

**Lorne Whiting, Mount Brydges, Ontario:** "The cleaners kept falling off our Case-IH disk chisel plow. We finally replaced the bolts with higher quality 5/8-in. grade 8 bolts.

"Another idea we had was using the steel flywheel from a junked-out forage harvester as a welding table. We mounted a vice on it. It works good because it's heavy enough to stand up to some pounding."

**Leo Mugan, Mitchell, Wis.:** "My Deere 4240 and 4250 tractors did not have enough cranking power so I replaced the two 6-volt batteries in each with two 12-volt truck batteries. I changed the cables so they connect up parallel rather than in series. Works very good."

**Fred Buchnoff, Madera, Calif.:** "The power steering on my Massey Ferguson 175 tractor has a shaft with splines that fit into a hub. When these tight-fitting parts started wearing down, the front end would shimmy. New parts would have cost hundreds of dollars, so I came up with an inexpensive repair. I spray-cleaned the splines and then used hardening liquid metal to build them up. I made the repair 3 years ago and it's worked great ever since."

**George Wilson, Brusett, Mont.:** "I buy 1 1/2-in. sq. steel to make my own teeth for the grapple fork on my loader bucket. You can buy 12 ft. of steel for less than the cost of one commercial-built tooth. I just cut the steel up with a chop saw."

**Francis, Simmers, Jamestown, N. Dak.:** "In order to bleed air from the diesel fuel system on my mini-motorhome, I installed a vent in the line going into the injection pump, and an electric pump at the fuel tank. The pump is wired to the accessory side of the ignition switch so it can be operated without energizing the glow plugs. It really simplifies changing fuel filters or other work where the fuel line is opened and air is admitted. It also provides an extra pump in the system should the mechanical pump every fail."

**Joe Duma, Schoharie, New York:** "I use rubber bands cut from inner tubes to support hydraulic hoses between my tractor and implements. They last a lot longer than the truck straps I used before."

"I use small 1/4-in. long pieces of 1/8-in. or 1/4-in. dia. copper tubing to connect together wiring on tractors, pickups, cars and other equipment. They make good permanent connectors. I solder the wires to the sections of copper pipe and silicone or tape over them to make them waterproof. Normal butt connectors are aluminum and sometimes corrode and come apart."

**Murray Woods, Linden, Alberta:** "In order to simplify storage of parts, I built a set of cabinets with a separate compartment for each piece of equipment. Lets me keep all parts for each piece of equipment together in one place."

**Robert Johnston, Port Lambton, Ontario:** Robert says he and a number of farmers in his area have come up with a simple step that makes it easier to plow through corn stalks or other trashy crop residues that are difficult to cut through. Before heading to the field, Robert takes his moldboard plow to the shop and sharpens the coulters with a hand-held rotary grinder. He positions the grinder against the coulters so it starts spinning and keeps sharpening until the blade's sharp enough to cut a finger.

Robert says the idea works for both rippled and plain coulters. He sharpens them about every 100 acres, depending on soil type. It takes only a few minutes to do the job and, once sharpened, he says they slice through even wet stalks. (Ontario Farmer)

**Ted Anderson, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.:** "I recently found a way to keep wood screws from vibrating loose on hayracks and other trailers. You just use a staple gun to put a staple over the head of the screw so it fits in the slot and locks the screw in place. Works every time."

**Gordon W. Andersen, Northboro, Iowa:** "We have a wagon that hauls 12 big bales and we kept blowing tires and rims from excessive weight. So we purchased airplane wheels and tires and have had no more problems." (Contact: GENSCO Aircraft Tires, Box 14623, Houston, Tex. 77221 ph 800 828-3350)

**Rick Wallace, Shelburne, Ontario:** "I run 1/2-in. copper water line throughout the shop to make air pressure available wher-

## 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.*

ever I need it. I haven't had any problems with it in 3 years. It was cheap and easy to do."

**Bob Moore, Elsie, Mich.:** "The double disc openers on our Great Plains no-till drill are off-set. The leading coulters wear faster than the trailing one. When the lead coulters wear down so that it's even with the back one, that's when we would normally replace them both. However, we've found that we can reverse these two coulters and they will still be off-set approximately the same as they were when new. When the lead coulters wear down the second time, we replace them both."

