

## IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

### EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

#### LOGGING SULKIES

Adaptations of the logging sulky for varying conditions have been observed in the Southeast and Northeast. Standard commercial models (figs. 1, 3, and 5) are very satisfactory for certain conditions and timber sizes. However, where small timber is encountered and light tractors are used smaller sulkies are desirable. Such sulkies have been developed locally (figs. 2, 4, and 6). Two features of the unit shown in figure 2 are the diagonal bumper ahead of the tires to protect them, and the use of worn logging truck tires.

An adaptation to overcome difficulties imposed by swampy areas in the Southeast is the use of 19:00 x 23-inch balloon tires (fig. 3). This unit is still in an experimental stage.

In the Northeast hardwood areas, dual tires are used to combat soft ground. When seasonal changes occur and size of timber permits the outside tires are removed.

Adaptation of the sulky to winter logging conditions has been made in the Northeast by replacing the wheels with runners. This change is easily made when weather conditions vary.

Sulkies have also been adapted for bundle skidding by the addition of a bumper to protect the tires as shown in figure 6.

These units are used behind tractors with towing winches. Two sets of chokers are used so that the choker setter can attach chokers to logs in the woods while the tractor is skidding. Sulkies are obtainable from commercial manufacturers, two of whom are the Pacific Car & Foundry Company, Renton, Wash., and the Hyster Company, Peoria, Ill.

Plans for building the sulkies shown in figures 2 and 6 can be obtained from the Johns-Manville Company, Jarratt, Va. A number of loggers have built their own sulkies from these plans. It is assumed that none of the features described or shown are patented or patentable. However, a prospective builder may need to investigate this point.

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Figure 1.--Commercial sulky



Figure 2.--Single-wheeled sulky skidding tree-length pine pulpwood



Figure 3.--Sulky equipped with balloon tires



Figure 4.--Dual-tired sulky used to skid tree-length hardwood pulpwood by the Brown Company, N. H.



Figure 5.--Sulky with runners for snow

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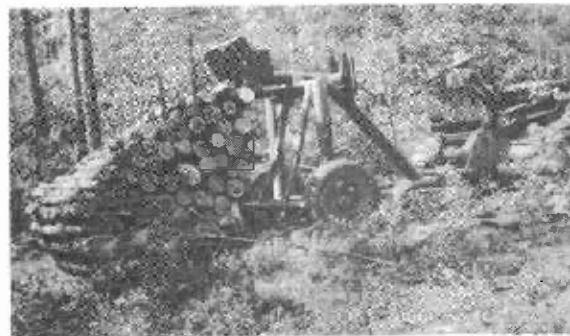


Figure 6.--Sulky for cordwood with bumper to protect tires