JENKINS IRON AND STEEL

Bale Spear

Owner's Manual



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Built Strong. Built to Last. Made in the USA.

⚠ **READ THIS MANUAL COMPLETELY BEFORE OPERATING THIS ATTACHMENT.**

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Section 1: Introduction and Product Overview

Thank you for purchasing a Jenkins Iron and Steel Bale Spear Attachment. We take pride in manufacturing heavy-duty, dependable attachments right here in Long Prairie, Minnesota, and we are confident this product will serve you well for years to come.

The Jenkins Bale Spear Attachment converts your skid steer or tractor loader into a powerful bale handling machine. Engineered for strength and durability, this attachment uses only the highest quality **German Conus spears rated at 2,697 lbs at 28"**, mounted to a heavy-duty square box frame built to withstand the rigors of daily agricultural use.

Available Configurations

- **2 Prong** — Two 49" spears spaced 34" apart; ideal for standard round bale handling
- **3 Prong Round** — 49" center spear with two 19" stabilizer spears; enhanced bale control

- **4 Prong Square Bale** — Four 39" spears with 6' overall width; designed for large square bales
- **4 Prong Double Round** — Four 49" spears with 8' overall width; carry two round bales at once

NEW FOR 2026

Jenkins Iron and Steel has added a **hydraulic sliding version** of the 4 Prong Double Round spear, providing adjustable prong spacing for maximum versatility in the field.

Euro/Global mounts are available for John Deere tractors only. Please call for pricing and compatibility information.

Ideal Applications

- Hay operations and bale management
- Livestock feeding
- Round bale handling and transport
- Square bale stacking
- Field-to-barn transport
- Bale wagon loading

Section 2: Safety Warnings and Precautions

⚠ **WARNING**

Failure to follow these safety guidelines may result in serious injury or death. Read and understand all warnings before operating this attachment.

General Safety

- Only trained and authorized operators should use this attachment.
- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses, steel-toed boots, and gloves.
- Verify load stability before lifting or transporting any bale.
- **NEVER walk or stand under a raised load.**
- Keep all bystanders, children, and animals clear of the work area at all times.
- Do not exceed the rated weight capacity of 2,697 lbs.
- Ensure the host machine (skid steer or loader) is rated to handle the combined weight of the attachment and load.

Operational Safety

> ⚠ **WARNING — TIP-OVER RISK**
>
> Carrying offset or unbalanced loads can cause the host machine to tip. Always center the load on the spears and transport bales in the lowest position possible.

- Always approach bales squarely — never at an angle.
- Watch for tip-over risk when handling offset or unbalanced loads.
- Transport bales in the **lowest position possible**, tilted slightly back.
- Be aware of overhead clearances, especially in barns, under power lines, and near structures.
- Secure any loose bales before transport; do not carry bales that are falling apart or poorly wrapped.
- Reduce speed when traveling over uneven terrain with a loaded spear.
- Never use the bale spear to lift personnel or for any purpose other than handling bales.

Mounting Safety

> ⚠ **CAUTION**
>
> Always verify that the attachment is fully locked into the quick-attach plate before lifting any load. An improperly secured attachment can detach during operation, causing serious injury or equipment damage.

- Verify the attachment is fully locked and secured before lifting any load.
- Visually inspect quick-attach engagement — ensure locking pins are fully seated.
- Test the attachment by lifting it a few inches and tilting before approaching a bale.
- Never modify the quick-attach plate or locking mechanism.

Section 3: Specifications

Configuration Details

Configuration	Spear Count & Length	Spacing / Width	Best For
2 Prong	2 × 49" spears	34" apart	Single round bales
3 Prong Round	1 × 49" center + 2 × 19" stabilizers	Standard	Round bales (enhanced stability)
4 Prong Square	4 × 39" spears	6' overall width	Large square bales
4 Prong Double Round	4 × 49" spears	8' overall width	Two round bales simultaneously

General Specifications

Specification	Value
Main Spear Length	49" (39" on 4 Prong Square Bale model)
Overall Length	39"
Overall Height	23"
Weight Capacity at 28"	2,697 lbs
Overall Weight	175 lbs (2 Prong base configuration)
Spear Type	German Conus
Frame Construction	Heavy Duty Square Box Frame
Tilt Design	Increased angle for maximum tilt
Standard Mounting	Universal Skid Steer Quick Attach
Optional Mounting	Euro/Global (John Deere tractors only — call for pricing)

Section 4: Construction and Design Details

Heavy Duty Square Box Frame

Every Jenkins Bale Spear is built on a heavy-duty square box frame. This frame design provides exceptional rigidity and strength, distributing stress evenly across the structure during heavy loading. The frame is precision-welded using high-strength steel and finished to resist the elements encountered in daily agricultural work.

