

Clendon Nichols, Union, Ky.: After years of having tractor wheel rims rust out due to the corrosive effect of the calcium solution he put into the tires, Clendon says he finally came up with a rust-proofing solution that works great.

He had already used Herculiner pickup bed liner in unusual ways (see story on page 32). So he decided to experiment with it.

He first mixed up an extra strong batch of calcium chloride and then applied a layer of Herculiner to a piece of metal. After it had dried to a hard surface, he dropped it into the vat of calcium and let it sit for two months. After two months, the hard plastic surface of the Herculiner lining had not deteriorated at all so he figured it would hold up inside a tire.

So Nichols bought a new set of rims for one of his tractors and then coated the inside with Herculiner. He notes that he coated everything except the edge where the bead seats against the wheel. Once the liner had dried, he put the rims back on and filled them up.

After several years, he still has no sign of rust on the rims. He pays special attention to the valve stems because that's where he had the worst problem in the past. So far, nothing on the treated rims.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Clendon Nichols, 12226 Kite Lane, Union, Ky. 41091 (ph 859 485-7676).

Mark James, Walla Walla, Wash.: "Here's an idea we came up with as a short term repair for spray and fertilizer couplings. If they start leaking when we're in the field, we use plastic tie wraps as shims to tighten them up. On a banjo coupler, this allows you to keep running in the field without damaging the coupler end. It's a good short term solution until you can get the machine into the shop for repair."



Bill Reeks, Cromwell, Ky.: "I modified a couple of garden tractors to make maintenance easier. The first thing I do is remove the hoods, which improves the site lines when mowing, lets the engine run cooler, and makes routine maintenance easier. It also allows me to install a 'push bar' on front of the tractor to prevent front-end damage and let me push equipment when needed. On top of the push bar I install a large eye-bolt that lets me raise the front end of the tractor with a chain lift, making it easy to sharpen the blades without taking the deck off. Saves a lot of time. I also install a ball hitch on front of each tractor for backing trailers into sheds. Finally, I mount beach-type umbrellas on the tractor for mowing on hot days."

Paula Vogelgesang, Pennywise, Box 518, Kadoka, S. Dak. 57543; email: pennywise@gwtc.net: Here's a way to clean grease or oil stains off concrete garage floors or driveways using two common materials - paint thinner and cat litter. It comes from Paula's monthly newsletter, "Pennywise".

First, wipe off excess grease or oil with a rag. Then pour paint thinner over the spot and let it soak in a bit. Then pour a good amount of cat litter on top of the paint thinner and let it sit overnight. The next day, you should be able to sweep up all the litter, which will pull the liquified oil or grease stain right out of the concrete. It may take two treatments.

Rim Guard Prevents Rust, Star Seal Prevents Flats

Rust and corrosion on tire rims, valves, gauges, and pumps can now be prevented, thanks to a new patented, non-toxic, biodegradable product called Rim Guard Tire Ballast.

It's heavier than sodium chloride and can be used with either tube or tubeless tires. Rim Guard provides a protective polymer coating over the metal to reduce corrosion. It weighs about 10.7 lbs. per gallon, providing excellent weight for the volume, and withstands temperatures of up to at least 30 degrees below zero without freezing.

Rim Guard is non-flammable and dark brown in color. Since it's non-abrasive to metal, rubber, plastic and other materials, it can be pumped through your current pumping and storage system.

"It does not require specialized pumps, piping, couplers or storage tanks," according to the company. "Rim Guard can be stored in poly, steel, or fiberglass tanks. It's water soluble, so it will readily wash off your hands without burning and cracking, and it won't destroy leather shoes and gloves, or rust the eyelets out of work boots, as do chlorides and salt brines. Rim Guard is economical compared to adding cast iron or steel weights to the equipment or the use of injectable foams in tires, which can double or even triple the original cost of the new tire."

According to the northeast Mid-Atlantic

distributor, Ballast Star, Inc., tests done with Rim Guard showed dramatic results.

"Nails left in a container of calcium chloride for 15 months were completely rusted over, whereas the Rim Guard treated nails were shiny and brightly colored, with no rust."

Another new product called "Star Seal Ballast Plus" is a ceramic fiber material suspended in a gelatin solution, and is injected into the tire with Rim Guard or any other liquid ballast. Nash says the product is delivered in drums, with pumps supplied.

