



Woodbine Firewood Processor

SPECS

Chris Duval, the owner and founder of CRD Metalworks, had been in the firewood business for many years in western Massachusetts, where he designed and developed a firewood processor that he felt was more efficient than others he had used. So, considering the potential, he started the business.

Woodbine firewood processors are made by CRD Metalworks and distributed by Truck and Trailer World of Mendon, Massachusetts. Woodbine manufactures five different-sized models, from the 4-ton Ultimate, capable of handling logs up to 40 feet long and with a claimed production of 4 cords per hour, to the 3-ton Junior, capable of handling logs up to 20 feet long and with a claimed production of 2 1/2 cords per hour. Being unfamiliar with the Woodbine, I planned a visit with Dan Stoughton of Guilford, Vermont, who is the owner of a Woodbine Standard. The Standard is a medium-sized model in the range of Woodbine processors and differs from the others in that it is stationary and requires PTO power. Firewood production for Dan is strictly a part-time venture, but the processor and accompanying wood pile occupy a good portion of his yard. At the time of my visit in the fall of 2007, he was receiving \$190 per cord for the firewood.

Being stationary, the processor sits on skids, with long timbers on

each side which extend the length of the machine, a rather unique method of stabilization. The 14-foot log deck folds up, even with this stationary model. The logs are conveyed forward in the log trough by hourglass rollers. The manufacturer recommends at least 50 hp on the PTO, though Dan uses a 60-hp Allis Chalmers tractor.

Although Dan had owned the processor for a short two months when I visited, and had only put through 20 cords, he had definite opinions about the machine. He stated, "I have tried other processors and this is one of the easiest machines that I have operated. The hydraulic pump is three-stage and provides good power and a fast cycle time."

He was working on some improvements. He upgraded the wedge, which had bent and then broken at a weak weld. He said he also would like to have had the grease fittings more accessible and a tightening mechanism for the saw chain. Nothing serious.

Dan can produce 1 1/2 to 2 cords per hour working alone, and said about 3 cords per hour is his max

Woodbine Standard Firewood Processor

Power	PTO, minimum 50 hp
Max. log length	40 ft.
Max log diameter	22 in.
Log deck ..	14 ft. long, 2 strand, folds up
Log feed	hourglass roller
Wedge	4-6-8 way, interchangeable
Hydraulic pump	3 stage
Conveyer	24 ft. belt
Weight	8,000 lb.
Chain saw	chain speed adjustable
Price	\$29,900

MANUFACTURER

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when he has a helper. Twenty feet is the longest log he puts on the log deck.

Electric power also works well on the Woodbine. Gerry Tuckly of Waterford, Pennsylvania, owner of a large hardwood sawmill and firewood operation, told me that his electric-powered Woodbine works very smoothly and has given him no problems. ■

Bill Gove is retired from a forestry career with private industry and with state government as a wood utilization specialist and lives in Williamstown, Vermont. He is a regular contributor and is the author of several books on the history of railroading and logging.

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