

"We build a lot of different things and have used this bandsaw to make thousands of cuts, square and fast. No downtime with this product."

Scott R. Layfield, Lima, N.Y.: "The flex core wire welder I bought at **Harbor Freight** is my best buy. I paid less than \$100 for this light-duty welder. It has worked well and gone through several rolls of wire. I've saved many times the price of this unit by using it to make repairs around our shop."

"My worst buy is my **Husqvarna LGT 2654** riding mower. The problem is with the Tuff-Torq transaxle found in these units. The driver's side axle sheared off and I had it repaired, but then the other axle sheared off. I finally gave up and sent the mower to an auction, losing several thousand dollars in the process."

Dale Lee, Gordon, Neb.: "I was a dealer for **Walker** riding mowers for many years until I retired. It all started in 1993 when I saw a local lawn service using a Walker, and it took me a year to find one at a distributor. I bought one, came home with it, and sold it 2 days later to someone who is still using it. I hardly ever had to go on service calls. While I was a dealer I sold 186 new Walker mowers, and all were still running when I retired. I would never part with my own unit."

Barry J. Andre, Mondovi, Wis.: "My **Streamlight** flashlight is by far the brightest 'somewhat-compact' flashlight I've ever owned (ph 800 523-7488; www.streamlight.com).



It runs on 2 lithium ion batteries and even lights things up in the daylight."

On the "worst buy" side, he lists his **Deere 4720** tractor equipped with a cab. "It had a lot of problems in the first 6 mos. The air conditioner quit working, anti-freeze and transmission fluid leaked, the 3-pt. arms wouldn't fit with the backhoe brackets in place, the hydraulics wouldn't kick out with the 3-pt. all the way up, and the steering system locked up anywhere within its steering range from far left to far right. The only thing the dealer fixed was a wheel seal. The roof joints leaked, which allowed dirt into the cab that plugged up the air conditioner. A front cover on the engine leaks and would cost \$2,000 to fix. However, the tractor is now out of warranty so I would have to pay for it."

Kim Klocke, Arlington, Iowa: "I use my **Gallagher 20** solar fence on rotational grazing hay ground next to field corn (ph 815 797-9636; www.gallagherfence.net). This fence is portable to train cattle and strong enough to keep them out of the corn. And it keeps working in winter temperatures down to zero."

Linda Smith, Salem, N.J.: "This tractor is a real beast," says Linda about her **New Holland TC30** loader tractor. "I didn't know anything about tractors when I bought it, so it has been my teacher and my best friend. I'm an older widow, alone on a small farm. I couldn't get along without my TC30. I've really run it through the mill, but it just keeps on going."

Jim Gore, Ulster, Penn.: "Our 2010 **Vermeer 404 Pro** round baler is quiet and easy to operate and makes firm, consistent bales. It's equipped with net wrap so we can use it to make wrapped round bale silage. We've made about 3,000 bales so far with no problems."

Mark Vroman, Buffalo, S. Dak.: "I like my **Sears Craftsman 675E** 22-in. wheeled

string trimmer. It uses 1/4-in. string that lasts a long time. I use this trimmer to cut 2 to 3-ft. tall weeds around corrals and my barns. It also works well along roadside culverts where I can't mow with my tractor.

"My 2011 **Deere 6115** 90 hp loader tractor was underpowered, and tipsy with a loaded bucket. The stick shift transmission, with

"It seemed like I had to shift all the time to match my speed to the job."

3 ranges and 3 gears, was awkward to use. It seemed like I had to shift all the time to match my speed to the job. Also, there was no remote button on the fender to operate the 3-pt. hitch. On the plus side, the tractor was easy on fuel and the loader worked fast. I could use a lever to hook or unhook all 6 loader hoses at once, which I really liked, and the reverser on the steering column also worked well. Now I own a **Deere 6430** tractor, which I like."

Rick Robinson, Fairfield, Iowa: Rick likes his 2013 **Chevrolet 2500 HD** pickup equipped with a Duramax diesel engine and Allison transmission. "It has good power which, together with a smooth shifting, 6-speed transmission, make this pickup a real pulling machine. Once I set the cruise control, the pickup's speed doesn't change at all whether the pickup is loaded or not. My 24-ft. gooseneck trailer just seems to disappear."

David Turner, Louisville, Ky.: "Some seals were leaking on my older tractors so I bought a bottle of **Seallube** (ph 800 434-9192; www.seallube.com). It worked great. I'd recommend it to anyone."

Michael Ward, Mountain City, Tenn.: Michael nominates his **U.S. Stove Co. 1600 EF** outdoor wood burning furnace as his "worst buy". "When I bought this stove, I didn't know the fan has to run continuously whenever the fire is going. That means there's no way to stop hot air from blowing into my home, no matter how hot it gets inside. Also, if there's a power outage and the blower can't operate, the stove will overheat. It's sickening how much money we wasted on this horribly designed stove."

Gary Maxbusler, Blaine, Tenn.: "My 2013 **Ford F-150** pickup gets 21 to 22 mpg. I like it so much that I recently bought a second one."

Bill Brock, Honea Path, S.C.: "In 2005 I bought a 1985 **Dodge Ram D 3500** pickup equipped with a Cummins diesel engine and 5-speed transmission with about 600,000 miles on it. The oil and filters had been changed every 6,000 miles. It didn't use any oil when I bought it, and it still doesn't. It gets 26 mpg loaded or empty."

Robert & June O' Donnell, Winchester, N.H.: "I'm 65 years old, and my 2013 **Cub Cadet LT-X 1040** riding mower equipped with a 42-in. deck is the best lawn tractor I've ever owned. It works almost like a zero-turn mower and is easy to get on and off, and fun to operate. It also cuts great. I hope it lasts forever."