Star Seal stays suspended in the liquid. When a hole is punctured in a tire and the liquid begins leaking from the tire, it carries the Star Seal fibers to the hole, forming a plug.

"Most of the time, you don't even know you have a hole, because within four revolutions of the tire, it seals," Nash says. "It's good for the life of the tire."

Star Seal Ballast Plus retails for \$15 per gal. (1 gal. of Ballast Plus for every 10 gal. of liquid ballast solution).

Rim Guard retails for \$3 per gallon. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ballast Star, Inc., 776 Watervliet-Shaker Rd., Latham, N.Y. 12110 (ph 888 678-2707 or 518 783-5655; fax 518 783-5461; email: info@ballaststar.com; website: www.ballaststar.com).

Do We Have Your Correct Address?

Thousands of rural addresses are being updated every year. We want to make sure we have your correct address, and that we have your name correct in our records. Please take a moment to check the address label on front of this issue or mailing envelope. If there's a problem, drop us a line at: FARM SHOW, P. O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or call at 800-834-9665.

FARM SHOW

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Have you come up with any unusual money-saving repair methods for fixing farm equipment? What maintenance shortcuts have you found? Have you had any equipment recalled by the factory? Name a particularly tough mechanical problem you've had with a piece of equipment and how you solved it.

These are a few of the questions we asked randomly selected FARM SHOW readers. If you have a repair tip, maintenance shortcut, or other mechanical experience you'd like to share, send details to: FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or email us at: Editor@farmshow.com.

Mark Newhall, Editor



Harold C. Goodwin, Sr., Yulee, Florida: "This photo shows one of two handy, low-cost stands that I made for my chop saw. It works great for cutting pipe and rebar, etc. The base is an old brake drum filled with concrete. A length of pipe is welded to the center of the drum and supports a cradle on top made out of angle iron. Material to be cut is supported by a 3/4-in. dia. length of horizontal pipe which has a length of 1/2-in. dia. rebar running through it. The rebar rides inside a plug welded onto each end of the cradle, allowing the pipe to roll freely on the rebar. The cradle's height can be adjusted by turning a nut on a bolt welded to the top of the vertical pipe stand."

"I used a brake drum for the base because it's tall enough and heavy enough that it won't likely fall over. And it's narrower than a wheel rim so I'm less likely to stumble over it."

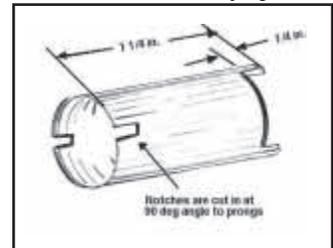


Ben Kambeitz, Box 23027, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada T1B 4C7: "By making use of an old furnace fan and a pair of used tractor air filters, I was able to come up with a low-cost air cleaner for my shop. It's a low-cost method of removing particles from the air inside a closed shop. The assembly

mounts on the ceiling. The fan mounts on an L-shaped metal bracket that's fastened to the ceiling and is operated by a 1/4 hp electric motor. The filters mount below the fan and are turned upside down so the large opening is on top. The filters collect dust and even take the smoke caused by welding out of the air. The charcoal filters out the paint smell from auto painting as well as the mist. It works great. When the filters get dirty I simply throw them away and install two more used ones. I get the filters at our local dump and use a compressor to blow the dust out of them.

"The filters fit onto a pair of holes cut from plywood into the bottom part of the bracket. To attach the filters to the fan, I ran a length of redi rod through a pipe that runs vertically inside each filter. The pipe keeps the charcoal from falling out the bottom. The flanges on top of the filter were bent over to fit onto the fan. To change filters I just unscrew the filter from the flange."

Marvin Henry, Box 9, Maywood, Neb. 69038 ph 308 362-4251: "I recently started manufacturing a magneto coupling for regular Farmall tractors. This coupling also fits



International Harvester 10-20 and 15-30 series tractors and maybe others. These tractors were built from 1924 to about 1932.

"The coupling is about 1 1/4 in. long and goes between the drive mechanism off the engine and the magneto. It has two prongs on one end and two slots on the other end. Over time, both the prongs and the slots get worn bad and then the magneto gets out of time. I've been told that it's hard to find a replacement coupling, and if you do find one it will probably have a lot of wear. It sells for \$28 postage paid."

Pat Prom, Eden Prairie, Minn.: "I used 1/4-in. thick scrap metal to build my own 5 1/2-in. high engine hoist. The hoist is raised