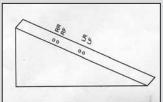
Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

winter my 2000 Ford F-250 blew out a spark plug. After doing some research I found Timesert, a company that sells a repair kit for blown-out spark plugs (www.Timesert.com). The kit comes with everything you need to drill out, tap and install the new threaded insert. The instructions are laminated and easy to read and follow. All reaming tools have stops on them so you can't go too far. This company makes a good product."

Mark Parrish, Carman, Ill.: "Got a rough-running Deere 3020 or 4020 gas or LP-powered tractor that you can't cure with spark plugs or points? Try cleaning and then freeing up the distributor flyweights. Works wonders."

Delbert Hayes, Norwalk, Iowa: "I made a jig that makes it easy to remove a wornout pin from the wobble box on my IH 1460 combine's 820 bean head. It eliminates the need to take the bean head's crankshaft completely apart and remove a lot of bearings, etc. I cut the pin even with the bar that holds it, press the pin out, then cut the pin off again on the bottom side. Then I press the pin once more and it'll come right out."

John W. Collins, Sherburne, N.Y.: "My new Cub Cadet riding mower equipped with a 60-in. deck was mowing low on one side. It needed to be adjusted. I knew there



had to be a better way to measure than using a tape measure. So I cut a 1-ft. long piece off a 2 by 4 and cut the piece at an angle. I slid this angled piece under the deck at each end, both front and back. Then I put a mark on top of the angle for each point checked. The difference was readily visible, and I was able to raise the low side up to match the other side, as needed."

Merrill Smith, Deer Park, Wash.: "I plumbed my entire shop with compressed air and electrical outlets every 12 to 15 ft. I use them to operate a big 10 hp, 3-phase air compressor equipped with a 200-gal. air tank that sets in back of the shop. I ran 2-in. dia., schedule 80 pvc pipe from the compressor up into the shop's ceiling. From there I dropped an air line on each side of my hoist, on each side of 4 bays, and on each side of the shop's big doors. As a result, I'm never more than 6 ft. away from being able to plug in air-operated tools, and I don't have air hoses strung all over the shop.

"At the bottom of every air outlet I mounted a 1 1/2-ft. long straight pipe fitted with an end cap so water can't build up in the bottom of the main line and get pushed into my air tools. The pipe comes down the wall and forms a T, with the air outlet on one side of the T and the 1 1/2-ft. long pipe extending down from the other side allowing moisture to escape. The biggest killer of air tools is moisture, and this setup solves the problem."

Wilson Rickenbaker, Lexington, S.C.: "When checking the gas level in my 1955 Ford 600 tractor in the field one hot day, I noticed the gas in the tank was boiling. I made a heat shield from a piece of tin and installed it between the tank supports and tank. I used a hole saw to cut an opening for the fuel valve. Problem solved."

Richard Smith, Piketon, Ohio: "The

differential failed on my 2003 Murray medium-size hydrostatic drive riding mower. I spent \$300 for a complete new differential. A mechanic later told me the problem was with a \$12 sliding ring inside the differential that wears out. I took the gearbox apart and replaced the worn out ring with a new one. The repaired differential is ready the next time when needed."

Richard M. Huckeby, Elberon, Va.: "People use pressurized canned spray paint for everything from tractor repaints to graffiti on other people's barns and fences. However, it can be a real pain to shake the spray can in order to mix the paint.

"Instead, I use my Ryobi 18-volt reciprocating saw to shake the cans. I get the stiffest saw blade I can find and clamp the can to the blade, then operate the saw at its slowest speed. It does a great job.

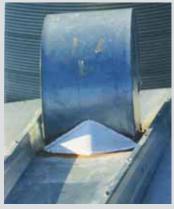
"I always store pressurized spray cans upside down. That way they can't leak the gas, or if they do you sure know it right away.

"I always wear latex gloves when I spray paint as I can then handle objects, turn them over or around, and generally manage to keep my hands paint-free. That's important so when I read my FARM SHOW in the evening, I don't get paint on it."



Lucas Hauser, Zearing, Iowa: "I replaced the ripped plastic rear window on the cab of my Deere Gator with 1/4-in. plywood. It's stronger and warmer than plastic."

