

## Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

**Universal Sales, Box 55, McLeod, N. Dak. 58057 ph 701 439-2766:** "Our new 'Centipede' socket holder holds sockets better than any other holder on the market. The polyurethane rail that holds the sockets is



impervious to rust, corrosion, chemicals, and solvents and will bend even in cold weather. The rail is so flexible that you can bend it completely over and test a socket for size before removing it from the holder. Even when it's loaded with sockets you can hang it, roll it, twist it, lay it flat, or throw it in your toolbox. A patented locking design holds the sockets in place. The rails hold 1/4, 3/8, or 1/2-in. sockets.

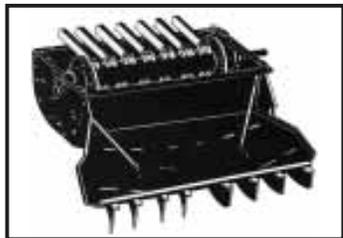
"The 1/4-in. model sells for \$5, the 3/8-in. for \$6, and the 1/2-in. for \$7. The 3/8 and 1/2



4-in. sets together sell for \$10, and a full set of all three models sells for \$16. Add \$4 for S&H.

"We also sell tap and die sets - one with standard size taps and dies and the other with Metric. They're made from Tungston tool steel alloy. Each set sells for \$199 or you can buy them both for \$375. Add \$10 S&H per set."

**Randy Mittlestadt, Audubon Tractor Parts, Audubon, Iowa 50025 ph 800 831-5730:** "Our TSR replacement straw chopper for Deere combines sells for about one third less than the Deere factory price. It's designed and built to exact standards and will bring your chopper back to original performance specifications. Besides offering complete straw chopper assemblies, we also offer a full



line of straw chopper parts for Deere combines built since 1970. In Canada contact Dan Poss, Rempel Tractor Parts, Niverbille, Manitoba, Canada ph 800 244-7662."

**Central Supply & Rubber Co., 109 North 9th St., Omaha, Neb. 68102 ph 800 444-8666:** "You can jump start any vehicle without the need for jumper cables or another vehicle using our new Jump-N-Carry. The portable unit has its own battery and jumper cables and comes in a one-piece molded case. It provides 12-volt DC power or portable 110/120-volt AC power (for portable AC power an inverter is required, allowing the unit to operate TV's, shop tools, etc.). It has 400



amps of cranking power. Two recharging methods can be used. Simply turn off the ignition key, connect the jumper cables, and start the vehicle. Or, turn off the ignition key, plug an optional male-male cord into a vehicle's cigarette lighter, wait several minutes and start the vehicle. A battery status gauge indicates power available and when to recharge."

**Clair & Warren Wilson, Winchester, Ill.:** They recently bought a huge bridge crane from a railroad repair company to install in



the 120 by 60-ft. shop they built out of an airplane hangar (featured in FARM SHOW's Vol. 21, No. 6). The big railroad crane will fit nicely in the large shop.

They towed the crane home from a salvage yard in two pieces by equipping it with rear wheels and a heavy hitch in front. (C.F. Marley, Nokomis, Ill.)

**Larry Stephen, Martinsville, Ill.:** He turned an old forklift mast into a heavy-duty shop elevator by mounting it along one wall and building a platform onto the mast in place



of the forks. He uses it to ride up to the upper level of his shop. The elevator is controlled by electrically-powered hydraulics so a simple electric switch is used to move it up or down. Makes it easy to retrieve parts or other equipment from the upper storage area.

**Jim Rogers, Port Orford, Ore.:** "You can keep gasoline fresh in unused machines with two commercial products that keep it from deteriorating. The most widely known is Sta-bil, which can be purchased at Wal-Mart and other stores. A small container of Sta-bil costing \$3.97 will preserve 20 gallons while the larger container costing \$8.97 treats 80 gallons. The company says it will keep fuel fresh for at least 5 years and much longer if the fuel is in sealed cans in a cool place.

