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REF: Oiling & Lubrication - Sub-10B

Bad Ring Seal vs Wet sumping

Bad Ring Seal vs Wet sumping

Wet sumping and oil spatters from the crankcase are two different things. ¹⁾
Daily driver owners with oily air cleaners can get these two ideas confused.

Bad ring seal helps evacuate the sump from oil.

But on the other hand, it increases the flow rate through the crank vent system to such levels that a lot of oil droplets join in.

Apart from leaking cylinder base gaskets and push rod tubes, large blowby and high crank pressure also contributes to even larger ring leakage.

It's a vicious circle.

Sometimes owners who struggle with an oily air cleaner problem seem more concerned with wet sumping.

When they should concentrate in evaluating and improving ring seal.

And ideally also route the crankcase breather lines to a catch tank instead of the A/C.

Re-routing the vent(s) from the breather to a catchtank has many advantages.

Not least it is a powerful tool to monitor the state of the engine.

There should be more water than oil in the catch tank.

At least if air temp is 20C or below.

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¹⁾

Jorgen of the XLFORUM

<https://www.xlforum.net/forum/sportster-motorcycle-forum/sportster-motorcycle-motor-engine/sportster-motorcycle-engine-conversions/38153-xr750-883-series-race-engine-venting-etc/page7?t=75740&highlight=reed+valve&page=7>

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