German Conus Spears

Jenkins Iron and Steel uses only the highest quality **German Conus spears** — the industry standard for bale handling. These forged spears are heat-treated for optimal hardness and durability, featuring a tapered profile that penetrates bales cleanly and holds them securely during transport.

Feature	Detail
Spear Rating	2,697 lbs at 28"
Construction	Forged and heat-treated steel
Profile	Tapered, conical tip for clean bale penetration
Replaceability	Fully replaceable — Conus mount system

Increased Angle for Maximum Tilt

The Jenkins Bale Spear features an increased tilt angle engineered into the frame design. This allows operators to tilt bales back further during transport, keeping loads more secure — especially when traversing slopes, uneven terrain, or traveling longer distances between pickup and drop-off points.

Adaptability

Jenkins Bale Spear attachments can be modified to fit a variety of tractor loader models. The standard configuration ships with a universal skid steer quick-attach plate. Euro/Global mount options are available specifically for John Deere tractors — contact Jenkins Iron and Steel for pricing and compatibility.

Section 5: What's Included

Your Jenkins Bale Spear Attachment ships fully assembled and ready to mount. The following items are included with your purchase:

Item	Description
Bale Spear Frame	Fully assembled heavy-duty square box frame, ready to mount
German Conus Spears (pre-installed)	Quantity varies by configuration: 2 Prong (2 spears), 3 Prong Round (1 main + 2 stabilizers), 4 Prong Square (4 spears), 4 Prong Double Round (4 spears)
Quick Attach Plate	Universal skid steer quick-attach plate (standard)
Owner's Manual	This document

NOTE

If you ordered a Euro/Global mount configuration for John Deere tractors, the quick-attach plate will be replaced with the appropriate Euro/Global mounting plate.

Section 6: Installation and Mounting

Pre-Installation Checklist

Before mounting the bale spear, complete the following checks:

- Confirm the attachment is the correct configuration for your intended use.
- Inspect all spears for shipping damage — check tips, shafts, and mounting sockets.
- Inspect the frame and welds for any visible damage.
- Verify the quick-attach plate matches your machine's coupler type.
- Ensure the host machine is on firm, level ground with the engine off and parking brake engaged.

Mounting Procedure — Skid Steer Quick Attach

1. **Position the attachment:** Place the bale spear on firm, level ground with the quick-attach plate facing upward and accessible.
2. **Approach slowly:** Drive the skid steer forward slowly, aligning the machine's coupler with the attachment's quick-attach plate.
3. **Engage the top hook:** Tilt the coupler forward and hook the top edge of the quick-attach plate.
4. **Roll back and lock:** Tilt the coupler back to seat the bottom of the quick-attach plate. Engage the locking mechanism (pins or hydraulic lock, depending on your machine).
5. **Verify lock engagement:** Visually confirm that locking pins are fully extended and seated. Attempt to gently shake or lift the attachment to confirm it is secure.

6. **Test before use:** Raise the attachment a few inches off the ground and tilt forward and back to verify solid connection.

> ⚠ **WARNING**
>
> Never operate the bale spear if the quick-attach lock is not fully engaged. An improperly mounted attachment can detach during use, causing catastrophic injury or death.

Dismounting Procedure

7. Lower the attachment fully to the ground on a firm, level surface.
8. Tilt the coupler slightly forward to relieve pressure on the locking mechanism.
9. Disengage the locking pins or hydraulic lock.
10. Tilt the coupler fully forward to release the top hook from the quick-attach plate.
11. Slowly back the machine away from the attachment.
12. Verify the attachment is resting stably before leaving it unattended.

> **EURO/GLOBAL MOUNT OPTION**
>
> If you purchased a Euro/Global mount configuration for a John Deere tractor, follow your tractor's specific loader attachment procedure. The mounting plate geometry differs from universal skid steer quick attach. Consult your John Deere operator's manual for coupler engagement steps.

Section 7: Operation

Pre-Operation Checklist

Before each use, verify the following:

- Attachment is securely locked in the quick-attach coupler.
- All spears are straight, tight in their sockets, and tips are sharp.
- Frame and welds show no cracks, bends, or damage.
- Host machine hydraulics are functioning properly.
- Work area is clear of bystanders, children, and animals.
- Operator is wearing appropriate PPE.

Bale Pickup Procedure

13. **Approach squarely:** Drive toward the bale straight on — never at an angle. Align the spear(s) with the center of the bale.
14. **Lower and tilt:** Lower the attachment to bale height and tilt the spears slightly forward (downward).
15. **Drive spears in:** Slowly drive forward, pushing the spears into the center of the bale. Continue until the bale contacts or nearly contacts the frame.
16. **Tilt back:** Tilt the attachment back to secure the bale against the frame.
17. **Lift:** Raise the bale to transport height — just high enough to clear ground obstacles.
18. **Transport:** Travel with the bale in the lowest practical position, tilted back, at a controlled speed.