"Another product called Gas Saver Plus is available by mail order. A \$15.95 supply (plus \$5.95 shipping) treats 160 gal. A \$27.95



**Brian R. Hebden, Springville, N.Y.:** "I have easy access to my tools thanks to this pull-out tool tray which I built into the back of my pickup. The tray slides in and out of the bed. I used 2 by 4's and a sheet of 4 by 8-ft. plywood to make the tray. Garage door hangers and caster wheels underneath the tray

make the tray easy to roll out. I installed hold-down rails on the wheel wells or a center-mounted leg to keep the tray from tipping whenever it's pulled out. At the job site I simply open the pickup's tailgate and pull the tray out. The tools are easy to reach from all sides."

bottle treats 320 gal. Phone numbers for a couple of the mail outlets are 800-866-4876 or 303 277-0305.

"These products are ideal for any machine that sits around unused for long periods of time, such as an emergency generator."

**Ken Schultz, Chicago, Ill.:** "Dad and I started using 2 and 3-lb. coffee cans for bolt storage a couple years ago after our garage



burned down. We had stored bolts in cigar boxes, but they burned up in the fire and we had a real mess sorting bolts.

"Coffee cans are first and foremost fire-proof. They also stack easily in tight locations like our wall cabinet. Best of all, they're free. The labels come off easily so you can use masking tape or duct tape to label them for sizes. We store everything from 1/4-in. dia. to 1-in. dia. bolts in them."

**Bill Weston, Floyd, Iowa:** Bill's company, Wesam Inc., manufactures replacement parts for automatic feeders and unloaders for most makes of vertical silos.

"Our replacement parts generally sell for 20 to 30 percent less than original equipment," Bill says. "We make all of the bearings and wear parts that either break down or wear out. Parts include augers and auger knives, wall wheels and wall cleaner assemblies, drive shafts, bushings, blowers and discharge chutes. We also sell new Farm-Eze belt feeders and a full line of belts, 12 to 48 in. wide.

"Our most requested parts are 7 and 9-in. dia. augers. Impeller assemblies could be considered our most unusual parts since every manufacturer has their own idea on how they should be designed and built."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wesam Inc., First Ave., Floyd, Iowa 50435 (ph 515 398-2875; fax 2846).

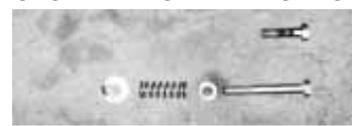
**Karl Plesums, Spooner, Wis.:** "I modified our Deere 7000 4-row (36-in.) corn

planter so that the casting lips which hold the closing wheel assemblies don't break when planting rocky ground. That used to happen



to us every 40 acres or so but since I modified the planter we've broken only two lips in 1,500 acres.

"The problem is that the bolt holding the casting in place behind the downpressure spring on the closing wheel isn't big enough



and is too rigid. I replaced the original 1 in. long bolts with 2 1/2-in. long bolts. I also added a compression spring (the kind used on doorstops) in between the bolt head and the casting so the assembly flexes over rocky terrain.

"This modification costs only a buck or two per row and works like a charm. In fact, it worked so well on our Deere planter I even modified the new Kinze 8-row (30-in.) planter we bought last year before ever taking it to the field. We haven't broken even one casting on it.

"Three years ago, on the coldest day of winter, I also came up with an easy way to unplug Big Jim silo unloader chutes. Dad had accidentally plugged the hole down to the bottom conveyor with a frozen chunk of silage. I spent about four hours trying to poke a hole through the mess but to no avail.

"I finally decided to try an ice-type auger. I welded a 2-ft. length of 4-in. dia. flighting to a piece of 3/4-in. dia. black pipe. I used a small pipe wrench to screw the auger through the plug up. It took only about 15 minutes to unplug the mess.

"Incidentally, you can bolt several sections of black pipe to the auger to go through

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