

# MudSmith Gauge Wheel Eliminates Plugging Problem

The open design of the Mudsmith, replacement gauge wheel keeps planters and air drills going in conditions where the original OEM wheels would plug up due to wet soil or residue. In the early 2000's, South Dakota farmers, Duane Smith, his brother Roger, and his son Jacob, came up with the original design and tested it out for several years before starting to sell them, starting with their neighbors. The demand has been overwhelming at times and they now market them across Canada and the United States for nearly every brand of planter and drill in the field.

"We were under our corn planters and drills hundreds of times, taking the OEM gauge wheels off and cleaning them out, when we needed to be planting," recalls Duane Smith. "When conditions are bad, you have to do it again and again which wastes time and is very frustrating."

Smith points out that earlier planting dates and reduced tillage have added to the problem. Their wheel, which has evolved from their early edition now comes with even larger spaces between the spokes. This



**Mudsmith has reinvented the gauge wheel with an all-new design that cleans itself.**

larger spacing has dramatically reduced the problem with plugging and, by opening up the wheel even more, it has also allowed for access and visibility to disc opener hubs and scrapers.

"We've been running them on our own equipment for many years," he says. "We no longer have issues with plugging. These wheels are a huge improvement over the OEM equipment. We designed them so you can use standard bearings and tires from your dealer."

The MudSmith units feature a cast iron hub and a simplified bearing replacement.

Smith notes that original equipment gauge wheels require removing the tires, splitting the rim and removing bolts to get to

the bearing.

"With the MudSmith wheel, you remove the snap ring and replace the bearing," says Smith. The steel spoke of the MudSmith wheel fully supports the rim, unlike cast iron spoke wheels which only contact the rim in 3 small areas resulting in cracked rims. The steel spoke also allows for a small amount of movement from shock loads reducing the stress on the rims. Very important in rocky-rough-high stress conditions. "We didn't intend to sell them when we first made them for ourselves, but the response has been terrific."

Call or order MudSmith Gauge Wheels



online: 877-443-2820 or [www.themudsmith.com](http://www.themudsmith.com)

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# Crank-Type Chainsaw Sharpener

Just turn the hand crank on the Timberline Sharpener, and the carbide cutter does the rest. The machined body clamps onto any bar by tightening two hand knobs, which lock it into position. Once in place, the chain can be pulled freely through to quickly sharpen each tooth. The tool acts as a jig to ensure every tooth is sharpened to the same height, length, and angle.

As a chain gets shorter from sharpening, the tool has an adjustable stop to push the chain into the carbide cutter. This makes it easy to be very precise and only shave a few .001's off of each tooth. New this year is a split pawl design that allows each side to be flipped up independently so that chains can be sharpened even shorter. The main body has two guide holes to match left and right teeth. It's recommended to sharpen one side of the chain completely before starting the other side as the rear adjustable stop may be to be tightened or loosened in order to shave off the same amount.

FARM SHOW ordered a Timberline Sharpener and put it to the test with a well-worn chain. Before it was sharpened, the chain on my older Stihl 029 was so dull it took 30 sec. to crawl through a 10-in green ash log.

Setup was fast and easy. Once the billet aluminum body was in place and balanced level on the bar, sharpening went quickly. Fine filings made it clear the carbide cutter was doing its job. After sharpening, cutting that same log took just 10 sec.

The universal body accepts 5 sizes of available carbide cutters which all have a 1/4" diameter shank. A single set screw on the crank handle makes changing cutters easy.

The Timberline Sharpener comes with your choice of carbide cutter for \$124.95. Additional carbides are available for \$20 in sizes 1/8", 5/32", 3/16", 13/64", and 7/32". If you don't know your chainsaw size their website gives some guidance or give them



**Timberline's crank-type chainsaw sharpener comes with a carbide cutter that rides the bar. The operator pulls the chain through to sharpen each tooth.**

a call for help. The tool is set to sharpen at 30° which is the most universal angle, but accessory angle guides (\$13) allow 25° and 35° sharpening for different hardness of wood.

To see how the sharpener works, visit [www.farmshow.com](http://www.farmshow.com)

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