Countyline Creations, Marshall, Minn. ph 507 626-0327; wayneseehusen@yahoo. com: "Our new Bin Defender is designed to keep debris from collecting on your grain bin where the vent meets the bin roof," says



Wayne Seehusen. "The vent tends to block debris from sliding down off the roof, and the debris that builds up can cause rust and eventually water will leak into the bin.

"The Bin Defender consists of a UVresistant, wedge-shaped piece of plastic that silicones in place just above the vent. It causes debris to slide off to both sides. Any debris that may catch will be washed away in the rain. The debris won't sit there long enough to cause costly damage or require you to climb up and clean that area.

"To install, you set the Bin Defender in place, then draw a line around it, apply the silicone, and stick the Bin Defender on it. We make it in multiple sizes from 10 to 22 in. wide or custom-build on request. The 10-in. sells for \$9; 15-in for \$22; and 22-in. for \$48."



To pull dust from his shop/garage, Noah Hubbard cut out the back side of a surplus wall cabinet, installed 2 furnace filters, and added a small squirrel cage fan.

Low-Cost Filter Cleans Shop Air

When Noah Hubbard picked up some surplus wall cabinets, he had a brainstorm that he could use one to pull dust from his shop/garage.

"When I parked my car in the shop, it would get covered with a film of dust," recalls Hubbard. "Some of it was probably ash from the wood burning stove. Now I can park it in there for days, and it stays clean."

Hubbard cut out the back side of a cabinet. He then framed the front and back so each would accept two 16 by 25-in. furnace filters. At one end, he installed a small squirrel cage

fan. The 1/20 hp motor can run steady for hours, pulling shop air through the filters.

"It pulls a lot of air through," says Hubbard.
"I angle the discharge on it at the ceiling to help circulate air."

Hubbard says he changes the filters with the seasons.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hubbard Rapid Tool LLC, 5558 West 800 North, Michigan City, Ind. 46360 (ph 219 874-1028; noahsarcwelding@yahoo.com; www.hubbardrapidtool.com).

Replace Tractor Points With Electronic Ignition

Converting to an electronic breakerless ignition system is a simple option for owners of old tractors with points and condensers. It improves fuel economy and makes starting easier.

"It only takes 15 to 30 min. to install," says Gary Catron, president of CBS Performance Automotive, which is a distributor of Ignitor® Electronic Ignition systems (www.pertronix.com). Remove the points and condenser, install the Ignitor module, push the Ignitor's magnetic sleeve on the distributor's cam lobes, and connect the module wires to the coil.

CBS sells systems for Deere 2-cylinder and older 4-cylinder tractors for \$79. Ignitor systems for some unique tractors run slightly higher. It's not required, but customers often change the coil (\$39) when they upgrade to the electronic ignition.

"I get feedback that they are getting 10 to 15 percent gas savings," Catron says. Tractor pullers install the electronic ignition to get more horsepower and torque, and the Ignitor extends spark plug life.



Electronic breakerless ignition system replaces points and condensers on old tractors

Best of all, there are no points that require constant tune-up. Ignitor has rotating cobalt magnets and a 1/4-degree timing accuracy from zero to 15,000 rpm's. It's encapsulated and protected from moisture, dirt and dust.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, CBS Performance Automotive, 52 Co. Rd. 5, Divide, Colo. 80814 (ph 800 685-1492).

Locking Pliers Fitted With Slide Hammer

The new Easypuller takes a set of locking pliers and adds a 2-lb. slide hammer for an added jolt of pulling power.

The slide hammer is attached to the top of the pliers. You clamp the pliers onto the item you want to remove and quickly slide the hammer back against the stop to pull. Because the slide hammer pivots it can be pointed in any direction it needs to go. The hammer can be removed easily so the tool can be used as a traditional locking pliers.

You can use it to pull nails, cotter pins, oil seals, dowel pins, and more.

Sells for \$39.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,



Slide hammer attached to top of locking pliers provides an added jolt of pulling power.

Las Vegas Tool, 1191 Center Point Dr., Henderson, Nevada 89074 (ph 702 992-0202; www.lasvegastool.com).