

## Farmer-Designed Parts For Deere Combines

Years of driving combines have given Kim Tschetter first hand knowledge of combine repairs. The cost of high-priced replacement parts prompted him and his family to start a company to design and build aftermarket parts.

Tschetter looks for opportunities in areas that used to frustrate him when farming. Two parts he recently added are a Center Section Repair Kit for JD 900 Series platform augers and a telescoping hitch for JD 50 and 60 Series combines.

"If a rock gets into the center section of the soybean head auger, Deere's answer is to sell you a \$2,800 auger," says Tschetter. "With our part, you can replace just the 5 to 6-ft. center section, and it'll cost you \$425 plus your labor."

Tschetter advises that replacing auger sections is not a job for everybody, although most local machine shops can probably tackle the job if the combine owner isn't confident of his own expertise. "The auger can be 25 to 30 ft. long, and the center section has to be absolutely true," he warns.

An easier product to install is Lankota's \$420 telescoping hitch. The hitch lets you tow wide headers from field to field.

"We built it heavier than most farmers or other after-market suppliers do," says Tschetter. "It telescopes for easier one-man operation and will handle the 600 to 700-lb. weight of a header transport trailer tongue."

A convenient feature is the steel cable that lets an operator release the latch to telescope the hitch. Once the trailer tongue is connected, the operator simply backs up to relatch the hitch.

Tschetter notes the entire hitch can be dropped by removing four bolts. Installing it is equally easy. Lankota takes advantage of four holes factory drilled into the heavy-duty top plate on the rear center frame of the combine.

A third new product that Tschetter is especially pleased with is the upgraded feeder house tilt frame for JD Contour Master combines. It lets farmers with 50 or 9000 Series combines use 600 Series platform heads and 90 Series corn heads.

"Farmers can go to Deere and pay \$1,500 for a new bracket with two hooks on top, or send us theirs, and we'll send them an upgraded bracket for \$425."

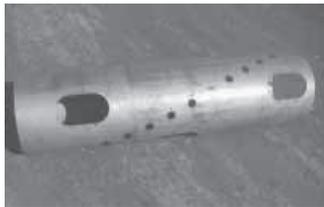
## Replacement Main Bearing For Deere Diesel Tractors

If you own a Deere 80, 820, or 830 diesel tractor, you'll be interested in these new replacement main bearings for the engine crankshaft.

"Our bearings are manufactured to Deere specifications from the correct aluminum alloy, unlike Deere's own bronze replacement bearings which will seize up," says Scott Wichlacz, Manitowoc Motor Machining & Parts, Inc., Manitowoc, Wis.

There's a need for these bearings, says Wichlacz. "The problem is that Deere recently changed from the original aluminum alloy to a bronze alloy that is incorrect for rotating motion. When this new bearing is installed it can seize the crankshaft almost immediately, sometimes stopping the engine dead within 15 minutes of start-up. Some owners have even had to replace expensive engine parts that got damaged.

"The bearings we sell are made from the



Replacing the center section of a soybean head auger is far cheaper than replacing the entire auger, says Lankota, Inc.



Telescoping combine hitch lets you tow wide headers from field to field.



Upgraded feeder house tilt frame for Deere Contour Master combines.

Tschetter adds hooks and some sheet metal, sandblasts and paints the traded-in bracket, and sends it off with the next exchange. Brackets are also available for outright purchase for \$1,170.

Another popular product offered by Lankota is their \$425 spring-loaded stalk stoppers. "We use a standard pickup receiver hitch design so they can be easily removed for transport," says Tschetter.

These parts and others are available by catalog or on the internet. Prices do not include shipping.

