BIG TOBACCO BALERS: SOURCES AND OPTIONS

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Tobacco companies are increasingly requiring growers to sell their tobacco in big bales or are accessing a penalty for taking small bales. This situation has many tobacco growers who had continued using the small bales scrambling to find big tobacco balers. At the same time, because of the current uncertainty regarding tobacco contracts, growers are hesitant to invest the large amount of capital required for purchasing new balers. They are interested in lower cost options to the standard hydraulic-powered balers. The purchase of used balers, possibly coming out of flue-cured tobacco areas such as North Carolina and parts of Georgia, is one possible option for reducing the cost of big tobacco balers. There are other lower-cost options that have been developed over the years by innovative farmers, especially some of the Amish and Mennonite farmers. Sources of traditional hydraulic–powered tobacco balers, including new and used balers as well as sources of scales for adding to balers, are listed below. The information compiled is intended to help growers make the transition to big tobacco balers.

SOURCES OF BIG TOBACCO BALERS
(No endorsement of performance or safety implied)

NEW BALERS
Bubba’s Baler \(^1\)
c/o Edwin ‘Bubba’ Sparks
Bubba’s Place
102 Sunset Blvd
Somerset, KY 42501
606-271-2774
606-526-2774

The Grand Tobacco Baler
c/o Brian Froedge
Grandview Welding & Equipment Sales
198 Radio Station Road
Thompkinsville KY 42167
270-487-8813

\(^1\) Mention or display of a trademark, proprietary product, or firm in text or figures does not constitute an endorsement and does not imply approval to the exclusion of other suitable products or firms.
Bigfoot Baler  
c/o Ron Taylor  
Taylor Mfg. Inc  
Elizabethtown NC  
886-545-2293

Beilers Welding & Mfg  
c/o Elam Beiler  
4918 West County Rd, 550 South  
Holton, IN 47023  
812-689-6072

Granville Equipment ("Bacca" Baler)  
4602 A Watkins Rd  
Oxford, NC 27565  
919-693-7268  
http://www.granvilleequipment.com/

MULTI-CHAMBERED BALERS  
Cornett’s Burley Baler  
c/o Brent Cornett  
606-843-0905  
http://burleybaler.webs.com

USED BALERS  
Barnes Equipment (dealer for Granville Equipment)  
252-237-1066

Clark Rast (Granville Equipment Sales Rep)  
803-238-1078

SOURCES OF SCALES FOR BALERS  
Bubba’s Balers (see above)

Granville Equipment (see above)

Barnes Equipment (see above)

Beilers Welding (see above)

Grandview Welding & Equipment Sales (see above)

http://loadcells.centralcarolinascale.com/