

POSITIONING CHIP VANS

Harvesting 4.334

January 1987

INTRODUCTION: A marker to assist in safely and quickly positioning chip vans for in-woods loading is being used by a Fordyce, Arkansas logger.

Chip van backs up until it hits metal sign. Sign is positioned so that chip van is in line with chipper spout.

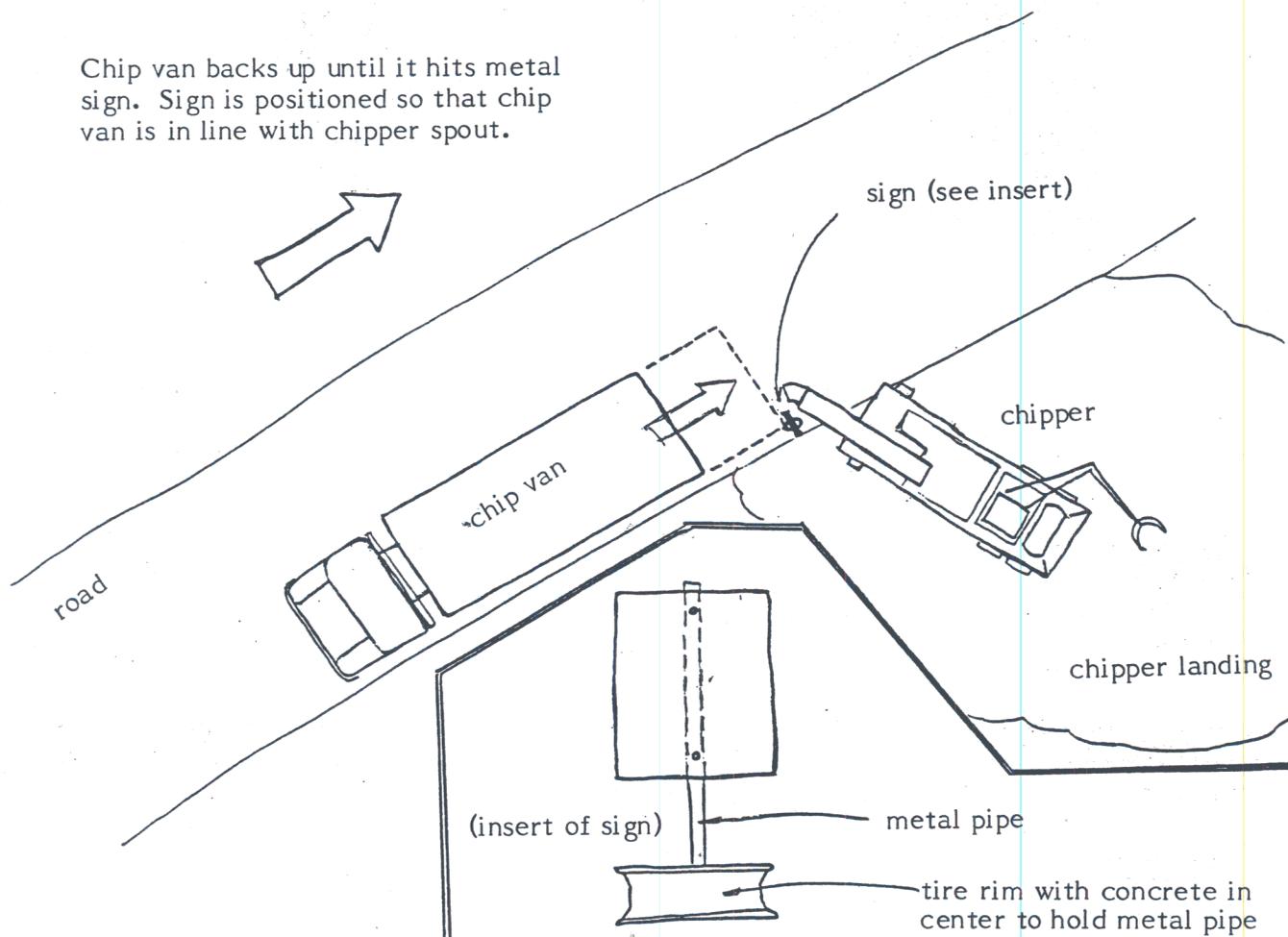


Fig. 1: Layout of chipping operation and diagram of metal sign.

OPERATION: A metal sign attached to a 3/4-inch galvanized pipe inserted in a concrete-filled rim is part of the equipment of Alan Bedell's whole-tree chipping operation. The sign is placed in the exact position at which Bedell wants the van to be for in-line loading from the chipper spout. When the driver returns with an empty van, he backs up until he just touches the metal sign. The driver may spot the van there for loading and haul a filled van, or he may remain in position until his van is loaded.

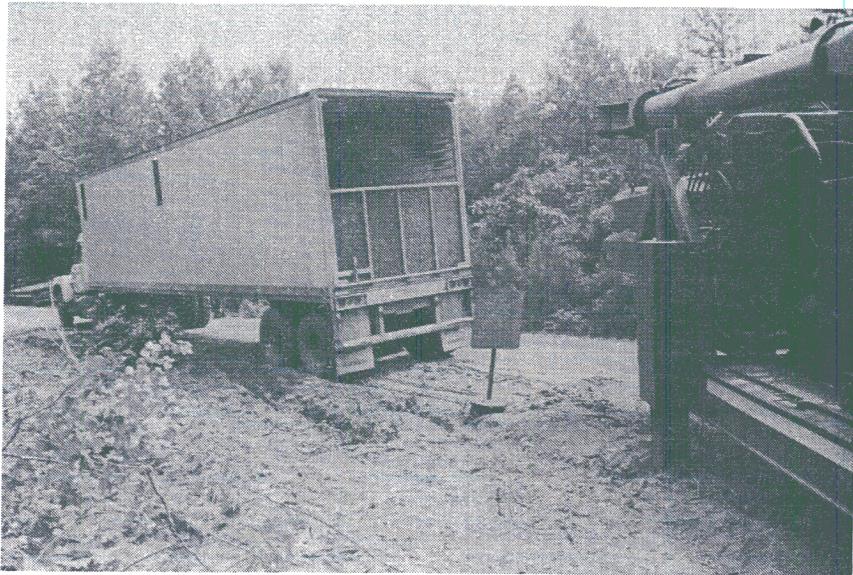


Fig. 2: Driver positioning chip van.

Colin Ashmore and Bryce J. Stokes
Research Engineers
Southern Forest Experiment Station
Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama 36849

Information supplied by:
Alan Bedell
Circle B Logging
Route 2, Box 90
Fordyce, Arkansas 71712

STAFF COMMENT: This simple system works very well and saves considerable time in spotting chip trailers. In this period of industry-wide cost containment, often little ideas such as this can be the difference between a profitable and an unprofitable operation.

Reviewed by:
Jim Altman
Division Forester