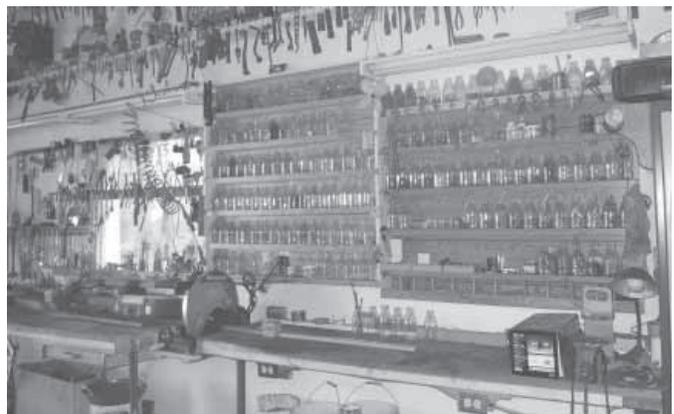
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lankota, Inc., P.O. Box 914, 1090 21st St. SW, Huron, S. Dak. 57350 (ph 605 352-2693; toll free 866 526-5682; fax 605 352-2927; lankota@lankota.com; www.lankota.com).



Replacement main bearings are designed for Deere 80, 820, and 830 diesel tractors. Same special aluminum alloy that Deere used in the past. They won't seize up."

Sells for \$139.58 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Manitowoc Motor Machining & Parts, Inc., 2308 Franklin St., Manitowoc, Wis. 54220 (ph 920 684-8577; fax 920 684-8599; motorm@lakefield.net; www.motormachining.com).



Clear bottles make it easy to find just the right nut, bolt, or screw, says Mel Primrose.

## Glass Storage Bottles Keep His Shop Neat

Glass juice bottles make great storage containers for screws, washers and small bolts.

With more than 100 bottles lining his shop wall, Mel Primrose is a big believer on the idea. The Westlock, Alberta, man says the clear bottles make it easy to find just the right nut, bolt or screw.

"The ones I use are about 4 inches tall. Before I retired, I did plumbing and heating

for the local school so I was able to collect a lot of discarded bottles. I threw away the lids and made wooden shelving for my shop wall. The shelves have lips on the front so the bottles can't slide off. This eye-level wall rack makes the bottle's contents quite visible."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mel Primrose, Site 10, Box 1, R.R. 1, Westlock, Alberta, Canada T7P 2N9 (ph 780 349-2477).



Homemade portable cart is made from welded-together angle iron with pegboard hooks welded to horizontal cross members.

## Portable Cart Keeps Tools Organized

"It has a lot of space for tools, yet it's small enough to maneuver into tight spaces," says Chris Kornkven about the low-cost, portable tool cart he built out of scrap metal and pegboard hooks.

The 5-ft. high cart measures 4 ft. wide by 14 in. deep and rides on four small caster wheels. It's made from welded-together angle iron with pegboard hooks welded to horizontal cross members. Kornkven used 1 1/2-in. angle iron for the bottom part of the cart's frame and welded it to the caster wheels. He used 3/4-in. dia. pipe for the uprights and 3/4-in. angle iron for the cross members. Then he tack welded the pegboard hooks to the cross members, spacing the hooks about 2 in. apart.

He also attached some magnetic strips to the cart for storing smaller tools.

"It cost me only about \$40 to build," says Kornkven. "I like being able to roll the cart right up to where I'm working without hav-

ing to go back and forth to a peg board on a wall in my shop. It also helps keep my tools organized, since I put each tool right back after using it. There are plenty of hooks on both sides of the cart for tools, along with loops that can be used for hammers or screwdrivers. I can reach through the cart for a tool rather than having to go around to the other side. And the hooks are welded on solid so they can't fall out like the hooks on conventional pegboards."

The bottom part of the cart has enough clearance to place socket sets or toolboxes on the cross members. "I plan to add some cross pieces to the top of the cart so I can add halogen work lights. I might also add some extra cross pieces for a shelf or box for extra nuts and bolts, or other odds and ends," he notes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Chris Kornkven, N6280 County P, Helenville, Wis. 53137 (ph 920 699-2376).