inside of the legs 6 in. below the hole in the bottom of the hammermill. That way the trough remains full at all times, automatically filling as the calves clean it out.

It eliminates the inconvenience of manually filling wooden feed troughs hung on fences. Plus, five to 10 more calves can eat at one time, so it eliminates bumping and pushing.

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## "Deflector Strips" Widen Out Windrow Behind Discbine

Four years ago David Allen bought a New Holland 408 discbine that cuts 8 ft. 3 in. wide but is equipped with crimper rollers that are about 2 1/2 ft. narrower. He says hay took a lot longer to dry than it did when cut by his previous New Holland 460 haybine on which the width of the cutterbar matched the crimper rollers.

He solved the problem by bolting a set of 1-in. wide, 1/4-in. long metal strips to a pair of wood boards that he bolted to the deflector shield behind the crimper rolls. The metal strips deflect hay outward, making the windrow nearly as wide as the cutterhead.

"It's not a fancy idea but it works," says Allen. "Before I made the modification I had to wait an extra day for hay to dry. Now I can usually cut hay in the morning and bale the next afternoon.

"The five strips I bolted onto each board range in length from over 1 ft. at the center to about 8 in. on the outside. I drilled three holes in the deflector shield for each board so I could bolt them on. I remove the boards and strips whenever I want to chop hay for our silo. It takes only a couple of minutes to unbolt the boards."

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## He Made His Own Front-End Loader

When Clifford Czinkota, Fenwood, Sask., went looking for a front-end loader to fit his 1978 Deere 4440 tractor, he had trouble finding one. So he built his own "long reach" loader and mounted a Leon bucket on it.

"It works better than any commercial loader I've seen. The bucket is about 1 1/2 ft. farther ahead of the front axle than it would be with most conventional loaders. I have a better view," says Czinkota. "One drawback of the design is that the bucket is so far ahead of the lift cylinders that lifting capacity is quite a bit less than comparable size loaders."

Czinkota used 4 by 6 steel tubing for the loader arms, bolting the base of each side arm to the tractor frame with five bolts. A pair of 3 1/2-in. by 40-in. hydraulic cylinders are used to raise or lower the arms and 2 1/2 by 30-in. cylinders are used to tilt the bucket.

"The loader is so handy to use that I never take it off the tractor, even when I use it to pull a swather," says Czinkota. "I spent only about $1,000 to build it."

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