

Bob tail – A straight truck used to haul pulpwood or short logs over-the-road from the logging location to the mill or wood yard. May be single axle or tandem axle depending on the number of drive axles on the rear end. It may also be equipped with a swing arm cable / stick loader or a conventional knuckle-boom loader.



Bow saw – A gas operated power saw with an open cutting bar which carries the cutting chain. This design is intended to reduce the effect of pinching on the saw by the tree or log being cut.

Chain saw – A gas operated power saw with a solid cutting bar which carries the cutting chain. It may be used for felling and/or bucking.

Chipper – This machine converts felled trees into wood chips and discharges the chips into a van trailer for transport to the mill. A chipper machine remains stationary on the site. Felled trees are picked up by another machine (most commonly a knuckle-boom loader), and fed into the machine. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine. The chipper is usually used in combination with a debarker.

Chipper / Debarker – A combination of chipping and debarking machines arranged as a single unit.



Choker skidder – This machine also transports felled trees by dragging across the ground, from the stump to the set (ramp, landing) or can serve as a pre-bunching machine for a forwarder or grapple skidder. This operator must dismount this machine to “choke” one end of the tree with a sling or chain. The operator then remounts and winches the choker line in to tighten the sling and pick up the tree end. The machine then drags the tree to the landing.

Crane loader – This is a self-propelled machine, of wheel or crawler design, with a boom & cable assembly supporting a grapple device. It is used to pick up felled trees in the set (landing, ramp) and place them on the truck or trailer to be hauled to the mill. A stationary crane can usually be found at the mill unloading trucks and loading the mill’s debarker system.

Debarker – This machine removes bark and limbs from felled trees, usually to prepare them for chipping. A debarker machine remains stationary on the site. Felled trees are picked up by another machine (most commonly a knuckle-boom loader), and fed into the machine. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.

Delimber – A machine used to remove branches from felled trees.

Dozer – This machine moves, levels earth for road making, building of the set (landing area); reclamation and/or site clean up. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.

Fellerbuncher – A self-propelled machine, of wheel or crawler design, used to cut trees down (felling). It also has the capability to grab a tree or bunch & carry several trees and control the direction of their fall or lay them down. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine. Most commonly, a spinning saw head provides the cutting action for a fellerbuncher. Otherwise, a pincher head or shear may be used.

Forwarder – (sometimes called a pre-loader or pre-hauler) This machine picks up felled trees or bucked logs by grapple, loads them into a rack (bunk, cradle) and transports from the fell or buck location to the set (ramp, landing). The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.



Front-end loader– This is a self-propelled machine, of wheel or crawler design, with a bucket or fork implement on one end. It can be used for loading logs onto the truck or trailer to be hauled to the mill. The machine may also be used for site work and clean up. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.

Grader – This machine moves, levels earth for road making, building of the set (landing area); reclamation and/or site clean up. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.

Grapple skidder – The grapple arm of this machine picks up one end of a felled tree or trees and transports them, by dragging across the ground, from the place where they are felled (stump) to the set (ramp, landing). The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.

Knuckle-boom loader - This machine picks up felled trees in the set (landing, ramp) and places them on the truck or trailer to be hauled to the mill. It has a rotating super-structure mounted on a truck or trailer and remains stationary while in use on the site. It has a hydraulic powered boom made of two parts connected by a hinge with a grapple end. This loader may also be used to pick up trees and place them in other machines for trimming, bucking, or debarking and chipping. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.

Limb gate – (also called a Limbing gate) This is a stationary device, either free-standing or chained between two trees, which has vertical and horizontal bars through which a Skidder operator backs the trees to remove the limbs before pulling the trees to the landing area.



Log truck – A tractor-trailer used to haul logs over-the-road from the logging location to the mill or wood yard. The trailer type may vary.

Mechanical harvester – Sometimes synonymous with “feller-buncher”. This term may also be used to describe a self-propelled machine, of wheel or crawler design, capable of grabbing a single tree, felling it and removing the branches. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.

Pole saw – (also called Power pruner) a gas operated power saw with a cutting bar and chain mounted at the end of an extending pole.

Pull-out truck (set-out truck) – A truck tractor that is used to pull loaded trailers from the landing area in the woods to a set out area near the highway. The pull out driver un-hooks the loaded trailer and leaves it in the set out area, then hooks up to an empty trailer and returns it to the landing area to be loaded. The pull out truck is not used for over-the-road hauling.

Pull-through delimber – (also called a drag-through Delimber)
A Delimber machine that remains stationary on the site. Felled trees are picked up by another machine (most commonly a knuckle-boom loader), and placed in the delimber, then pulled through so that branches can be removed from the entire tree length of the tree.



Single-grip harvester - This term is used to describe a self-propelled machine, of wheel or crawler design, capable of grabbing a single tree, felling it, removing the branches and bucking it into specified lengths. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.

Slasher – A bucking machine which remains stationary on the site. Felled trees are picked up by another machine (most commonly a knuckle-boom loader), and placed in the slasher cradle. The slasher saw then pivots onto the tree and cuts it into logs.

Stroke delimber (sometimes called Slide-boom) - A self-propelled machine, of wheel or crawler design, that picks up felled trees and removes its branches. The machine holds one end of the tree in place and extends a telescoping boom to carry delimiting arms along the entire length of the tree. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.



Tree processor– This term is used to describe a machine (usually stationary while in operation) capable of removing branches and bucking trees into logs. It may include a knuckle-boom loader / feeder. The operator remains in an enclosed cab while operating the machine.

Yarder - (sometimes called a Line Machine) A self propelled machine in a logging operation where cable yarding is used. The yarder includes the spar (pole) from which the cables are suspended, guy cables, cable spools, drives, power plant and operator station. It is usually mounted on crawler tracks. Cables are used to move trees or logs from the area where they are felled to the set (landing, deck). The trees or logs may be either dragged across the ground on the cable or carried while suspended from the cable.

