

## Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

lic cylinder is off an overhead loader and has a 3-ft. stroke so it can develop a tremendous amount of pressure, applying up to 45 tons when used with a newer tractor equipped with a 3,000-lb. pump. Using the tractor's variable flow hydraulics I can slow the press down so much that I can barely see it move. Because of the slow speed it works great for straightening out objects. It can easily bend a 3/4-in. thick piece of metal at a right angle. We have different attachments to fit the shaft. One time we used this press to take a 90 degree bend out of a 4-ft. long hydraulic cylinder shaft.



"I made this tire band saw out of two spare car tires. An electric motor belt-drives a pair of pulleys that turn a shaft that rotates the bottom tire. The saw blade runs from one tire to the other. My only expense was for the blade and the guide.



"My homemade 48-in. belt sander is operated by a 1 hp electric motor. I use it to make furniture. The belt is 6 in. wide. A pair of screws at each end of the unit are used to adjust the belt and keep it running true."

**Darryl Foreman, Lafayette, La.:** "I mount a roll of paper towels on hangers that attach to the frame on the underside of the trunk lid on my Buick Century car. That way I always have a towel handy to clean off my hands when taking stuff in or out of the trunk or after changing a flat tire, etc. The roll is always up out of the way instead of rolling around on the bottom of the trunk.



"I ran a rubber bungee cord through the roll and then attached a metal S hook to each end. The S hooks go through holes in the trunk lid."

**Gears, Inc., 221 Walkers Chapel Road, Adolphus, Ky. 42120 ph 270 622-8393; fax 270 622-8395; email: gearsinc@ao.com; website: www.gearsinc.net;**



"We offer new and used parts for heavy equipment and diesel engines, both OEM and aftermarket. We carry filters and engine overhaul kits as well as new and used parts for excavators, shovels, loaders, dozers and more. We also offer new af-

termarket parts for construction, logging, mining and agricultural equipment.

"We also handle engine rebuilds on all major brands, specializing in service on Case, Caterpillar, Cummins, Detroit, Ford, International and Deere engines. We offer a large inventory of new and used parts for all major brands as well."

**Rogers Metal Works, Inc., 114 Caldwell St., P.O. Box 221, Auburn, Ky. 42206 ph 270 542-7135; fax 270 542-4035; email: jdrogers@logantele.com:** "We manufacture aftermarket replacement fingers for stripper headers that are compatible with all stripper headers on the market. They sell for only about half the price of OEM replacement fingers, and lab and field tests over the past three years have proven our fingers are equal in quality to OEM parts.

"Our replacement fingers are made from



premium material, combined with the accuracy of computerized numerical control machining, so the fingers will last and fit perfectly every time. A 30-in. long section of fingers for AGCO (Massey Ferguson) headers sells for \$25 plus S&H; a 24-in. section of fingers for Shelbourne Reynolds headers sells for \$19 plus S&H."

**Floyd VerPloeg, Lovilia, Iowa:** "In your last issue, a reader talked about greasing U-joints and tie rods until the grease comes out the seals. This is wrong on two counts. Number 1, grease does not wear out. Number 2, if you break the seals by forcing grease out through them you open up a way for dirt to get in, and too much grease can lock up the bearings inside so they will not roll, wearing them out faster. I spent 30 years as a machine repairman at Maytag Co."

**Craig Richlen, Lockhart, Tex.:** "I have successfully used "JB Weld" to do body work on my wife's minivan and various other equipment. It's an epoxy that can be used to hold any porous or non-porous surface. When I have a stripped screw that I want to fix permanently, I use JB Weld. Done right, it holds."

**Gene Pearson, Wichita, Kan.:** "I bought two 24 by 20-in. stainless steel coolers from a local buffet restaurant. I put the coolers together and topped them with a 1/4-in. steel plate and they make some of the best workbenches I've seen."

