

## Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

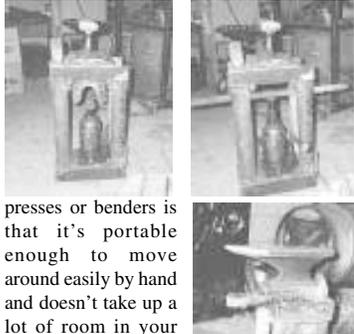
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say, "We sell twice the ply at half the price."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tucker Tire, 844 S. Main, Dyersburg, Tenn. 38024 (ph 800 443-0802; E-mail: tires4u@webtv.net; Website: www.tuckertire.com).

**Bob Gamble, Sundre, Alberta:** Bob built a multi-purpose tool that he uses to straighten bent loader teeth, among other things.

"What's different about it from other



presses or benders is that it's portable enough to move around easily by hand and doesn't take up a lot of room in your shop or garage. It stands 2-ft. high by 10-in. wide and is made out of channel iron and pipe. The top and bottom are 12-in. lengths of 8-in. wide channel iron. The top piece has the flat part facing down; the bottom piece, which is filled in on the ends, has the flat side facing up. Four 16-in. uprights made from 2-in. dia. pipe mount in each corner. A hydraulic bottle jack stands at the center. Bent loader teeth hang below the top plate for straightening. A U-shaped piece of steel plate can be used to bend strap iron.

"I also set my shop-built mini anvil on top of the tool."

**Dennis Shaffer, Thermo-Tec, Greenwich, Ohio:** Dennis's company, Thermo-Tec, sells new "Quick-Wrap" exhaust jackets that



reportedly increase horsepower and torque on any engine by reducing heat loss and reduce under-hood temperatures by up to 70 percent.

The system consists of high-temperature silica wraps, or tubes, that can withstand temperatures of up to 2000 degrees F. To install, you simply measure the primary exhaust

tubes, cut to length and attach with squeeze clamps (included).

Kit includes enough material to cover 22 in. of exhaust pipe.

Available for 6 and 8-cyl. engines, they sell for \$75 and \$98, respectively. Can be used on cars, pickups, trucks and RV's.

Contact Thermo-Tec for the distributor nearest you.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Thermo-Tec, P.O. Box 96, Greenwich, Ohio 44837 (ph 800 274-8437 or 419 962-4556; Website: www.thermotec.com).

**Michael Sulzer, Speed Bleeder Products, LeMont, Ill.:** Bleeding brakes is a one-man job when you install the bleeder screws from Speed Bleeder Products.

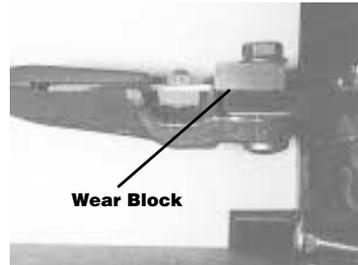
The bleeder screws are fitted with a built-in check valve that regulates pressure in the lines automatically so you don't need a second person to repeatedly depress the vehicle's brake pedal. Instead, the valve resets pressure by itself.

They're available for any vehicle with hydraulic brakes, from a motorcycle up to the largest industrial construction equipment.

They sell for \$6.50 apiece plus \$2 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Speed Bleeder Products, 12 South 751 Carpenter St., P.O. Box 306, LeMont, Ill. 60439 (ph 630 739-4620; fax 9626; E-mail: speedbleeder@ameritech.net; Website: www.speedbleeder.com).

**John P. Webb, Sickle Service Inc., Grand Island, Neb.:** "You can easily double the life of your sicklebar and increase cutting capac-



Wear Block

ity of your combine, swather or mower with our new wear blocks that save wear and tear to the knifeback.

"They consist of a 1/2-in. thick by 1 1/4-in. wide, 5-in. long, piece of hardened steel that bolts on the two guard bolts between hold-downs on the cutterbar.

"Typically, there's up to 1/4 in. of forward and backward play between the knifeback and the guard itself even on new parts," says John. "As parts wear, play increases to 1/2 in. or more, causing wear and tear on the

knifeback. The machine loses capacity as the knife moves further back in the guards. The wear block, which bolts on top of the cutterbar, makes contact with the sickle section. Then you slide the wear block forward so there's a minimum of forward and backward play at the front of the guard. You bolt the block down with bolts that are 1/2 in. longer than the original guard bolts.

"You install one wear block per foot. It takes about two minutes."

Fits virtually any combine, swather or mower.

They sell for \$3.44 apiece plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sickle Service Inc., 3090 W. 2nd St., Grand Island, Neb. 68803 (ph/fax 308 381-7090; E-mail: jw24426@navix.com; Website: www.sickleservice.com).

**Bill Reeks, Cromwell, Ky.:** "Small floor jacks like you buy at Wal-Mart or Sears are cheap (\$19.95) and really well-built. But you always have to remove the handle to activate the valve that raises and lowers the jacks, and that's a real pain.

