

Smörgåsbord



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Replacement Parts "Rip-off"

"Something happened to me during harvest last fall that you might like to pass on to your FARM SHOW readers," said the letter we received the other day from Ohio farmer Jack Kinnear, of Mt. Vernon. Jack's downright disgusted with machinery companies for "ripping off farmers on replacement parts. Maybe if you wrote about this rip-off in your FARM SHOW 'Smorgasbord' column it would put pressure on these companies to get their act together and quit robbing us farmers."

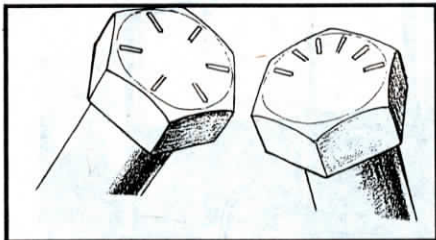
Jack went on to relate his personal experience: "I have a 975 New Holland combine. The fresh air fan in the cab quit working the first day we ran last fall. I called our dealer and ordered one. They got the wrong one — it was \$77 and was a double shaft. I called back and told them it was wrong, so they ordered the right one. They called back a few days later and told me it would cost \$164.38. I told them then the \$164.38 price can't be right and asked them to double check it."

"The first day it rained, I pulled the bad fan motor out and took it to the dealer and again asked about the price of a new one. He confirmed that the \$164.38 price was right. Naturally, I said forget it. I then went to a local NAPA auto parts store and, after some hunting through a couple of books, they came up with the manufacturer's number which was the same number as on the old one. I ordered it, and the new one cost me \$44.68."

"Now, I ask you — isn't \$119.70 a bit much for the difference between New Holland (part no. 130185 @ \$164.38) and NAPA's price (part number 655-1311 @ \$44.68)?"

"I feel there are many parts that are just as overpriced as this fan. How about alerting other farmers to this rip-off?"

Be On Lookout For Counterfeit Bolts



A "hazard alert" issued by the U.S. Department of Labor cautions farmers to be on the lookout for counterfeit bolts. It notes that standard Grade 8 bolts are marked with six slash marks on the face of the head at approximately 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 and 10:00 o'clock. (See drawing on left). Counterfeit bolts are also marked with six slash marks but they're all grouped in the top half of the bolt head between 10:00 and 2:00 o'clock, as shown in the drawing on the right. These counterfeit bolts are comparable in hardness to a softer Grade 5 — not to the claimed Grade 8 or 8.2, the "hazard alert" points out. The same "counterfeit marking" is reportedly showing up on nuts.

The standard marking for steel bolts and nuts (hexagonal heads) of "medium hardness" (Grade 5) is three slash marks. Soft steel bolts and nuts (Grade 2) have no slash marks. Carriage and machine bolts and nuts carry no slash marks since they're generally in the "soft" (Grade 2) category.

So, if a particular application calls for bolts of extra strength and hardness to withstand extreme tension, pressure or temperature, be sure you select a non-counterfeit Grade 8 that's marked with six slash marks as shown on the left, and which carries the manufacturer's letter or symbol trademark to certify point of origin. If the application calls for a soft bolt that will shear to avoid damage to machinery or equipment, be sure you select a "soft" Grade 2 with no slash marks on the face of the head. Bolts and nuts sold unusually cheap generally carry no grade markings, and no manufacturer's symbol. Your best bet? Buy from a reputable supplier!

The Japanese Succeed With Apples, Too - At a recent California farm show, we spotted nurseryman Louis Sanguinetti signing up growers for Fuji apples from Japan. We wondered if the Japanese are going to take over this country's apple market the way they did the TV and electronics markets. Will we have to quit saying "As American as apple pie"?

"After this year's planting there will be nearly 4,000 acres of Fuji apples in California. As a comparison, there are 100,000 acres of Red Delicious apples grown in Washington state alone," says Sanguinetti, noting however that Fuji apples have the highest sugar content of any commercially grown apple which makes them ideal for both eating and baking. The apple itself is straw-colored with tinges of reddish-orange. The flesh of the apple is light yellow. Fuji apples, which are the most popular and widely grown apple in Japan and the Far East, require a long growing season of 190 to 210 days so they can't be grown in northern states. Sanguinetti says California Fuji growers hope to capture a larger share of the market away from Washington, Michigan, and other dominant apple-growing states.