W. Gray Abercrombie, Broad Run, Va.: "My **Toro zero-turn, 62-in.** riding mower has about 1,500 hrs. on it and is a fantastic machine. It's equipped with a Kohler engine that's also terrific. It mows steep hills with ease."

"My **Ford 3910 II 4-WD** loader tractor had about 900 hrs. on it when the steering system started leaking. The front part of the tractor housing also leaks and there were problems with the clutch adjustment. Otherwise it's a

"Best Buy" Work Clothes

Brad Miller, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio: "Working in your pajamas. That's what it feels like when you're wearing the best work clothes on the planet."

"For years I had kept hearing about a company called **Duluth Trading** and the high quality work clothes they produce. Being a skeptical guy, I bought a pair of pants, a couple of T-shirts, a flannel shirt, and a vest and jacket to test them out. I only have one word to describe all the garments: Fantastic! The pants are called **Flex Fire Hose Work Pants**, and they have several features that make them super durable and comfortable."

"First, 3 percent Spandex provides incredible flex as you work. The pants come pre-washed and have that broken-in feel right out of the box. The fabric treatment repels water and stains so well that I was able to wipe a grease stain right off with no spot left behind. The **Hidden Crouch Gusset™** means no binding and provides extra comfort. Mid-leg utility pockets and back pockets with tuckable pocket flaps provide plenty of room to carry stuff."

"The construction of these pants is top notch, with all seams being triple-stitched. The T-shirts are soft, durable, and wick sweat away, and have a longer tail so when you bend over the shirt won't come untucked from your pants."

"The flannel shirt is made of medium weight, soft, durable material with big buttons. Underarm gussets allow you to raise your arms overhead without the shirt coming untucked."

"My favorite item is the lightweight work vest. I wear it nearly every day except



FARM SHOW reader, Brad Miller likes the comfort and toughness of his **Duluth Trading** work clothes.

Sunday. If it would fit under my suit, I'd wear it to church, too! The vest comes with numerous pockets both inside and out and has mesh side panels for ventilation. It's made from 70 percent cotton/30 percent nylon fabric that's light and durable. The fit is easy moving, and the pockets are designed so stuff won't spill out when you bend over."

"Even my wife, who is very picky about her clothes, loves the flannel shirt, jacket and purse that she bought."

"You can call for a free catalog (men's or women's) or order online."

Contact: **FARM SHOW Followup**, Duluth Trading Company, P.O. Box 200, Belleville, Wis. 53508 (ph 866 300-9719; www.duluthtrading.com).

good tractor.

"My **Deere 820** tractor equipped with a 3-cyl. engine is a well-engineered tractor, but at 2,500 hrs. the steering shaft started leaking."

Robert B. Pieters, Hubertus, Wis.: "My 2005 **Burn-Rite** incinerator is an outstanding backyard burner for yard waste and confidential records (www.burn-rite.com). It's made of stainless steel and has held up perfectly despite high burning temperatures. It also stands up to all kinds of weather."

Matthias Hilty, Monroe, Ind.: "I like **Rubbermaid** plastic livestock tanks and chicken waterers better than conventional metal tanks. The metal ones rust through in a short time, whereas our Rubbermaid tanks have held up well over the years and withstand a fair amount of abuse."

James Quinlan, Cleves, Ohio: "The 1962 **Ford 871 Selecto Speed** tractor I bought used 15 years ago is my best buy. I had to fix the head gasket, but there have been no problems since. I use it to bush hog and to scrape driveways. I love this tractor and would buy another one."

Roger Lyles, Salem, Ind.: "Last spring I purchased 5 **Thailand Giant Elephant** Ear plants from **Four Seasons Nursery** after reading about them in **FARM SHOW**. However, only 3 plants survived. My neighbor has grown elephant ear plants for many years and gave me instructions on how to plant and water them, but mine wouldn't grow. They never got higher than 12 in."

Ken Morgan, Waynesville, Ga.: "I've found that gas-powered equipment, vehicles, and boat motors won't start if **ethanol** gas is left in the tank and allowed to sit for a month or so. In my opinion, ethanol gas ruins fuel pumps and other parts of the tank-to-engine system. Fortunately, I know a few places where I can still buy non-ethanol laced gas,

but I have to pay a premium for it."

Cecil Wormington, Purdy, Mo.: "My **McCormick CX-105** tractor has had continuous mechanical breakdowns. It has 475 hrs. on it and twice left me stranded on a hillside. The air conditioner quit working, the transmission sprang a leak, and the pto clutch had to be repaired. The company refused to take care of these problems. I've since learned that other farmers have had multiple breakdowns with their McCormick tractors. This tractor is nice to drive when it's working, but it isn't much good if it's not."

Laura Fults, Springfield, S.C.: "I bought my 2003 **Volkswagen Jetta** Wagon used in 2010 with about 120,000 miles on it for \$5,000. It drives like a premium German car and has heated mirrors and 11 different air bags. I've heard that the transmissions go bad on these cars, but my car now has about 200,000 miles on it while requiring only minor repairs. It runs great and gets about 32 mpg. It also has plenty of cargo space for moving stuff."



Brian Trembley, owner of Sticks Custom Milling, Woodland, Wash. (ph 360 225-3932; www.sticksmilling.com): Brian likes his **Wood-Mizer LT-70** portable band sawmill, which he uses to saw local wood for customers and for projects on his rural property (ph 800 553-0182; www.woodmizer.com). He started his wood-

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