

## IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

### EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

#### STRADDLE LOGGING TRACTOR

A straddle-type logging tractor developed by an operator in Georgia has given about 18 months of satisfactory service in typical second-growth sawlog stands.

This unit is a farm tractor elevated on a frame supported by extended front and rear columns and equipped with a divided rear axle. Rear wheels on the stub axles are chain driven (fig. 1). Load clearance for logs is 48 inches high by 50 inches wide. The tractor has a wheel base of 10 feet and a load capacity of more than 500 board feet.

Logs to be carried are slung in a cable or chain that is wound upon a shaft driven by a power take-off. A long rod with a small hook on one end and a handle on the opposite end is used to pull the cable under the logs. Logs up to 20 feet in length are said to be carried without difficulty.

Engineers of the Knox Metal Products Company, Waynesboro, Ga., have re-designed, built, and field tested a production model which is expected to be on the market in the near future (fig. 2). The firm plans to produce several attachments for the unit, one of which is a loading boom that has already been field tested.

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Figure 1.--Straddle tractor carrying logs.



Figure 2.--Straddle tractor with loading boom.

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