

Continued from previous page

and they would coordinate with KSR to fix the problem. The local dealer thought the problem was with the fuel injection pump, but after spending \$1,500 it didn't help.

"Then the KSR salesman called and said he'd come get the tractor and bring it back to his shop. He found the problem right away, fixed the tractor, and delivered it back to me. My cost for this ordeal has been zero. I'm completely satisfied and recommend this company to anyone who's looking for equipment and excellent service. From the ladies answering the phone to the salesman, shop foreman, and delivery truck driver, they're a professional crew and treated me better than I ever expected. I'll definitely call them whenever I'm in the market for equipment."

Duane E. Pflasterer, Winchester, Ind.: Duane's "worst buy" was his **American Harvest** corn pellet burning stove. "The feed auger plugs up on top, which causes a pin at the bottom to shear. This problem happens an average of once a week. I replaced it with a **Harman** stove (www.harmanstoves.com)."

William Vacao, Ladysmith, Wis.: "After reading the instructions on the can twice, I applied **Dura Coat** protective paint to some clean cement. I've had calf manure stick to the bottom of my shoe longer than that stuff stayed on the cement."

"I called the company and they said they had other instructions so I told them to send them. However, they must be top secret because I never got them. I can't recommend this product to anyone. Instead of spending \$60 to \$70 a gallon, go to Walmart and buy a dollar can of spray paint. It'll last longer."

Carl Whitcomb, Stillwater, Okla.: Carl's impressed with the **Freedom Hitch**. "Our nursery work involves the use of a wide assortment of implements. The Freedom Hitch consists of one part that goes on the

Larry D. Miller, Collinsville, Okla.: Larry's happy with his **Eurekazon** EZ-



One Power Bench (ph 908 222-7557; www.eurekazon.com). "It's handy and safer to use than any other table saw. I especially like that it makes splinter-free cuts on plywood. I use it to rip thin strips and make tapers and angles, all without the need for special jigs."

David Keener, Perrysville, Ohio: "My **Water Boss** water softener recharges on demand instead of on time (ph 800 437-8993; www.waterboss.com). As a result it uses much less salt and water than older-style water softeners."

Kent W. Carter, Lenox, Ga.: "After using a 1948 Ford 8N tractor on my farm for 25 years, I bought a 2011 **Kubota** 2320 utility model. The Ford had manual steering, which became more and more painful to use the older I got. The Kubota steers like a dream with one finger. I use this tractor to do everything from finish mowing to gardening."

Arnold Waldshmidt, Catskill, N.Y.: "My 2003 **Volkswagen** Jetta car equipped with a diesel engine gets 40 to 50 mpg. It has about 102,000 miles on it with no problems and has gone through only one set of brakes and two sets of tires. It still doesn't use any oil."

Randy Zimmer, Mercer, Maine: "I've had good luck with all six of the **Stihl** chainsaws I've used over the past 30 years. They range in size from a small 015 model to a 044 model. All still run great except the oldest, a 042 model that's hard to start. The others have been trouble-free and are rugged and dependable. I'd recommend Stihl chainsaws to anyone. I also own two **Stihl** weed whackers that work great."

Vince Moore, Dillsboro, Ind.: Vince isn't happy with the used work clothes he bought from **Walt's Wholesale Clothing Co.** "If you're thinking about ordering from these people, I suggest that instead you get a big hammer and hit the finger that you use to make phone calls. It'll be a less painful experience."

Lloyd Painter, Lima, Ohio: "I use my 1995 **Yamaha** Kodiak 4-wheeler like a small tractor. It's really dependable. My grandson volunteers to work, just so he can drive it."

Erich Ruger, Malta, N.Y.: "My **Kane** poultry waterer works great. To use it I just hook up the hose and turn on the faucet. It's built heavy. No problems. All we need now is a heated model."

Thomas D. Debaun, Shelbyville, Ind.: "I like my **New Holland** TC35 loader tractor equipped with a grapple fork. Besides our farm, we also own 16 acres of river front woods. The grapple fork works great for keeping our woods clear of flood-carried trash and fallen tree limbs."

Ken Abbott, Big Timber, Mont.: Ken's disappointed with his **Sears Craftsman** 75-piece carbon steel tap and die set. "It chipped on the finishing side so I took it back, but they said it wasn't guaranteed like most Craftsman tools. This isn't the same Sears company that I grew up with."

Steve Weisbrod, Canastota, N.Y.: He says his 2009 **New Holland** Boomer 8N is a great looking tractor that handles well. "However, it has an infinitely variable transmission that is light duty and unpredictable."