Sanguinetti sells individual trees for \$10 apiece. For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sanguinetti Orchards, 2401 W. Cochran Road, Lodi, Calif. 95240 (ph 209 369-7050).

This "Invisible Dog" Bites! Showgoers at the Stockton Ag Expo in Stockton, Calif., got a scare last January when they looked inside the dog cage at the front of Mike Mattos' exhibit. Mattos sells baling twine and used an "invisible



dog" to get attention. Everyone got a big laugh each time someone would crack open the cage to peek inside. As soon as the top was lifted up a few inches, fierce barking and growling came from inside the cage. The secret? Mattos put a tape recorder inside the cage that's activated when the lid's lifted. The recorder plays a tape of fierce guard dogs.

Car, Pickup "Hot Lines" - If you've got a complaint about your car or pickup, or you want to get information about a safety recall or obtain a service manual, you might want to call direct on special "hot lines" set up by manufacturers to deal with customer requests. Each domestic manufacturer has customer relations numbers. Some are toll-free 800 numbers and some use computers to direct incoming calls. If you simply want to order a service manual, it may just be a matter of leaving your name and address for an order form. If you have a car or truck in for repairs, and you're worried about the availability of a special part needed, the service center may be able to tell you if the part was ordered by the dealer on a priority basis or if it was ordered as an ordinary stock item, which might delay it.

The GM numbers are: Buick - 800 521-7300; Cadillac -

313 554-5536; Chevrolet - 800 222-1020; GMC trucks - 313 456-4547; Oldsmobile - 517 377-7465; and Pontiac - 800 762-2777.

The Ford Motor Co. general number is 313 337-6950 but there are special numbers for: Ford Taurus and Mercury Sable - 800 551-5747; and Lincoln and Merkur - 800 521-4140. All other models should call the general number.

The numbers for Chrysler Corp., which now includes American Motors, are: Chrysler, Plymouth and Dodge - 313 956-5970; AMC - 313 493-2341.

Another useful toll-free number is the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in Washington, D.C. (800 424-9393). Available 24 hrs. a day, this is the number to call for recall information and to register safety complaints. Evenings and weekends a computerized answering machine records your request or complaint.

Here Comes Another New Farm Tractor

You'll be seeing a brand new tractor from South America at upcoming farm shows in the months ahead. It's the "CBT" from Brazil where it accounts for about 60% of that country's total farm tractor sales.

Billed as "the world's best built tractor dollar for dollar," the CBT has been sold in the state of Florida since 1981. "We're now setting up dealers throughout the entire U.S.



and Canada," says Dave Dairy, North American distributor.

The new CBT is being offered in the following models and options:

8240 - 66 pto hp, 2-WD, with Perkins diesel engine. Sells for \$16,531.

8060 - 90 pto hp with Mercedes-Benz diesel engine. Sells for \$22,041, plus \$4,000 for optional front wheel assist.

8260 - 91 pto hp with Perkins diesel engine. Sells for \$22,041, plus \$4,000 for optional front wheel assist.

All models are cabless. A 40 hp model, and cab-equipped models, are slated for introduction later this year.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, CBT/USA, 4575 Hilton Pkwy, Colorado Springs, Col. 80907 (ph 303 590-1118).

Chiropractic For Animals

Animal chiropractic is emerging as a new and controversial specialty. "It's not a cure-all, but for certain types of problems it has a very real place," says Dr. Sharon Willoughby, Port Byron, Ill., whose career as an animal chiropractor began after she became disenchanted with traditional veterinary medicine following 13 years of practice as a licensed veterinarian in Michigan. She gave up her veterinary practice ("65% of my income came from giving vaccinations and removing sex organs . . . I was really burned out") and enrolled in the Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, the birth place of chiropractic medicine.

Dr. Willoughby now treats only animals but her practice relies on chiropractic techniques rather than traditional veterinary medicine. Her fees range from \$10 to \$25 per visit, depending on the animal's size. She holds Illinois licenses as both a chiropractor and a veterinarian.

To work on a horse, she climbs up on a couple bales of hay and uses her hands to treat the animal. Sometimes it's necessary to place a padded 2 by 4 against a large animal's bones and pound the board with a mallet.

Meanwhile, existing state laws put animal chiropractic in a precarious legal position. Laws in all 50 states restrict medical treatment of animals to veterinarians. Some states allow chiropractors to work with animals on a veterinarian's referral. (Excerpted from the Wall Street Journal and Des Moines Register).