## Rotating Shop Hoist

"I built it to save my back," says George "Bing" Ribble about an easy rotating shop hoist he uses to move heavy loads of a ton or more into and out of his shop.

The Hettick, Ill., farmer used two different sizes of heavy duty well casing for the 11-ft. high upright anchored just inside the door of his shop. The outer pipe is 8 in. in dia.; the pipe that rotates inside is 7 1/2 in. in dia.

The outer pipe is sunk in 3 ft. of concrete in the floor of the shop. The inner pipe mounts on a bearing hub out of a disk gang to make it rotate easily, with only a nudge. A race mounts on top of the bearing, helping to take weight off the inner well casing.

Three bearings at the top mount in brackets in a notch in the outer pipe to keep the inner



Push mower rolls up ramp and then legs are lifted to make flat work surface.

## Push Mower Service Ramp

"I built a lawn mower service ramp. It's made out of angle iron and has a hinge on one end to fold the legs up and lower the ramp. Once the mower is on you just lift the ramp up and lock the legs in place. This one

is big enough for two push mowers."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pete Peters, P.O. Box 166, Osler, Sask., Canada S0K 3A0 (ph 306 239-2045).

## Go-Anywhere Vise Fits Pickup Hitch

Dan Jacobson, Pequot Lakes, Minn., doesn't have a tailgate on back of his pickup. That's because he often uses the pickup bed as a work table in the shop or field. One of his handiest tools is a vise mounted on a bracket that fits into the pickup's 2-in. receiver hitch. The vise is positioned flush with the pickup bed.

The vise bolts to a base made by welding two pieces of heavy angle iron together.

"I can take the vise with me anywhere," says Jacobson. "The same idea could be used with the tailgate only you'd just have to extend the bracket farther back."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dan Jacobson, Sr., 8913 Weaver Lake Drive,



Vise mounts flush with pickup bed, making it easy to work on long materials.

Pequot Lakes, Minn. 56472 (ph 218 543-6623).

## "Sight Gauge Caps" For Case IH Quadtrac Tractors

Mark Richter, Endicott, Wash., contacted FARM SHOW recently to tell us about his new "sight gauge" caps for Case IH Quadtrac 4-WD tractors that ride on rubber tracks.

The sight gauge cap consists of a small brass plug, or cap, with a glass window in it. It allows you to see the level of oil in the idler wheels and roller wheels on the track undercarriage. They make it easy to relube before expensive problems develop.

"The Quadtrac is a great tractor but there's a problem with seal failure in the undercarriage rollers," says Richter. "If the oil level in the rollers goes down too far, the seal can fail, which results in ruined bearings. Yet you had no idea there was ever a problem because there's no way to check the oil level, other than pulling out the plug on each roller to see if there's oil in it. That's a big job, because you have to get all 40 fill plugs to the high point and then remove the fill plug and check them. It's a job that takes several hours. I've been a Quadtrac owner for four years and have had several roller seals fail result-



You can check oil level at a glance once sight gauge caps are installed.

ing in costly repairs, anywhere from \$100 to \$1,000 or more. My solution lets you check the oil level at a glance."

Richter says his sight gauge can be used on both the 9300 series and the STX series Quadtracs. They sell for \$18 apiece plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mark Richter, 21132 Endicott Rd., Endicott, Wash. 99125 (ph 509 397-6773; email: mrichter@colfax.com).

pipe centered.

The lift arm consists of a 10-ft. I-beam. It's fitted with a shop-built carrier that runs in five bearings out of an old corn picker head. A commercial chain hoist mounts in the carrier.

"The hoist rotates 220 degrees at the touch of a finger and works great for moving heavy objects, such as engines, into and out of my shop," says Ribble. "It's a lot handier than using a front end loader or backhoe as we did before."

Out-of-pocket expense was about \$100.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, George "Bing" Ribble, Rt. 2, Hettick, Ill. 62649 (ph 618 778-5752).

