

# South West Woodland Show

*On 11 September at Longleat, the SWWS brought together 70 exhibitors, an increased number of visitors, and stunning weather*



*(Above) One man and his log: Wouter Crucke shows how easy it is to operate a logging arch. (Below) Wouter and a colleague demonstrate how well their cant hooks grip onto timber... or possibly they were trying to actually get the thing off the ground!*



## Low impact log moving

Working as an arborist led Wouter Crucke, founder and president of Belgian company Vartago, to develop lightweight, handy and cost-effective tools to lift and move logs in sometimes narrow places. His work is based on a centuries-old concept but appears in a brand new version, and makes it possible to move large logs by manpower.

These beginnings led him on to develop the arches and cant hooks he is demonstrating and selling now. He sells log arches in many different sizes and what he describes as the best cant hooks ever. "We sell the first cant hooks where you don't have to be afraid that the hook will come out of the wood," he says.

The arches and cant hooks lift, move and turn heavy logs with a minimum of manpower. They cause no damage to the soil or lawn and they can be used in gardens and confined areas. There are also larger versions for working in woods or sawmills. These can be used manually



*The view from the ConFor tent (above) and much activity centring around the kindling machine on the Perry Plant Hire stand (below).*



## Made in Germany

Perry Plant Hire had a number of BGU firewood machines on display and received a lot of interest, especially the KSA370 firewood processor and the ZA160 kindling machine.

The price of the KSA370 has dropped £900 recently, now that the splitting cross is moved manually by means of a lever instead of hydraulically. Morley Yeandle feels that this simplification also makes the processor easier to use.

The ZA160 kindling machine was confidently splitting Sitka spruce, deriving its power from a small (19hp) Kubota tractor.

Morley Yeandle said he felt that moving the show to Longleat was a very good option. "There were a lot of new faces," he said, "and I think it expanded the show to a much wider audience. There was a nice atmos