Round Bale Handling Tips

- Spear the bale through the center core for maximum stability.

- On the 3 Prong model, the stabilizer spears prevent rotation — ensure they engage the bale face.
- Wrapped bales: avoid puncturing the wrap more than necessary. Center your approach to minimize wrap damage.

Square Bale Handling Tips (4 Prong Model)

- Approach the bale end squarely, distributing all four spears evenly across the bale face.
- Drive spears in fully to ensure the bale is seated against the frame for stable transport.
- When stacking, approach the stack slowly and tilt forward to release the bale, then back away gently.

Transport Position

> ⚠ **CAUTION**
>
> Always transport bales in the **lowest position possible** with the attachment tilted back. Raised loads elevate the machine's center of gravity and significantly increase tip-over risk.

Unloading Procedure

19. Position the machine at the desired drop location.
20. Lower the bale to just above ground level (or stack height).
21. Tilt the attachment forward to angle the spears downward slightly.
22. Slowly back the machine away, allowing the bale to slide off the spears.
23. If the bale sticks, gently lower further and tilt forward while reversing.

What NOT to Do

> ⚠ **WARNING — PROHIBITED PRACTICES**
>
> The following actions are dangerous and must be avoided at all times:

- **DO NOT** carry loads in a raised position during transport.
- **DO NOT** allow riders on the machine or attachment.
- **DO NOT** use the bale spear to lift anything other than bales (no pallets, equipment, or personnel).
- **DO NOT** approach bales at an angle — always drive straight on.
- **DO NOT** exceed the rated weight capacity of 2,697 lbs.
- **DO NOT** swing loads sideways or make sharp turns while loaded.
- **DO NOT** drive at excessive speed with a loaded spear.
- **DO NOT** use bent, cracked, or damaged spears.
- **DO NOT** operate the attachment without verifying quick-attach lock engagement.
- **DO NOT** attempt field welding repairs on spears or the quick-attach plate.

Section 8: Maintenance

Daily Inspection Checklist

Perform the following inspections before each use:

Component	What to Check
Spears	Straight (no bending), tight in sockets, tips are sharp and not mushroomed
Welds	No cracks, fractures, or signs of fatigue at all weld joints
Mounting Plate	No warping, cracks, or excessive wear on hook edges and pin holes
Frame	No bending, twisting, dents, or structural deformation
Locking Mechanism	Pins move freely, springs (if applicable) return pins to locked position

Spear Condition Checks

German Conus spears are durable but will wear over time with heavy use. Inspect regularly for the following conditions:

- **Bending:** Any spear that is visibly bent must be replaced immediately. Bent spears reduce load capacity and create unpredictable bale handling.
- **Tip Sharpness:** Spear tips should maintain a tapered point for clean bale penetration. Mushroomed or blunted tips make bale pickup difficult and can split bales.
- **Surface Wear:** Excessive pitting, corrosion, or surface erosion can weaken the spear. Replace spears that show significant material loss.
- **Socket Fit:** Spears should fit snugly in their Conus sockets. Loose spears indicate worn sockets or spear shanks and must be addressed immediately.

Replacement Spear Installation

24. Remove the retaining hardware (bolt or pin) securing the old spear in the Conus socket.
25. Using a suitable tool or press, push or drive the old spear out of the socket from the rear.

26. Clean the Conus socket interior — remove dirt, rust, or debris.
27. Apply a thin coat of anti-seize compound to the new spear's Conus taper.
28. Insert the new spear into the socket and seat it firmly using a mallet or press.
29. Reinstall the retaining hardware and torque to manufacturer specifications.
30. Verify the spear is seated securely and does not wobble.

TIP

Replacement German Conus spears are available in 49" and 39" lengths, as well as 19" stabilizer spears. Contact Jenkins Iron and Steel to order: (320) 732-2658 or Toll-Free 1.855.732.3843.

Frame Inspection

Periodically inspect the entire frame for:

- Cracks at weld joints, especially where spear sockets meet the main frame members.
- Cracks or deformation at the quick-attach plate connection.
- Bending or twisting of frame members, which may indicate overloading.

If cracks are found, **discontinue use immediately** and contact Jenkins Iron and Steel for repair guidance. Do not attempt field welding repairs without consulting the manufacturer.

Storage Guidelines

- Store the attachment on firm, level ground or on a storage rack.
- Position spears so they do not present a puncture or tripping hazard.
- Apply a light coat of oil or rust inhibitor to spears if storing for extended periods.
- Cover the attachment or store indoors to protect from weather exposure.
- Do not stack heavy items on top of the attachment.

