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Bikes Thumpers **Check your F650GS or Dakar Forks**

Welcome, WayneC1.


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10-20-2010, 01:37 PM

#196

 **redbaroness**  
Gnarly Adventurer



**Joined:** Apr 2008  
**Location:** Seattle, WA  
**Odometer:** 204

Quote:

Originally Posted by **nagash**  
*Hello everyone.*

*I recently decided to service my forks before a trip to the motogp. I had heard of catastrophic fork failure, but expected that to just be a very rare scenario.*

*Imagine my surprise when I decided to take a close look at the axle mounts, only to find that an ominous crack had begun to develop on one side of each fork. So much for riding to the motogp this year!*

*I'm now looking to order some replacements from the USA for around AUD\$640... or if I bought them in Australia, then AUD\$1120. Guess I'll be waiting for awhile until I'm back on the road... then again, I'm just happy that I caught this before embarking on a 2500km journey through pothole infested highways!*

*Every F650 rider with a pre-2003 model should check their forks for signs of failure.*

I'm guessing you're located in Australia? Please do consider filing a report with your authorities before fixing the forks. Every bit of evidence helps our case. Thank you so much!

 **REPORT**



10-20-2010, 04:33 PM

#197

 **mpanther**  
KotW - Just Ride!



**Joined:** Apr 2008  
**Location:** Las Wages  
**Odometer:** 991

I second Red Baroness.

Also, in your case, BMW might actually replace the damn things. as you have Not had a failure that leads to an accident yet.

You should file with the authorities First though!

If BMW doesn't give you new lowers for FREE, take a look at these other threads. I bet you will be Much happier with a set of Yamaha YZF/YZ 450/426/250/125 forks up front.

The people that have made the switch have been Very happy with them compared to the stock sets. plus I bet you can get it done for Much less money.

Threads:

<http://www.advrider.com/forums/showthread.php?t=399113>

and Rob's build. he really thrashes his 650gs and still uses the stock Yamaha front wheel and brake. no problems in over 10k miles.

<http://www.advrider.com/forums/showthread.php?t=592734>

best of luck, and welcome to the forum.

EDIT:

Also, can we get some pictures?

Quote:

Originally Posted by **nagash**  
*Hello everyone.*

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*Every F650 rider with a pre-2003 model should check their forks for signs of failure.*

Peace in your heart & Light on your soul.

>^..^<

adA-venA-ture n.

1. Participation in exciting or hazardous experiences.
2. An undertaking of a questionable nature.
3. An undertaking of a hazardous nature.

'83 GL650swi "My Little Grey Lady"

'86 LS650 Milady's bike

! REPORT



10-20-2010, 05:20 PM

#198

john\_aero  
Study Adventurer



Joined: Feb 2008  
Location: Ireland  
Odometer: 767

good to hear you found it before you had serious crash,

best bet now is swop them for a used 2004 plus set or do yamaha front end mod

all of us here have the forks left over so plenty of spare forks buy if you wanted keep stock setup but with newer forks

women are like clouds.....

once they fuck off it is a really nice day.....

! REPORT



10-20-2010, 09:52 PM

#199

jdaniele  
Study Adventurer



Joined: Oct 2007  
Location: Now residing in Queens  
Odometer: 920

Quote:

Originally Posted by **nagash**  
*Hello everyone.*

*I recently decided to service my forks before a trip to the motogp. I had heard of catastrophic fork failure, but expected that to just be a very rare scenario.*

*Imagine my surprise when I decided to take a close look at the axle mounts, only to find that an ominous crack had begun to develop on one side of each fork. So much for riding to the motogp this year!*

*I'm now looking to order some replacements from the USA for around AUD\$640... or if I bought them in Australia, then AUD\$1120. Guess I'll be waiting for awhile until I'm back on the road... then again, I'm just happy that I caught this before embarking on a 2500km journey through pothole infested highways!*

*Every F650 rider with a pre-2003 model should check their forks for signs of failure.*

I wonder since they are not broken yet if they could be anylized to prove a factory defect. maybe they would actually have a recall if they knew for sure.

JD

"These pretzels are makin me thirsty"

I can't seem to remember why I don't drink anymore.


! REPORT



10-20-2010, 09:58 PM

#200

**JDLuke**  
Ravening for delight



**Joined:** May 2007  
**Location:** New Jersey  
**Odometer:** 7,300

Quote:


Originally Posted by **jdaniele**  
*I wonder since they are not broken yet if they could be analyzed to prove a factory defect. maybe they would actually have a recall if they knew for sure.*

This is perhaps a best-case scenario. Damage caught before injury or loss, potential for metallurgical and engineering analysis of a failure in progress.

Hey, I'd love to get a new set of legs for my bike... to sell.

