I'd like to take a proactive step. I'm not happy about paying to have the
tire replaced when I call about them. As such, I'm not going to wait for
mover's the mail service is pretty slow in our part of the
country, I'm always at least “a day late and a
day early” when I call about my mail. I've recently noticed two different individuals
(Derek Eisenbeisz, 32512 127 St., Bowdle, SD 57428; ph 605 285-6738).

We modified a early 1980's 40-ft. Hinkler field cultivator we bought used so it pulls easier. Levels fields better, permits better trash flow, and saves fuel. We lost the cultivator down 4 ft. per side so our tractor would handle it. Then we welded on three lengths of 3-in. sq. tubing in order to
switch the cultivator over from its original V-shaped configuration to rectangular, a newer design. We stretched the teeth out on the bars to 36 in. spacings, from 18, in. so we've even
to get through standing corn stalks with ease. Getting the teeth lined up was the trickiest part of the project, requiring a lot of measur-
ing and positioning, then reassembling and repositioning. We've pulled the cultivator with our Deere 4-WD 7520 over 600 acres of plowed ground
two seasons. We've been able to cut back from two passes to one because it does a
much better job levelling so fields we've even
be able to realize a savings of 1 to 2 gal of
fuel per acre. It doesn't work the tractor like it
did before and doesn't plug at all. It just does a
beautiful job and cost only $300 or $400 to modify. We also came up with a low-cost, long-last-
ing way to replace the fertilizer auger tube on
our 1980's 8-row (30-in.) Deere MaxEmerge 7000 after it rusted out for the umpteenth time. The problem is that Deere's thin gauge PVC tubing isn't built heavy enough to last for more than three or four years, and Deere replace-
ment parts sell for a whopping $600. We simply cut up on old 60-ft. 6-in. dia. grain auger we had laying around and used
20 ft. of the tube for the replacement. We had our local blacksmith shop do the work. They made new mounting brackets to replace the
rusty original ones and installed the tube on them. Since they didn't like working with gal-
vanized metal, they used 3 or 4 of 8 in. blast-
tubing on the end where the fertilizer comes in. We used it for the first time this season
and it works great. Only cost $150. (James
and Debra Noram, 1932 270th Ave., Currie,
Minn. 56723; ph 507 859-2770). I make a kit that lets you mount narrow front ends on 66 through 86 series HJC tractors that weren't designed to accept a narrow front. We use a double-tire front end from HJC skateboards and tear tires on it. We used 3 or 4 of 8 in. blast-
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The biggest improvement we made, how-
ever, was replacing the old-style two-wheel carriage on the center section with new-style Case-HH offset tandem wheels. The problem with the original solid wheels was all the weight was on the inside tire when the plow was lifted for transport. In fact, we blew that
tire out bringing the plow home from the
dealer's, 30 miles away. The original tires were 11L 14 or 15-in., while the new tires are bigger and mounted on 8-hole centers. The
upshot of the bigger, offset tandem wheels is better flotation and a greatly improved ride. We had the work done at a machine shop and cost was $7,500 in parts and labor. The final touch was a new coat of paint we put on which made the plow look just like new. (Derek Eisnbenze, 32512 127 St., Bowdle,
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We rebuilt the pivots on the trips of this early 1980's Model 800 11-bottom (18-in.) Case-
Ih moldboard plow. We bought it used for $7,000 and use it to plow most of our 1,500
acres in a typical year. The problem was, wear, some of the moldboards had developed a lot of play. So we turned some of the shafts in the main piv-

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