Hydraulic hoist systems on farm tractors and jeeps can be used for power loading short logs, mine timbers, ties, and other lightweight forest products.

A Minnesota logger devised a loader of this type by welding a steel collar to the hydraulic skidding attachment described in Equipment Survey Note No. R1637-22. The collar is a piece of heavy-walled tubing or well casing about 6 inches in diameter and 12 inches long. It serves as a socket for a timber boom (fig. 1) or a hollow steel boom.

The vertical lift distance depends upon the length of the boom. At the drawbar the lift is 16 inches, so that with a 12-foot boom the lift is about 9 feet.

This equipment is used for picking up scattered logs and logs from small piles located along haul roads. Tongs on the end of the boom are used to pick up the logs. The boom is raised by the hydraulic system and positioned by maneuvering the tractor.

This loading device offers an advantage to farm woodlot owners, as it is inexpensive and does not interfere with other uses of the tractor.

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Figure 1.--Loading device for tractor hydraulic systems made by welding a boom socket on to a lift attachment.