

**Nathaniel Regier, Newton, Kan.**: "I re-worked the hood on my 1978 Ford F-350 1-ton pickup so it tilts forward for easy service. I can stand right beside the engine to work on it. I just grab hold of the original latch on front of the hood and pull it down. My technique works well on Ford F series pickups made from 1971 to 1979 but I think the idea would work well on many models. I cut the hood just in front of the windshield. A pair of chains keep the hood from flipping forward all the way over. The chains have springs on them so when the hood goes up it doesn't stop with a 'jar'. I made the hinge out of two rubber supports and mounted them under the grill and above the bumper. The radiator was originally bolted onto a steel housing behind the grill. I had to build a steel frame for the radiator so that it stays with the pickup frame as I raise the hood."



**John Out, Enderby, B.C., Canada**: "My 10-ft. 6-in. Deere 1360 rotary mower-conditioner is equipped with six cutting discs. Three of the discs rotate in one direction and the other three rotate in the opposite direction. When the discs wear out, I switch each one with the one next to it. The discs wear only on one side so this allows them to wear on the other side. As a result I get twice as much life out of the discs without needing to buy new ones, which sell for more than \$100 apiece (Canadian). I think the same idea would work on any brand mower-conditioner."

**Richard Martin, Burton View, Ill.**: "My portable shop table has provided years of valuable service. It's equipped with two angle iron legs on back and a single steel caster wheel on front which makes it easy to move around. It's light enough to move about on our concrete shop floor, yet is built heavy enough to support a 6-in. vise and to serve as a portable welding surface. It's 3 ft. high and has a steel top that's 1 1/2 ft. wide by 2 ft. long. A pair of shelves



under the top can be used to store materials. A pair of 2 3/4-in. long pipes mounted two thirds of the way up the legs serve as handles when moving the table around."

**Walter Blalock, Linden, Tenn.**: "Here's a simple idea that really works. Use baby wipes to clean whitewall tires. It cleans them right up."

**Bill White, Twisp, Wash.**: "A very good backyard mechanic told me that you can tighten up a slightly loose bearing with Lok-Tite. It takes up about 10 thousandths of an inch. All you do is thoroughly clean the surface where the bearing race goes into the housing. (Starter fluid is a great cleaner). Then apply Lok-tite generously to either the race or the housing. Slide in the bearing race and let dry completely for a day. I tried it and it really did work on the wobble gear on my swather."

"I used to use belt dressing by the case when cutting heavy hay. My dad put me onto roofing tar. Two or three finger blobs will smear all over and makes the whole belt grippier for 10 times as long as regular belt dressing."

"I think the only way to mount a bench vise is on a pedestal mounted on an old truck rim for a base. A vise must be moveable. When I see a shop where the only vise is mounted on the workbench, I know the guy doesn't do much mechanical work."

**Larry D. Rudolph, Lost Springs, Kan.**: "We put six or seven 8-ft. railroad ties in the rear bed of our pickup for better traction in winter. It forms sort of a second floor. We can still carry bales, sacks and other equipment on top. We slide the tires off onto a 50-gal. drum laying down. One person can load and reload them this way."

"Another idea that we use is putting equipment, bales and other materials on old tractor tires laying flat on the ground. It's an easy, low-cost way to keep things off the wet ground."

**Dan Brown, Christoval, Texas**: "I've developed a device that screws onto an outside water faucet that lets you inject air into the faucet to prevent freezing in winter. I call it a Freeze Prevention Connector and it simply screws onto any outside faucet. You attach an air hose, open the water valve, and pump in enough air to push the water back into the building or under the ground. Then close the water valve. When you need water again, all you have to do is open the valve and the air will come out ahead of the water."

"This eliminates the need to shut off the water inside the building, or to drain the pipes."

## MIG And Stick Welder Rolled Into One

This new combo welder lets you do both stick welding and wire feed welding with one machine.

The Gunslinger has 260-amp MIG power with built-in 150-amp stick welding capability, allowing you to use one machine to do both stick and wire feed welding. It costs less than the price of some conventional MIG-only machines, says the company. It delivers a full 40 percent duty cycle at 260 amps compared with the lower duty cycles of some 250 amp MIG-only machines. Its maximum wire speed is one of the highest in its class, says the company.

Welds up to 1/2-in. thick metal.

Sells for \$1,550.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Panasonic Factory Automation, 9377 West Grand Ave., Franklin Park, Ill. 60131 (ph 888 726-9353; fax 847 288-4564).



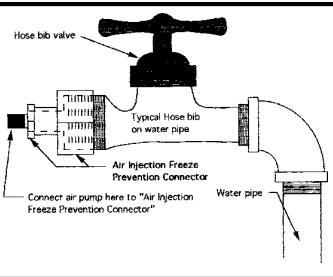
**FARM SHOW**®

## 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 farm 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 go to our web site at [www.farmshow.com](http://www.farmshow.com).*

*Mark Newhall, Editor*



And eliminates the need for freeze-proof valves.

"I have a patent pending on the device and hope to put it on the market soon."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dan Brown, Texas Gems, P.O. Box 555, Christoval, Texas 76935 (ph 915 255-2254).

**Edward Curry, Youngstown, Alberta**: "I had trouble unloading heavy bales with my slide-in Dew Eze bale fork that mounts in



**Carl Kulchyski, Van Anda, B.C.**: "I thought other FARM SHOW readers might be interested in this foot-powered metal lathe that I've got in my basement. It was patented in 1876 and built by the A.R. Williams



Machinery Co. of Toronto, Canada, although the frame has Rockford, Ill., stamped on the side. It has three pedals and an implement seat that slides back and forth, depending on what end of the lathe you're working on. It's in good working order even though it was used for years in one of the old isolated shipyards on the British Columbia coast in Canada."

**Scott Ibeling, Aplington, Iowa**: "There's still a tremendous need for this power steering kit since there's still so many of these pickups in operation," says Scott, who makes a kit that solves all power steering problems on Ford 4-WD pickups from 1967 to 1977. "Ford's ram assist power steering used during those years has been plagued with perpetual problems."

Ibeling says a sensing valve, which directs power to a hydraulic cylinder, often causes problems. Ford no longer makes repair parts. He sells a conversion kit with an integral power steering box for the pickups. The kit fits all Ford 100, 150, and 250 pickups from 1967 to 1977, whether they were equipped with manual or ram assist power steering. The kit consists of adapter plates, hardware and a special bit to drill the steering column, and the steering box. You remove the steering box and weld in adapter plate, then replace with included steering box.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Scott Ibeling, 1014 Parrott St., Aplington, Iowa 50604 (ph 319 347-2491).