

Built-Rite Firewood Processor

Would you like to own a firewood processor, but have shied away from the thought because of the expense? Why not consider a processor that can operate off the PTO shaft on your tractor? **BY BILL GOVE**

There are a few manufacturers that make PTO firewood processor models, and there are definite cost savings on the purchase over a self-powered machine. Cost savings is a part of what motivated Stephen Jambard of Hollis, New Hampshire, to purchase a PTO model made by the Built-Rite Manufacturing Corporation of Ludlow, Vermont. It was almost two years ago that Steve purchased Built-Rite's model PTO-1, the smaller of the company's two PTO models, and he has given it a good workout since that time.

Steve's principle livelihood involves construction work as well as his farrier services in his rural area of southern New Hampshire. Horses are a passion with him, and he proudly showed me his small stable



Deere tractor. The Built-Rite firewood processors are hydraulically operated, and with the PTO models one has the choice of hooking the processor hoses onto the tractor's hydraulic pump or using a separate "slide-on" pump, which fits over the tractor's PTO shaft. Steve chose the latter.

Most operators of a PTO-powered processor seem to prefer the slide-on pump because it eliminates the task of attaching and then removing the hoses each

of workhorses. Firewood production apparently works in well with his varied activities.

Steve has his processor powered by the PTO shaft on a 60-hp John

Stephen Jambard's model is equipped with a two-stand log deck and the multi-wedge system, which are not included in the PTO-1's basic price.

time it is used. The slide-on pump for the PTO-1 model provides 21 gpm at 540 rpm. The company recommends a tractor of at least 35 hp.

At the time of my visit in the spring of 2006, Steve had been operating his processor for about one year and reported no problems. He uses a 6-way splitting wedge which gives him a production of about 1¹/₂



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IGLAND 3001. Small and basic winch for the "hobby forester" with a small parcel of woodland. Ideal for hauling in firewood.
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• Recommended wire rope 5/16" x 130'
• Height 46", Width 40", Weight 320 lbs.



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IGLAND 4501. Powerful and versatile, an all around winch for farmers, woodland owners and contractors. The hinged "butt plate" performs very well on the skid path and at the staging area. Two position haul in block, and light pull clutch put the IGLAND 4501 at the top of its class.



5001

IGLAND 5001. Brute force and efficiency provide total control over the load under the most challenging conditions. The IGLAND 5001 is a heavy duty design intended for the professional and the daily stress of skidding big timber. The low profile construction of the winch keeps the rear overhang to a minimum.
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• Recommended wire rope 7/16" x 165"
• Height 61", Width 60", Weight 630 lbs.

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cords per hour.

Built-Rite also makes a larger tractor model, the PTO-2, which requires the use of a tractor of at least 60 hp for the tandem 1,000 rpm pump. It is somewhat heavier than the PTO-1 and has a higher price tag. However, significant factors in the price differential are the two extra features found on the PTO-2. This model is equipped with a two-strand log deck and the multi-wedge system. The basic price on the PTO-1 does not include these; they are available only as options.

FEATURES

For those of you familiar with the Built-Rite firewood processors, the PTO-1 has features and operational capability that are similar to those found on the company's standard 30 SCP processor. The splitter cylinder is a bit smaller at 4 x 24 with a 2-inch rod. The PTO-2 can be compared to the company's 86 SCP

Built-Rite Tractor-Powered Firewood Processors

	PTO-1	PTO-2
Transport length	26 ft.	26 ft.
Hydraulic pump (PTO)	540 rpm; 21 gpm	1,000 rpm tandem
Minimum tractor size	35 hp	60 hp
Splitter cylinder size	4 x 24, 2 in. rod	47 x 24, 2 in. rod
Chain saw bar, titanium	25 in.	25 in.
Sprocket size	8 tooth	15 tooth
Hydraulic tank	25 gal.	50 gal.
Wedges	4- and 6-way	multi-wedge
Axles	2 Torflex	2 Torflex
Tires	ST-205-75D14	ST-225-75R15
Trough length	16 ft.	16 ft.
Maximum log diameter	22 in.	22 in.
Maximum log length	22 ft.	24 ft.
Log deck, 2 strand	optional	standard
Multi-Wedge	optional	standard
Price (without optional features)	\$21,400	\$31,000

Manufacturer: Built-Rite Mfg. Corp. 750 E. Hill Rd., Ludlow, VT 05149
 Tel. and Fax: 800/757-2520 ■ E-Mail: info@built-rite.com ■ www.built-rite.com

Manufacturer's Comments: PTO processors are an ideal way to make an unused farm tractor create some spare cash. If you have a 35-hp tractor or bigger and want full-scale performance for less money, Built-Rite offers 3-PTO powered processors. With a model for each size operation, the PTO-18 is ideal for the start-up operations or part-time firewood producer. While the PTO-1 is truly a high performance midsize processor, perfect for anyone serious about firewood production. The third option available in a PTO model is our PTO-2, which is a high output processor designed for a full-time firewood supplier.



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Most operators prefer the slide-on pump because it eliminates the task of attaching and removing the hoses each time it is used.

processor in size and performance, except for its lack of an automatic log stop on the conveyer.

Both PTO models have the very effective scissor clamp which is used by Built-Rite to provide a firm hold on the log while the chain saw is

making the cut. The flipper tray is also included, a unique attachment which holds up the last end piece of the log while it is being cut, and prevents it from tipping down into the splitting trough while the saw is at work.

I would have to say that Steve Jambard enjoys his firewood activity. He didn't indicate that he considers the PTO-1 too small for his needs or that he wanted a larger machine. He lives in an area of fairly high firewood prices; during the winter of 2005/2006, the market price reached \$275 per cord, dry. During my visit he had a good supply of purchased logs and was planning to cut at least 200 cords for the coming season. ■

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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