



Catch-all box, snow shovel holder, free weights on free-weight holders.

Added Weights Help Blade Dig In

Dale Freeman's rear-mounted blade digs in rather than sliding over the snow. All it took was some weight. A sand-filled, 10-in. dia., 30-in. long, schedule 40 steel pipe mounted over the blade was just the start.

"I added a 19 by 25 by 10 1/2-in. deep angle-iron frame with expanded-metal sides to the top of the pipe," says Freeman. "It works great for holding a small poly barrel of salt and a bucket with tractor-tire chains, should they be needed."

For added weight, Freeman welded lengths of 3 by 1-in. channel iron to the pipe. They extend beyond the pipe ends by about 11 in.

"I mounted 1-in. all-thread rod in the channel iron and stack old barbell weights on them for additional down pressure," says Freeman.

At the rear of the catch-all box, Freeman mounted two snow-shovel holders he fabricated from nylon blocks. With the addition of D-clips, they keep a shovel handy

for clearing snow as needed.

"I like being prepared, like the Boy Scout manual suggests," says Freeman.

As part of his preparation, Freeman also outfitted the snow blade with receiver hitches for his chainsaw holders (Vol. 50, No. 3). A length of 2-in. square tubing is welded to the blade's lower link cross member. He can mount his 20-in. gas chainsaw holder to it. The receiving tube is equipped with jam bolts to reduce vibration when the chainsaw holder is in place.

A second receiver hitch, made from 1 1/2-in. square steel tube, is welded to the angle-iron frame at the right end of the catch-all box. Freeman can mount his battery-powered 10-in. chainsaw carrier to it.

"If a tree or branches fall in a storm, I have my chainsaws handy," says Freeman.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dale Freeman, Monroe, Va.



"I mounted the winch on the 3-pt. frame of the mower and made a bracket for a pulley sheave to mount on the sickle bar," says Carra.

Remote-Controlled Winch Lifts Sickle Bar

When Jerry Carra's slightly older friend repeatedly complained about getting on and off his tractor to lift his sickle bar, Carra came up with a solution. He picked up a 12-volt remote-control winch from Harbor Freight and installed it on the mower.

"I mounted the winch on the 3-pt. frame of the mower and made a bracket for a pulley sheave to mount on the sickle bar," says Carra. "The bracket was a piece of 2-in. angle iron, reinforced with some channel iron. I welded it to the outboard side of the sickle bar hinge."

Carra ran the 1/4-in. cable from the winch around the sheave and back to the mower

frame beneath the winch. The double line proved just right for raising and lowering the sickle bar. Connecting the winch to the tractor battery was simple, and the remote control eliminated the need to climb on and off the tractor to raise the bar.

"It raises the sickle bar about 80 degrees, which lets him use it for trimming light brush along the field edge," says Carra. "He was 86 when I made the lift assist, and he still uses it at 90. It keeps him going, even on our steep hills."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jerry Carra, 104 Dogwood Dr., Grayson, Ky. 41143 (ph 606-474-4919).

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.

Scott Geyer, Editor & Publisher



computer, my right leg started getting really warm. I discovered the battery was shorting out on my keys.

"I've found that a water sealer for boots or shoes works just as well as car wax sprays to keep snow from sticking to your snowblower and clogging it. Just spray the blower after each use."

Fritz Groszkruiger, Dumont, Iowa: "Get parts from eBay or Amazon instead of the dealer. Chinese parts can be good. Vendors have always treated me right if I communicate through their messaging system.

"Installing LED lights above the workbench is very helpful.

"Project Farm on YouTube is an excellent source for comparing products. He runs detailed tests and speaks clearly. You can use the cursor to go back and repeat anything you don't understand or don't quite get the first time through, or to get to the summaries.

Ryan Van Der Bill, Sioux Falls, S.D.:

"When you cut off excess length from a zip tie, it leaves a razor-sharp edge that can cut you. Use a torch or lighter to slightly melt the end so it's harmless."

Larry Limb, Ladysmith, B.C.: "To remove a roller bearing's outer race from a machine, use a stick welder to carefully run a bead around the inside of the race, then let it cool. It'll shrink and fall out."

Terry Parrish: "I don't use glue to seal the caulking tube end, as it results in cutting the end of the tube. Instead, I use a 3 1/2-in. screw to seal the end, and it works great."

Kelly Creed, Ada, Okla.: "My dad taught us that when we have to remove the inside bearing on the front wheel of a rear-wheel-drive vehicle, we remove the cotter pin and nut, then the outside bearing. Screw the nut back on, then slide the wheel/rotor off, allowing the inside bearing to hang on the nut. The bearing and seal hang on the stud, off the floor and out of the dirt."

Anonymous, Pa.: "If you cut a lot of firewood and skid it to one location before cutting to length, you may want to consider getting a load of sawdust to spread on the ground. Roll your logs onto it to prevent blocking up or worrying about what you'll hit if you cut through. It works great and lasts for several years if you spread it about 4 in. deep."

John Fleissner, East Aurora, N.Y.: "Don't put a 9-volt battery in your pants pocket if your keys are in there. I did, and after about 15 min. of sitting at my



"Use a gate hinge that allows the gate to swing 360 degrees for working cattle. The heavy gate has a foot on it. They fold flat against the wall for cleaning out."

Dan Ashburn, Bloomfield, N.M.: "For penetrating oil and chain lube, save your old ATF and mix it 50/50 with diesel. There are better penetrating oils out there, but not for the price. Lighter fluid is typically less than 25% gasoline, with the rest being diesel. Stop wasting your money on this stuff and