

INFORMATION REVIEWED
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FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY † FOREST SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

HYDRAULIC LOG CART

A hydraulically operated log cart has been observed in the Southeast that appears adaptable for logging in other regions. Loads are carried practically clear of the ground by this cart, thus delivering clean logs to the mill.

A hydraulic cylinder mounted on top of the log cart with the plunger rod extending to the rear has a short cross bar attached to it (fig. 1). When the plunger is extended, the chain is put under the load and then both ends of the chain are attached to hooks on the cross bar. As the plunger is moved forward, the chain is pulled up over a roller, thus raising the load (fig. 2).

The load need not be closely balanced. The light end will be lifted until it is against a cross member of the frame either in front or to the rear of the roller. The cross member in contact with the load acts as a fulcrum, and the further tightening raises the load clear of the ground (fig. 2).

The control unit and hydraulic pump are mounted on the tractor. The pump is run by the fan belt or it can be driven by the power takeoff. Flexible high pressure hoses connect the control unit to the cylinder on the cart.

Capacity of the cart shown is 16,000 pounds. Pulpwood and sawlogs up to 16 feet in length are hauled. No data are available on the handling of longer length logs; much will depend upon their size and weight. Logs too long to be carried can be skidded by using the cart as a sulky.

Although originally designed for use with wheeled tractors these carts are also used with crawler tractors. No units have been observed in use in the mountains, but have been observed on rolling topography.

Additional information on this cart can be obtained from the McIntyre Implement Company, Richmond 9, Va.

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† Maintained at Madison, Wisconsin in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin

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Figure 1.--Hydraulic log cart showing cylinder, cross bar, and loading chain



Figure 2.--Hydraulic log cart showing cross member behind the chain roller with load partly raised

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