

SPLITTER



# Automated Biomass Systems AutoSplit 630



## Manufacturer

Automated Biomass Systems  
2235 Clarks Corners Rd.  
Marathon, NY 13803  
ph: 607/849-7800  
[www.autobiomass.com](http://www.autobiomass.com)

## Machine Operator

Ryan Conveny

## Assistant

Austin Roberts

## Time

5 min.

## Cords Processed

0.17 Cords

## Cords/Hour

2 Cords

**A**utomated Biomass isn't a household name, just yet. In business for just three years, their machine, the AutoSplit 630, is one of a new generation of firewood splitters present at the 2018 Shoot-Out, with a focus on safety, ease of use, and quality of output. With salesman Ryan Conveny at the controls and Austin Roberts assisting, the new team made a great first showing. Ryan started out a year ago as a welder at Automated Biomass, worked his way through engineering, and now works in sales, so he really knows the machine. The first thing he pointed out was the safety of this splitter. "The cylinder and hydraulic system are completely enclosed and, once the firewood block is in the box splitting chamber, the splitting operation is hands-free," he explained.

The operator initiates the splitting cycle by pushing a hydraulic valve lever, and the splitter applies up to 19 tons of splitting force to push it

through the 4-way box wedge. The hydraulic ram pushes the wood through a set of wedges which shears off up to four 4-inch-square blocks. These blocks slide across a clean-out tray into an ever-growing pile of firewood. An arm attached to the ram then pulls the unsplit part of the block back into the splitting chamber for the next pass, with a cycle time of just 6 seconds. While the blocks of wood supplied required up to four passes, the wood always dropped back into the splitting chamber with no help from Ryan. "You can put in several pieces at a time," he explained, "but the Shoot-Out pieces were so big, I mostly split them one at a time." Black oak, elm, and birch firewood all went through the splitter without any jams. On a few of the toughest pieces, the splitter slowed down noticeably, as the 2-stage hydraulic pump dropped down to the slower, but more powerful, low volume/high pressure mode, but the 20-hp Honda GX 630 engine took it all in stride.

While Ryan was relaxing at the

controls of the splitter, Austin made sure there was always wood loaded on the log lifter, allowing Ryan to keep the splitter in nearly constant motion for the 5 minutes it took to split their stack of wood. Although the hydraulic log lifter has a weight capacity of over 500 pounds, the ABS team used it as a log deck to save time. Austin used a back-saving LogOx log lifter to set the logs up on the splitter without bending over to lift them. "It also works as a cant hook and timberjack," he noted. According to Ryan, the AutoSplit 630 can handle wood up to 24 inches in diameter by shaving the edges and turning it until it fits in the 16-inch-wide splitting chamber. At that point, there is no further manual log handling until the next piece goes in.

While the Shoot-Out went smoothly, Ryan did have one suggestion: "We could have used more wood!" The output was very consistent, and the 4-inch-square by

16-inch-long pieces were the ideal size for woodstoves and fireplaces. "We sell some to individual users, but our main market is firewood businesses," he noted. With their job done, it took only a few minutes to lift the stabilizing legs and have it ready for towing back to their booth.

New in 2019, a redesigned AutoSplit will be adopted into the Timberwolf product lineup and sold as the Timberwolf Alpha. •



## MACHINE SPECS

Model .....Autosplit 630  
 Power...20-hp Honda GX 630  
 Cycle time .....6 sec.  
 Log loading.....Standard,  
 located on side of operator,  
 doubles as staging area  
 Max firewood  
 length.....24 in.  
 Options used.....LogOx  
 hand tool for block loading

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