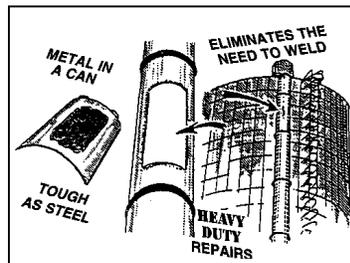


"To make them easier to use, I slipped a metal washer with 1/2-in. dia. center hole into the slot where the handle goes. I used J-B Weld to hold the washer in place. The washer acts like a key in a door to close and open the valve. Once the washer is installed, you can bolt or tape the handle permanently in place so you can pull the jack all over your shop without having the handle come off."

**Ron Casper, I-Con, Chagrin Falls, Ohio:** Ron has been selling a "flameless welding" product to big grain companies for years. Abraso-Weld, or "metal in a can", has been used by Cargill and others to make industrial-size repair jobs without requiring conventional welding.

The company recently began offering its product in a "mini kit" that's ideal for farmers with smaller metal repair jobs. The product consists of three components - a special liquid epoxy, a clear activator, and an aggregate, silicon sand.

To use, you first cover the hole to be filled with masking tape to hold the patch in place



until it cures, which takes four hours at 80 degrees F (slightly longer at lower temperatures). You mix up enough product as needed for the repair, then apply liberally with a putty knife. Wet the tools with mineral spirits if a smooth surface is desired.

The product is impact and abrasion resistant, non-toxic and unaffected by solvents, mild acids and alkalis. It can be machine turned, drilled, tapped, and used to plug heavy

cast iron castings, and repaired areas are stronger than surrounding metal, according to the company.

The "mini kit" contains enough material to cover 20 sq. ft. and sells for \$60.15 plus S&H. Also available in two larger sizes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Intercontinental Coatings Corp., 16744 West Park Circle Drive, Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44023 (ph 888 881-4266 or 440 543-3114).

**Goertzen Mfg., 1508 W. 7 Rd., Aurora, Neb. 68818 (ph 402 694-3089):** "Many of our customers say the Cobalcar electrodes we sell are the best rod they've ever used. They're made in Australia where they've grown steadily in popularity and are now



widely used. What we like is that they can be applied with very low heat and yet still maintain excellent flow. For example, a 3/16-in. rod can be run as low as 60 amps with excellent flow; 1/4-in. rod can run as low as 70 amps. We use them in our operation to hard surface cultivator shears. Low heat also allows the hardsurfacing of small rippers, cultivator shovels, augers, chopper blades, shredders, etc."

**Jim House, Aberdeen, Wash.:** "A big problem with chain saws is that vibration often causes the screws to shake out of the cover. There are 15 or 20 screws on most saws so it can be a real problem. Over the years I've tried using lock washers but they didn't hold. You can use Loctite, but then you can't remove the screw if you need to.

"I finally discovered an easy solution. Remove the screws and wrap 1/2 in. wide nylon tape (the type used for plumbing) around them, then screw them back on. The tape holds the screw tight. You can still remove the screws if you ever have to repair the saw."

**Boyt Young, Dallas, S. Dak.:** Boyt uses a grease gun tip equipped with a long needle to grease wheel bearings to get more grease in and around bearings.

"The needle tips are available from most implement shops or auto parts stores. Needles come in various diameters, similar to hypodermic vaccinating needles. They let you fill the bearing completely with grease and are a lot faster than packing bearings by hand. They can also be used on greaseless bearings. You simply stick the needle through the seal to inject grease."

**Rodney Remley, Eaton, Ohio:** "I had trouble with the fuel tank on my 1981 Ford F-250 rusting from condensation and then plugging the fuel filter. I'm sure it's a problem on any pickup with a steel fuel tank. To solve the problem, I installed a 3/4-in. dia. spin-on fuel filter in the fuel line. It's the type used on portable fuel tanks. I've had no trouble since. The spin-on filters are available for about \$15 at any tractor or supply store."

## Replacement Parts For Older Tractors

These replacement parts for older tractors are big sellers for Abilene Machine because they sell for a lot less than parts from the factory and meet or exceed original specs.

- Fuel tanks for Deere 4000, 4010 and 4020 tractors. The one-piece 25-gal. tanks are made out of poly so they won't rust or corrode as metal. They sell for \$400.

- Door frames for Deere Soundguard cabs where the bottom has rusted off or the hinges are cracked. Fit 30 and 40 series cabs (prior to 1981). They sell for \$275 apiece, without glass and molding.

- Replacement poly fuel tanks for Case 770, 870, 970, 1070, 1090, 1170 and 1175 tractors. They sell for \$650.

Abilene Machine also offers replacement rims for loader tractors with heavy-duty 3/



8-in. press plate centers instead of stamped steel. Available in either 6 or 8 hole bolt pattern in 8 by 15-in. through 10 by 16-in. sizes. They sell for \$64 to \$85 apiece.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Abilene Machine, P.O. Box 129, Abilene, Kan. 67410 (ph 800 332-0239, 800 255-0337 or 785 655-9455; fax 3838).