



Duane Martin, Rochester, Ind.: "Here are before and after photos of a 1,500-gal. VanDale tank wagon that imploded as it was being emptied. We replaced the tank for about half of what it would have cost had parts and labor been done at the factory."



"That's our business, rebuilding virtually any brand tank, vacuum or topfill. We manufacture replacement tanks for Clay, VanDale, Badger, Better-Bilt, Calumet and Harvestore wagons, to name a few, out of 1/4-in. thick steel, which is 1/8 in. thicker than the original tanks many wagons are equipped with. We start with 800 gal. tanks for \$2,300 and build up to 6,000 gal. Prices include remounting good original parts; any valves, fittings and/or plumbing is extra. Replacing tanks typically takes two to three weeks."

"We also manufacture replacement components such as moisture traps. We also stock a large number of replacement parts and manufacture tanks only."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, DuMar Welding, 2858 E. 650 N., Rochester, Ind. 46975 (ph 888 223-9891 or 219 223-9889).

Oral Francis, Kirksville, Mo.: Oral and his son Howard have found an inexpensive way to make storage racks for scrap angle

iron, pipe, and other miscellaneous parts. They use wooden pallets that they get for free from area auto parts stores and lumber yards.



"We use only 4 by 4-ft. or 5 by 5-ft. oak pallets which will last up to 10 years. We stack them two wide and 5 or 6 ft. high, which is an ideal height and width for holding our scrap iron. We use the top pallets as a 'catch-all.'"

Harlan Larkin, Brookings, S. Dak.: "I built this welding table for my shop out of scrap materials for about \$20," Harlan says. "The top is an old wheel out of a stationary



silage cutter. It's 34 in. in dia. and is 3/4-in. thick. It has holes spaced throughout and I left the stub shaft axle in the middle so I can use it to bend light gauge iron. The three legs are made from 2-in. dia. pipe braced with 1/4 by 2-in. angle iron."

"I mounted a grated shelf, which I use to store my metal chop saw and miscellaneous materials, underneath the table. I fitted pegs on the front to hold my chipping hammer and steel brushes. I fitted the back two legs with 4-in. dia. caster wheels so the table is easy to move around the shop. The table is 36 in. high and is heavy-duty enough to hammer on."

George Peroni, Miami, Fla.: George's company sells a life-extending product for

Easy-To-Move Rolling "Service Ladder"

Using the axle and wheels off a grain auger and the steel ladder off an old combine, Jess Alger, Denton, Mont., put together a rolling "service ladder" that he says works great for doing various chores around his farm.

He mounted the 5-ft. ladder on the axle with four pieces of steel rod. To move the ladder Alger simply picks up the bottom end and rolls it around.

"It's more solid than a step ladder and doesn't scratch the paint like an extension ladder," says Alger. "The platform on top is 18 by 10 in. The L-shaped step below the platform is about 8 in. deep and works great for holding tools in place as I move the ladder."

"I originally built it for cleaning out grain in the back corners of trucks, but it also works great for checking and filling fluids on my Versatile 700 tractor. I'm only 5 ft. 6 in. and the top of the tractor's hood is about 6 ft. off the ground. The 5-ft. wide axle just fits around the tractor's dual wheels so I can move it right up against the side of the tractor if I want. It also comes in handy in my shop where I use a hoist to raise cars and pickups about 6 ft. off the floor. It's also helpful for building and painting projects."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jess Alger, Box 311, Denton, Mont. 59430 (ph 406 566-2483).



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.

Mark Newhall, Editor

heavy-duty batteries.

Hydrocap vent caps combine the hydrogen gas escaping from the battery with the



oxygen in the air to make pure water which is returned back into the battery virtually eliminating the need to add water.

The vent caps, which have a platinum lining that acts as the catalyst, simply replace the battery's originals. Peroni says they help reduce battery maintenance, increase battery life, remove acid fumes from the air and virtually eliminate corrosion of metal around batteries.

They sell for \$5.50 per cap plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hydrocap Corp., 975 NW 95 St., Miami, Fla. 33150 (ph 305 696-2504).

Ben Meister, Fairbury, Ill.: Ben offers a low-cost solution to problems associated with drums jumping on certain Case-IH Cyclo planters when they're used to plant corn.

"A year or two ago, Case-IH came out with a newly designed 36-hole drum that has dimples between each of the holes," Ben says. "That was supposed to stop the drum from jumping and, thus, improve seed spacing. However, the new drums sell for as much as \$285 apiece, so it'd cost over \$500 to retrofit a 12-row planter."

"I sell rolls of a special adhesive-backed

plastic strip with bumps that can be used to accomplish the same thing for a fraction of the cost. You simply cut the roll to length, peel off the backed tape and apply to the spaces between the holes.

"A roll big enough for a 12-row planter runs about \$70 plus \$5 S&H. A roll big enough for a 16-row planter runs about \$80. The strips were used on about 80 units in my part of the country last year with good results."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ben Meister, 700 W. Ash St., Fairbury, Ill. 61739 (ph 815 692-4481).

Wilfred Weber, Clayton, Wis.: Wilfred built a handy tool rack for his shop out of a spoked steel wheel he had lying around.



"It came off an old horse-drawn implement and is about 2 ft. in dia.," he says. "We welded 2 or 3-in. steel pegs at various intervals around the outside of the wheel and mounted it on a shaft that attaches to a ceiling joist in a corner of our shop. It hangs down about 1 1/2 ft. from our 8 ft. ceiling. We hang any tools with hooks from the spokes, while we hang tools such as crescent wrenches from the steel pegs we welded onto it. It really works slick."