

## A COLLAPSIBLE TRIPOD TO FACILITATE LOADING OF FARM MACHINES

A collapsible tubular steel tripod suitable for carrying on a utility truck to facilitate the loading and unloading of farm machinery and other equipment has been designed. It is used in conjunction with an endless-chain lifting tackle of 10 cwt capacity.



Fig. 1.—Side view of loading of a sod-seeder.

Tubular steel legs 14 ft long are attached at their upper ends to a tubular steel “spider”, which holds the tripod legs far enough apart to allow fairly bulky objects to be lifted. The arms of the “spider” are at the circumference of a circle 7 ft in diameter and the legs of the tripod stand on the circumference of a circle 12 ft in diameter. A steel loop is welded to the centre of the lower side of the “spider” and from this loop is suspended the endless-chain tackle.

The legs are made from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. I.D. steel steam pipe. Each is in two sections to facilitate transport. A sleeve of 2 in. I.D. steel steam pipe is welded to the lower end of each upper section to take the upper end of a lower section, and the upper ends of the assembled legs are inserted into lengths of 2 in. I.D. steel steam pipe welded to the ends of the "spider" arms. Each arm of the "spider" is made of two lengths of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. I.D. steel steam pipe. The arms are welded to a central pillar made of 2 in. I.D. steel steam pipe.



Fig. 2.—End view of loading of a sod-seeder.

The construction cost of the tripod was £15 and the endless-chain tackle cost £18.

The tripod and tackle have been used mainly for handling a Connor-Shea sod-seeder weighing about 7 cwt. This machine can be lifted to a height of 4 ft, so it may be loaded onto a large platform truck as well as a utility truck. The legs are far enough apart to enable the rear of a truck platform to be positioned beneath the lifting tackle.

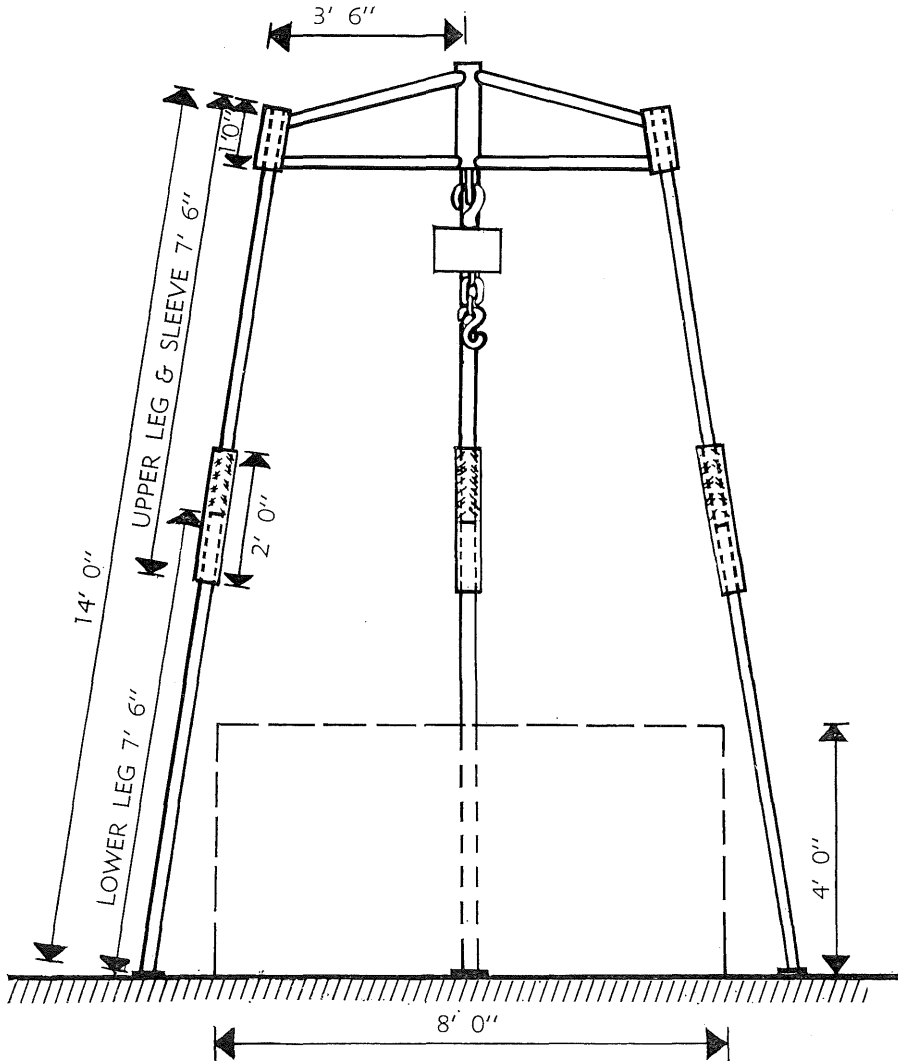


Fig. 3.—Details of construction of tripod. The broken-line rectangle represents the carrying platform of a truck in position beneath the lifting tackle.

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