Section 9: Troubleshooting

Use the table below to identify and resolve common issues. If a problem persists after following the recommended solutions, contact Jenkins Iron and Steel for assistance.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Bale slides off spear during transport	Insufficient tilt back; spears not fully inserted; bale is loose or deteriorating	Tilt attachment further back; drive spears in deeper; avoid handling bales that are falling apart
Spear won't penetrate bale	Spear tips are dull or mushroomed; bale is frozen; approaching at wrong height	Replace worn spears; thaw frozen bales if possible; adjust approach height to match bale center
Bale rotates during transport	Only one spear engaged (2 Prong model); stabilizer spears not contacting bale (3 Prong model)	Ensure both/all spears are fully engaged; verify stabilizer spears are contacting the bale face
Excessive tilt play	Worn pivot pins or bushings on the host machine; loose coupler connection	Inspect and replace worn pivot components; tighten coupler and verify lock engagement
Attachment won't lock in quick attach	Misalignment; debris in coupler; worn locking pins; incompatible quick-attach plate	Realign and retry; clean coupler mechanism; replace worn pins; verify plate compatibility with your machine
Spear bent or damaged	Impact with ground, rocks, or structures; overloading; using spear as a pry bar	Replace damaged spear immediately — do not attempt to straighten. Order replacement from Jenkins Iron and Steel
Frame cracking at welds	Overloading; impact damage; fatigue from extended heavy use	Discontinue use immediately. Contact Jenkins Iron and Steel for repair or warranty evaluation
Uneven bale pickup	Approaching bale at an angle; one spear shorter or bent; uneven ground	Approach bales squarely on level ground; inspect all spears for consistent length and straightness
Machine tips forward when lifting	Load exceeds machine capacity; bale too far from machine; lifting too high	Verify bale weight is within machine and attachment limits; keep load close to machine; reduce lift height
Attachment sits crooked on machine	Quick-attach plate not fully seated; coupler wear; mounting plate bent	Dismount and remount; inspect coupler and plate for wear or damage; replace if deformed
Spear replacement is difficult	Corrosion or debris in Conus socket; spear seized in place	Apply penetrating lubricant and allow to soak; use a press or appropriate tool to remove — do not use excessive heat

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Stabilizer spears not holding bale (3 Prong model)	Stabilizers not long enough to engage bale; bale positioned too far from frame	Drive the main spear deeper so the bale contacts the stabilizers; ensure approach is centered

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Section 10: Replacement Parts Reference

The following replacement parts are available directly from Jenkins Iron and Steel. Contact us to order or to confirm pricing and availability.

Part	Description	Applicable Models
German Conus Spear — 49"	49" forged German Conus replacement spear, rated 2,697 lbs at 28"	2 Prong, 3 Prong Round (center), 4 Prong Double Round
German Conus Spear — 39"	39" forged German Conus replacement spear, rated 2,697 lbs at 28"	4 Prong Square Bale
Stabilizer Spear — 19"	19" stabilizer spear for enhanced bale control	3 Prong Round
Quick Attach Plate	Universal skid steer quick-attach mounting plate	All configurations
Mounting Pins	Replacement retaining pins and hardware for spear sockets	All configurations
Frame (Welded Assembly)	Complete replacement frame — specify configuration when ordering	All configurations (specify model)

HOW TO ORDER

Contact Jenkins Iron and Steel directly to order replacement parts:

Phone: **(320) 732-2658** | Toll-Free: **1.855.732.3843**

Website: **www.jenkinsiron.com**

Section 11: Warranty and Contact Information

Warranty Coverage

Jenkins Iron and Steel stands behind the quality of every product we manufacture. Your Bale Spear Attachment is covered by the following warranty:

Coverage Area	Warranty Period	Details
Frame and Welds	2 Years	Commercial use warranty covering structural defects in materials and workmanship on the frame and all factory welds
German Conus Spears	Manufacturing Defects	Warranted against defects in materials and manufacturing; does not cover normal wear, bending from misuse, or impact damage

Warranty Exclusions

- Normal wear and tear, including spear tip wear, surface corrosion, and paint deterioration.
- Damage caused by misuse, overloading, or operation beyond rated capacity.
- Damage resulting from unauthorized modifications, field welding, or alteration of the attachment.
- Damage caused by accidents, impacts with structures or ground, or improper mounting.
- Cosmetic damage that does not affect structural integrity or function.

Warranty Claims

To submit a warranty claim, contact Jenkins Iron and Steel with the following information:

- Your name and contact information
- Date of purchase and proof of purchase
- Description of the defect or issue
- Photographs of the damage or defect
- Configuration model (2 Prong, 3 Prong, 4 Prong Square, or 4 Prong Double Round)

Contact Information

Contact Method	Details
Company Name	**Jenkins Iron and Steel**
Mailing Address	23023 US 71, Long Prairie, MN 56347
Phone	(320) 732-2658
Toll-Free	1.855.732.3843
Website	www.jenkinsiron.com

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