

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

ruined from the use of ethanol fuels. Chain saws and weed trimmer 2-cycle engines won't run for very long on it. Ethanol is alcohol, and alcohol cuts oil so it doesn't mix with the oil you add to the gas. Ethanol also cuts oil off the piston and cylinder, which will result in blown-up engines."

Chris Hardy, Miles City, Montana: "Storage of tools and supplies seems to always be an issue. The most wasted space is overhead. A 2 by 4 board with hooks rigged on a pulley system for storing extension cords on the ceiling has worked well for me. I use large overhead hooks for various other storage issues. A long stick with a hook on the end makes retrieving and replacing stored items an easy job."

Stephen Beck, Earlimart, Calif.: "I've made three major purchases of woodworking equipment from **Grizzly Industrial** and they've all been best buys (ph 800 523-4777; www.grizzly.com). Also, the machine tools I've bought from **Enco** are a best buy (ph 800 873-3626; www.use-enco.com). They have machine tools and accessories at some of the lowest prices I've ever seen. Both companies have excellent catalogs."



Ron Cook, Hopedale, Mass.: Ron is a home inspector who sees a lot of interesting sights while looking over all kinds of property. He recently spotted this arrangement on a pair of garage doors. The owner apparently did not want to buy two garage door openers so he installed one in the center of the two doors and connected them together with strap iron and custom brackets bolted to the doors. It appeared to work just fine.

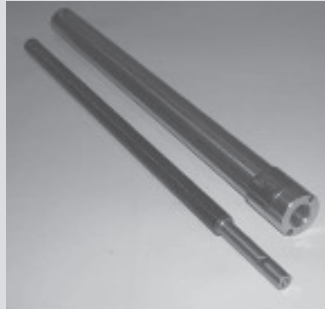
Linda & Mark Petty, Blackstock, Ont.: "In Vol. 30, No. 1, FARM SHOW featured our low-cost improved replacement part for the failed rod on the actuator used in Deere



Failed rod on straw chopper actuator.

combines to adjust the concave. Since then, we have heard from farmers about another problem part. Farmers tell us the Warner Electric Linear Actuator for straw choppers on Deere rotary combines is a weak part that often fails. They were looking for a better replacement, rather than just putting in the identical replacement from Deere.

"We took apart a failed actuator and developed a new screw, nut and rod which ex-



Improved replacement rod and screw.

ceed the strength and capacity of the original product for about 1/3 the replacement cost. The rod is stainless steel like the original but the wall thickness of rod is increased to improve strength. A bronze nut is securely attached to the rod. The replacement assembly for Deere Part #AH20992 can be purchased separately from the screw for \$349 plus S&H. The screw sells for \$129.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Petty Machine & Manufacturing, 2850 Church St., Blackstock, Ont. L0B 1B0 Canada (ph 905 986-1521; www.pettermachine.ca).



Pre-Gressor kit installs on ATV's front suspension forks. It can be quickly adjusted as needed to handle heavier loads.



Load Lifter Helps Adjust ATV

If your ATV is bottoming out on the trail or under load, you may not need to spend hundreds of dollars on new suspension. Just install the \$79.99 Pre-Gressor kit from tm2 Corp. on your front suspension forks. Once installed, you can quickly adjust it as needed to handle heavier loads.

The money-saving kit grew out of experience in off-road racing and working for a major ATV and snowmobile maker, says Mario Negri, one of the owners of tm2.

"We couldn't imagine why all ATV's didn't have the ability to adjust shocks, especially as people add more and more equipment and carriers to their ATV's," explains Negri. "We made a kit for Polaris first and now have adapted it to most major makes."

He says some people are even adding the kit to ATV models that do come with a factory-installed adjuster. "People tell us OEM adjusters are sometimes difficult to move or may malfunction," says Negri. "They just put ours on top of the one that's there."

Negri says most owners with moderate mechanical experience can handle installation. However, the degree of difficulty depends on the model and make. Some older models require more disassembly before the units can be installed on the front forks.

Negri says detailed instructions for installation are included for each model. An evaluator for a major ATV publication described the instructions as "precise" and reported no problems with installation.

The new product is the first of several to be introduced by the new company. "We have a product for Polaris ATVs," says Negri. "Due to their independent rear suspension, they tend to squat. We have a product that, once installed, takes only 10 seconds to lock suspension."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, tm2 Corporation, 6111 Hwy 10, Ste. 200, Ramsey, Minn. 55303 (ph 612 730-2336; info@t-m-2.com; ww.t-m-2.com).



Heavy-duty adhesive wrap forms a protective barrier against cuts and abrasions.

Stick-On Hydraulic Hose Protector

You can eliminate "chafing" damage on hydraulic hoses by covering them with this heavy new adhesive wrap.

Tite Seal Hydraulic Hose Protector is a heavy duty, self-adhering neoprene material that forms a protective barrier against cuts and abrasions.

Unlike traditional spiral hose protectors that require a different size protector for each hose diameter, Hydraulic Hose Protector comes in one size that fits all hose sizes. The neoprene wrap still allows hoses to flex and

bend, and it can be applied even after the hose has been installed. You can apply it to specific trouble spots rather than cover the entire length of the hose.

Available in 12 and 50-ft. kits. The 1 by 12-ft. kit sells for \$28.95 plus S&H; the 50-ft. kit sells for \$108.50 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cofair Products, Inc., 7301 N. St. Louis Ave., Skokie, Ill. 60076 (ph 847 333-6700; fax 847 626-4900; skaplan@cofair.com; www.cofair.com).



David Novotny welded steel rod and rebar into deep well sockets to form handles about 1 ft. long, with a 5-in. long cross "T" at one end.

"T-Handle" Socket Set

By making use of some used deep well sockets he bought at a sale and some 3/8-in. steel rod and old rebar, David Novotny made a set of "T-handle" socket sets.

"At first I made just a couple of T-handle sockets and used them when working on lawn mowers and small engines. They worked so well that I decided to make a complete set."

He welded the rod and rebar onto each socket to form a handle about 1 ft. long, with a 5-in. long cross "T" at one end. The shaft on one T-handle was made from a long 3/8-

in. dia. bolt, with a drill chuck mounted onto one end of it. "It works well for holding taps to clean out threads," says David.

He also attached 13/16-in. and 3/4-in. deep well sockets onto the handles of a set of pliers "for working on the most common small engine spark plugs". And he made a 3-way socket by welding three sockets together at the middle.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Novotny, 407 Ramona Ave., West Fargo, N. Dak. 58078 (ph 701 730-8627).