**Battista Gianino, Boyes, Mont.:** "I came up with a design for stay-level sawhorses that works great for working both inside the shop and outside on uneven ground. The

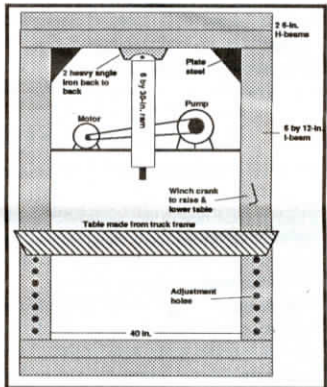


table out of the frame from a 5-ton truck. Working width is 40 in. (if I made another, I'd make it a few inches wider). The 175-lb. table is raised and lowered by a built-in winch. It adjusts up and down about 2 ft., with 8 mounting holes up and down the legs on either side. Shafts (2 in. dia.) fit into the holes to support the table.

"All framework was electric-welded with heavy rod and high heat. It's built heavy to stand up to high pressures.

"We primarily use it to press pulleys and bearings on and off shafts but we also use it to form steel plating and strap iron, saving on the cost of running a torch."



**George Ribble, Hettick, Ill.:** One thing George hates is running short of a nut, bolt, washer or screw when working on equipment in his shop. But there's almost no danger of that happening anymore thanks to the extensive parts wall he set up in his shop. He estimates he has more than 2,000 lbs. of bolts, nuts, washers, nails, cotter pins, and other parts stored in 190 elevator buckets fastened to the wall.

## Great New Way To Reel Up Cords, Air Hose

You can reel up 100 ft. of heavy 10-3 electric cord or 3/8 in. air hose in seconds with the new "Reel-A-Pail" cord handling/storing system.

Inventor Dan Barberg says all kinds of handy storage devices have been invented for tools, parts and other shop items but, until now, no one has come up with a good way to handle long electric cords.

"I got the idea while building a tool storage cabinet. A half hour later, I had a working prototype," says Barberg, who now has three different production models of Reel-A-Pail on the market.

Reel-A-Pail looks like a 5-gal. bucket with a wide slot in one side. There's a free-wheeling reel mounted vertically inside and a handle on top for turning the reel. The bucket mounts on a flat, hard plastic board that can be bolted to a wall, to the floor, or to the bed of a service truck. Cord pulls easily out of the pail when needed and reels back up just as quickly by turning the handle on top with one hand the guiding cord into the slot with the other.

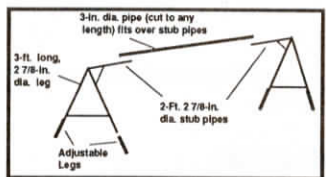
"It's almost unbelievable how much time it saves and how convenient it is to use. For anyone who frequently uses electrical cords and hoses, it'll pay for itself many



times over," notes Barberg, adding that Reel-A-Pail can also be used to hold chain, rope, steel cable, and wire.

The smallest model, which carries 50 ft. of 12-3 cord or 50 ft. of 1/4-in. dia. air hose, sells for a suggested retail of \$49.95. The next size up carries 100 ft. of cord or hose and sells for \$59.95. The largest size carries 200 ft. of 12-3 cable, or 100 ft. of heavy 10-3 cord or 3/8-in. air hose. It sells for \$79.95.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Reel-A-Pail, Inc., 303 Jenks Ave., Kokato, Minn. 55321 (ph 612 286-6506; fax 612 286-6202).



legs at either end are made from 2 7/8-in. dia. pipe with 2-ft. stub shafts pointing inward for the cross bar. Adjustable feet made out of 3-in. pipe fit over the bottom of each leg and are fitted with set screws (drill a hole and weld a nut in) so you can adjust them to set up level on any terrain. You can make the feet as long as you need. I use 3-in. dia. pipe for the crossbar. I just slip it over the stub shafts. You can use any length of pipe. I've used up to a 16-ft. long piece of pipe. You can lay a plank over two of them to make a good scaffold for painting.

"Build a set of these sawhorses and you'll never go back to regular sawhorses. You can build them as heavy or as light as you need."

**Raymond Hart, Box 578, Claresholm, Alberta T0L 0T0 Canada (ph 403 625-2133):** "I built a large hydraulic press with 50 to 60 tons capacity by cutting up H-beams and channel iron that were in my scrap pile. I use an old Char Lynn hydraulic pto pump and 3/4-hp. electric motor to run a 6-in. bore, 30-in. stroke cylinder. I made