



**Ethelbert Heck, Double E Farms Ltd., Box 47, Liebenthal, Sask. S0NB 1L0 Canada (ph 306 628-4250):** "All GM Duramax diesel truck owners know it's a good truck. But GM engineers forgot that these trucks get driven on gravel roads, through brush, and under other tough conditions. Off-road driving can take out the fuel cooler located in front of the fuel tank. We eliminated the problem by making a fuel cooler protector that bolts in front of the fuel cooler. It consists of a curved expanded metal guard that wraps under the cooler. We also make a filter protector for Allison automatic transmissions.

"The Fuel Cooler Protector sells for \$40 (Canadian) and the Transmission Filter Protector for \$30, plus shipping. They take only about 15 min. to install each."



**Pete Peters, Osler, Sask.:** "I've found that the empty spools from rolls of wire make good hose hangars on the wall of my shop. Just nail or screw them to the wall. Works great for hoses, extension cords, and rope.

"I made this chimney scraper for cleaning out creosote buildup that a chimney brush will not take out. It consists of a small square box - open on the bottom - with sharpened edges. Mounts on the end of a pole which you can extend as long as needed. Works great on square chimneys."



**Bob Timan:** "Old refrigerators are great for tool cabinets. I use one to store welding rods. You can put a lightbulb inside to keep out the moisture. We've never had a problem. We also use one for shop manuals and other paperwork.

"You can keep an open box of baking soda

in the door of each to keep the odor down. It's also handy for battery spills.

"We have another one for electric and air tools. And one for small ignition parts. You can easily add shelves inside."

**John Rember, 1712 Upper Concession, Ormstown, Quebec:** "We had a problem with the parallel linkage on the gang on our Case IH 183 row crop cultivator. The Case IH system consists of only one set of parallel



arms per gang. The cultivator was bought used and did not seem to have been used much. However, the linkages and bushings were so badly worn that the gangs would not trail straight and would tip to one side or the other, depending on which C-shank would dig into the soil first. The linkage



bars were strong enough but only about 1/2 in. wide, so they didn't offer much stability. We solved the problem by widening the parallel linkage supports to 6 1/4 in. to receive a 2 by 6-in. piece of square tubing, cut to the same length as the original. On each side of the 2 by 6 we drilled two 1-in. dia. holes, 15 in. apart. Into these holes we welded bushings with an inner diameter of 5/8-in. These bushings were tapped for grease fittings. To mount the new parts, we used 5/8 by 8-in. carriage bolts, lock nuts, and 1/8-in. plastic wear washers. We now have gangs with no play. Our total cost was about \$300 and about 4 days work in the shop."

**Robert E. Jensen, Edmore, Mich.:** "Here's how I remove frozen nuts or bearings. Use a torch to make two cuts 180° apart. Use oxygen in slow, short bursts. Stop just before getting to the shaft and then hit with a hammer and it'll come off in two pieces with no damage to the shaft or bolt. Works great in many situations."

## Salvage Yard Sells Parts Overseas

"We'd like to tell your readers about our salvage yard, which has grown into one of the largest and best-organized sources of used parts in North America. It was started as a family business in 1988 and has continued to grow rapidly every year since," says Karen Larson of Gratton Coulee Agri Parts.

"We are located in Alberta, Canada but can ship parts anywhere. In fact, we recently sent a container load of combine parts to Malaysia. We've also ship parts to Australia, Germany, New Zealand, Mexico, France, England, and all over the U.S.

"We employ 14 people. We believe our computer system surpasses what any salvage yard offers. You can check our web site (www.gcparts.com) for many of our parts,



**Gratton Coulee offers one of the largest sources of used parts in North America.**

including a wide range of combine and tractor parts of all kinds.

"Or contact us at: Gratton Coulee Agri Parts Ltd., Box 41, Irma, Alta. T0B 2H0 Canada (ph 888 327-6767; 780 754-2303; E-mail: coulee@gcparts.com)."

# 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@famshow.com.*

*Mark Newhall, Editor*

**Roger Kuntz, K-Tech, 5251 County Rd. X, Grainfield, Kan. 67737 (ph 785-673-5560):** "K-Tech has been specializing in Blade Plow Leveling and tillage performance for over 20 years. A new breakthrough in engineering has allowed us to update the old blade plows with a new rockshaft bearing system. Rockshaft bearings are the primary wear zone responsible for out-of-level axles. The program is easy and inexpensive to have installed."

**Daniel M. Swanson, Cambridge, Ill.:** "With ever-increasing demand in the tractor for 12-volt power - grain drill monitor, grinder scale, sprayer monitor, etc. - I came up with a



simple idea that makes hookups a lot easier. I simply connected a common 110-volt AC outlet, with ground, to the tractor battery and then attached 3-prong plugs to the monitors so I can plug them into it. Makes hookups easy and I can use the tractor battery so no need to worry about having charged-up batteries.

"To install the outlet, I wired the two 'spades' off the positive post and ground off the negative post. I also wired an in-line fuse into the positive wire side.

"Not only is this convenient for power monitors and the like, but I can also carry an extension cord with me to run to the 12-volt pump on my diesel fuel transfer tank and to chemical mini-bunk tanks. Very convenient."

**Gary Bannister, Boerne, Texas:** "I have a simple method for stopping leaks in small metal tubing like power steering lines. I just use rubber gas hose with small clamps on either side of the leak. Works good and much cheaper and easier than replacing a metal line."



**T.E. Salsman, Richmond, Ky.:** "My son-in-law operates Circle Seal & Gasket, a company that makes custom-sized O-rings for various industries. O-ring material is cut to precision length and the ends joined by a heat process. As the company has been in business for only about a year, close management of operating costs is mandatory. At first they used a hand-operated cutter to cut all raw material, but it's a tiring, labor-intensive operation. There was nothing on the market that could do the job at a price they could justify.

"So I started developing an air-operated cutter. As it turns out, my crude prototype has been in daily use for months and has cut material for several thousand O-rings. My billed cost for parts in building it was only \$55.

"The cutter operates at about 90 lbs. air pressure and drives a 1 1/2-in. air cylinder with a 2-in. stroke. The push rods are two grade 5 bolts that operate through bronze bushings (replaceable at Ace Hardware store for \$1.49 each). The cutterhead, which has a 1/8-in. key fixed in place with JB Weld, drives a Stanley commercial grade box knife blade. The cutterhead is controlled by a 1-in. shaft with 1/8-in. keyways at 30, 45, and 90 degrees, to cut the material as required by the type splice for that particular O-ring.