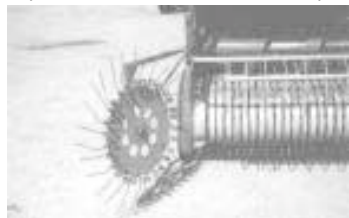




Grant Strong, Wabash, Ind.: "I mounted a box on the right rear fender of my MTD riding mower to carry tools, trash cans, a hand trimmer for low limbs, a hook for picking up fallen small limbs from the ground, etc. It's just a corrugated box glued to a piece of carpeting. I drilled a 1/4-in. dia. hole in the fender and bolted it on using a strip of 1 1/2-in. wide strap iron."

Ken Schmitz, Fond du Lac, Wis.: "I bought a used Westendorf loader at an auction. It had been mounted on a Massey tractor equipped with dual hydraulic outlets. However, I wanted to use it on a Massey Ferguson tractor that has only one hydraulic outlet. To solve the problem I made my own single lever hydraulic joystick out of a used two-lever Deere valve that had been used on a small utility tractor. The joystick is mounted on a length of sq. steel tubing that's permanently mounted on the right tractor fender next to the steering wheel. When I don't have the loader on I uncouple the hydraulic hoses, then loosen one set screw and slide the joystick forward out of the way so that I can use the tractor's original controls. The joystick stays on the tractor but is out of the way."



"Here's another idea. My Deere 336 small square baler has a narrow pickup which sometimes make it hard to get the entire windrow, especially if wind scatters the hay out. I solved the problem by making my own converging wheel out of an old 30-in. disc

blade and mounting it on the right side of the pickup. I bolted pairs of Deere rake teeth to the outside of the blade and mounted it on a spring-loaded arm. I bent the teeth so that as they go around they release the hay into the pickup. Commercial converging wheels for round balers are expensive and sell for about \$300."

Gary Lantz, Augusta, Ill.: "I came up with a way to automatically start and stop the auger at my bin when unloading grain that I haul in from the field during harvest. I connected a mercury switch to a pair of 12-volt solenoids and also to a spring-loaded paddle that mounts in the auger hopper. One solenoid turns the tractor pto on and off and the other one operates the tractor throttle. As soon as grain hits the switch it automatically speeds the tractor up and also turns the pto on. When grain no longer hits the switch the pto automatically turns the pto off and slows the tractor back down to an idle. I can haul in wagon loads of grain and unload them by myself all day long."

Bill Reeks, Cromwell, Ky.: "Here's how I sharpen the blades on my riding mower without removing the mower deck or blades."



An eye bolt is permanently installed in the front end of the Cub Cadet. I attach that to an overhead chain hoist and lift. Once the tractor is up, I put a safety stand under the deck and lock the rear wheels to keep the tractor from moving once it's raised. I use a small 4 1/2-in. hand grinder, which I bought out of a mail order catalog, to sharpen the blades. This method is much quicker and easier than detaching the deck."

Fred Hansen, Santa Rosa, Calif.: "To salvage spray tanks with worn-out agitator bearings, I've found I can convert them to

"Locking Pliers" Helps Unbolt Cultivator Sweeps

If you've ever scraped skin off your fingers trying to remove rusted or corroded bolts on cultivator sweeps, chisel plow points, etc., you'll understand what prompted Gene Klann of Stewartville, Minn., to invent a new kind of "locking pliers".

The "Farmer's Friend" locking pliers work like modified vice grips. One jaw is fitted with a U-shaped "fork" that is placed against the back side of the shovel, around the nut. It leaves enough room to get a socket on the nut. The other jaw has a pointed end that's used to hold the bolt head in the square recess and keep it from coming out.

"It eliminates the need to weld the bolt head, cut off the nut with a torch, or grind off the nut so the bolt can be removed," says Klann. "I got the idea one day while helping a neighbor change the shovels on his field cultivator. He was using an impact wrench and I used my fingers to try to hold a bolt head in. That was a big mistake because I cut my finger bad."

Klann is looking for a manufacturer.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gene Klann, 2900 Cty. Rd. 6 S.W., Stewartville, Minn. 55976 (ph 507 533-8543).



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 e-mail us at: Editor@farmshow.com.

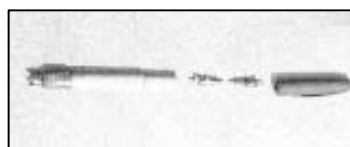
Mark Newhall, Editor

liquid 'sparge' agitation by boring out the forward agitator bearing so it can be tapped and fitted with a pipe. You have to screw



pipe into both sides of the bearing. Then I just run plumbing to the fittings attached to the bearing. You have to plug up the rear bearing. This procedure has worked quite well on two sprayers using Tee-Jet and Hy-Pro venturi agitators and educators."

R.E. Charlton, Jr., Dillwyn, Va.: Here's a time-saver I came up with that makes tire repair easier. I screwed a valve stem core remover onto the end of a ballpoint pen and



then put several new valve cores inside. It keeps them handy and you can carry it in your shirt."

Mike Hanley, Cashton, Wis.: "I've got a totally rebuilt 1949 Willys CJ-2 jeep. Nearly everything on this jeep has been replaced or rebuilt and it runs great. I use it instead of an ATV. What I like is that I can take it to town for parts or coffee, something I can't do with a conventional ATV."

"Here's a tip: You can get any part for a 1941 to 1965 Civilian or Military jeep at: Willys Mpls., 301 Pine Street, Farmington, MN 55024 ph 651-460-8888. This outfit should get a blue ribbon for outstanding service."

Dick Thompson, Boone, Iowa: "We stopped leaks from our Gehl 322 slurry



spreader on the highway during transport by bolting a 3-in. wide, 1/2-in. thick strip of rubber belting to the bottom of the unloading chute.

"I get a lot of sludge from a local city which dumps the material into a hillside bunker. Some of the sludge is quite liquid and tended to leak out the unloading chute whenever I drove the spreader on the highway. The spreader isn't designed for liquid manure and so I came up with this idea. The spreader's slide gate fits tight against the belt, yet the rubber flexes enough to make a nice, tight fit."

Dale Conrady, Hettick, Ill.: He made his own wooden gun vise that cradles a shotgun



or rifle for cleaning and maintenance or to make test firings and precise sight adjustments.



A 3-ft. long 2 by 6 forms the base of the unit. There's a V-shaped upright at one end