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Why did I drink all of the ingredients for vomit?  
"Used to be Man vs. Nature.. then Man vs. Space.. then Man vs. the Moon. Now it's Man vs. Food" - Dalar  
"you cannot reason a person out of something they were not reasoned into." - Jonathan Swift

**REPORT** 

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10-21-2010, 09:47 AM


**WayneC1**  
Gnarly Adventurer  
**Joined:** Oct 2008  
**Location:** Sydney, Australia  
**Odometer:** 232

The place to report defects in Australia is in the link below

<http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/roa...s/defects.aspx>

It would help to place a report with NHTSA in the US as well so they have a full record of failures


<https://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq/index.cfm>

**REPORT** 

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10-21-2010, 10:12 AM

**redbaroness**  
Gnarly Adventurer



**Joined:** Apr 2008  
**Location:** Seattle, WA  
**Odometer:** 204

Quote:


Originally Posted by **WayneC1**  
*The place to report defects in Australia is in the link below*

<http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/roa...s/defects.aspx>

*It would help to place a report with NHTSA in the US as well so they have a full record of failures*

<https://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq/index.cfm>

Does the NHTSA actually follow up on failures in other countries or is it just an FYI?

**REPORT** 


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10-21-2010, 10:24 AM

**WayneC1**  
Gnarly Adventurer  
**Joined:** Oct 2008  
**Location:** Sydney, Australia  
**Odometer:** 232

NHTSA are able to take failures in oher countries into account when investigating and can ask for the equivalent authority in another country to assist them and flow up to obtain further information

Co operation between authorities in different countries in many areas is the norm rather than the exception


**REPORT** 

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10-21-2010, 10:28 AM

#204

**redbaroness**  
Gnarly Adventurer



Joined: Apr 2008  
Location: Seattle, WA  
Odometer: 204

Quote:

Originally Posted by **WayneC1**  
NHTSA are able to take failures in oher countries into account when investigating and can ask for the equivalent authority in another country to assist them and flow up to obtain further information

Co operation between authorities in different countries in many areas is the norm rather than the exception

That's odd, considering that in this particular case, they chose to exclude failures that occurred in other countries.


! REPORT 🗨

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10-25-2010, 02:10 PM

#205

**WayneC1**  
Gnarly Adventurer



Joined: Oct 2008  
Location: Sydney, Australia  
Odometer: 232

NAGASH

Check your PM's please


! REPORT 🗨

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11-05-2010, 04:15 PM

#206

**nagash**  
n00b



Joined: Oct 2010  
Odometer: 4

I'll take some pics and post them when I get a chance. The cracks are very fine so I'm not sure how well they will come up in a photo.

I think I will most likely just get a replacement set of the better quality '03 tubes, becuae I recently bought a new set of springs that I was intending to install, and I don't make a habit of riding offroad much.

I'd certainly be keen to purchase someone's old '03 > lower fork tubes (in australia) rather than pay bmw's extortionate prices and international postage. If anyone has a set collecting dust that you'd be willing to part with for a reasonable price, let me know! 🗨


! REPORT 🗨

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11-05-2010, 04:36 PM

#207

**rob feature**  
Domain Ranger



Joined: May 2005  
Location: Transylvania  
Odometer: 2,566

Quote:

Originally Posted by **nagash**  
I'll take some pics and post them when I get a chance. The cracks are very fine so I'm not sure how well they will come up in a photo.

I think I will most likely just get a replacement set of the better quality '03 tubes, becuae I recently bought a new set of springs that I was intending to install, and I don't make a habit of riding offroad much.

I'd certainly be keen to purchase someone's old '03 > lower fork tubes (in australia) rather than pay bmw's extortionate prices and international postage. If anyone has a set collecting dust that you'd be willing to part with for a reasonable price, let me know! 🗨

IIRC, many of the '03s still had the old tubes.

[clicking here will get you nowhere](#)

*rob feature screwed with this post 11-05-2010 at 04:43 PM*


! REPORT 🗨

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11-05-2010, 04:47 PM

#208

**nagash**  
n00b



Joined: Oct 2010  
Odometer: 4

Quote:

Originally Posted by **rob feature**  
IIRC, many of the '03s still had the old tubes.

Definetely the non self-destructing variety that I am after for replacements 🗨

! REPORT

11-05-2010, 10:52 PM

#209

**WayneC1**  
Gnarly Adventurer  
Joined: Oct 2008  
Location: Sydney, Australia  
Odometer: 232


The F650's into Oz were scarce back then so the 03's here are new forks

It seems it was only the US which had warehoused some 02's which were sold in 03

! REPORT

11-06-2010, 10:11 AM

#210

**mpanther**  
KotW - Just Ride!  
  
Joined: Apr 2008  
Location: Las Wages  
Odometer: 991

Quote:

Originally Posted by **nagash**  
*I'd certainly be keen to purchase someone's old '03 > lower fork tubes (in australia) rather than pay bmw's extortionate prices and intemational postage. If anyone has a set collecting dust that you'd be willing to part with for a reasonable price, let me know!* 🙏

You might want to check in the "**Yamaha forks on a BMW F650GS Dakar**" thread for good used stock fork parts.  
<http://www.advrider.com/forums/showthread.php?t=399113>

Everyone has swapped them out, or is doing so.  
so they might have the parts available for you cheap.  
(even after shipping from USA in most cases.)

Peace in your heart & Light on your soul.  
>^..^<

adA-venA-ture n.  
1. Participation in exciting or hazardous experiences.  
2. An undertaking of a questionable nature.  
3. An undertaking of a hazardous nature.

'83 GL650swi "My Little Grey Lady"  
'86 LS650 Milady's bike

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