"I own a 2009 **Cadillac** CTS-V equipped with a 556 hp supercharged engine, which



Repowered Deere/Cat crawler is shown here operating a 3-row corn picker in wet fields.

"Best Buy" Repowered Cat D5

A couple of years ago, Michael Zimmerman and his son Ammon transformed a D5C Cat crawler into a 16-speed "Deere/Cat" for use on their central Missouri farm (featured in Vol. 35, No. 4). Since finishing the rebuild they've put about 360 hrs. on the crawler and say it works great.

"We've used it to pull a corn picker over wet fields and also to plant corn, haul manure, cut alfalfa and more. It'll outperform any 4-WD wheeled tractor, with less soil compaction, wheel slippage, and better fuel efficiency," says Mike.

He bought a 1995 D5 and repowered it with a rebuilt 6-cyl., 6.8-liter Power Tech engine and a rebuilt Deere 7000 16-speed Power Quad transmission. Ammon stripped the engine and 3-speed power shift off the Cat's chassis. After taking lots of measurements and calculating where the engine and transmission needed to be, they lengthened the frame by 24 in. and welded Deere engine mounts to the Cat frame. A center plate welded into position between

the chassis sides forms the main support for attaching the Power Quad transmission.

Mike says the Deere Cat's forward-mounted engine makes for a nice, smooth ride. Also, the 16-speed Power Quad transmission shifts nice on-the-go, and the live pto and Cat hydraulic steering make the tractor easy to operate.

"It rides so nice that it's like riding a passenger train. There's no sliding around or bouncing, jerking or spinning out in a wet fields like with wheeled tractors," says Mike.

They like the Deere/Cat so well they're now working on a second tracked tractor using components from a 6410 Deere wheeled tractor with a 4.5, 4-cyl. Power Tech engine and 16-speed Power Quad transmission. They're also interested in building the Deere/Cats for sale.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Michael Zimmerman, 13874 Hwy. 5, Versailles, Mo. 65084 (ph 573 378-7210; www.crawlerbulldozer.com).

was modified to 650 hp. It's the most awesome vehicle I've ever driven."

Ken Moulton, Otis, Colo.: "My 2011 **DeWalt** 12 1/2-in. planer is equipped with a 3-knife cutter head which we've used to plane rough cut lumber including 1 by 8's, 1 by 10's, and 1 by 12's that are 8 to 10 ft. long. We plan to use the wood in our home for decorative work."

Noah Hubbard, Michigan City, Ind.: "My **Deere** 4300 4-WD tractor equipped with a diesel engine and hydrostatic transmission works great. I use it to move railroad ties and logs as well as to bush hog and move snow. There was a problem with both loader lift cylinders, but the dealer promptly replaced them."

Gene Sebben, Crown Point, Ind.: Gene's impressed with **Gorilla Super Glue** with Impact Tough Formula (ph 800 966-3458; www.gorillatough.com). It makes a bond that's impact-resistant and sets in less than a minute, with no clamping required. "I repair lawn mowers and use this glue to repair cracked and broken hoods, fenders and other plastic parts as well as toys for my grandson. Mower and tractor parts can be expensive to replace, but Gorilla Super Glue holds such parts together despite all the vibrations."

Brian Domon, Akron, N.Y.: Brian owns a **Deere** diesel-powered 4-WD Gator utility vehicle. "No problems. Easy on fuel and tons of power. Can't say anything bad about it."

On the negative side, he had trouble with his **Deere** 2520 riding mower. "The deck is weak. I had to take this machine back to the dealer several times before I finally gave up on fixing it. I wish I had never bought it."

Charles Tolliver, Chatsworth, Ga.: Charles is happy with the 2002 **Komatsu** backhoe-loader he bought used. "It's built strong and is fuel efficient and reliable."

Brian Forrest, Trumansburg, N.Y.: "We like our 2009 **Massey Ferguson** 2625 4-WD tractor equipped with a 63 hp engine. This

tractor is wonderfully nimble in the woods where we use it to pull out logs. It's also fuel efficient and quiet compared to older models'.

Harry Griffin, Troy, Tenn.: "I bought my 1975 **Satoh** S650G tractor used in 2001 and have replaced the water pump and clutch, but otherwise this tractor has required only routine maintenance. It came equipped with a **National** front-end loader, which I've used to do everything from moving dirt to building a house."

Cleveland Forrester, Chambersburg, Penn.: "It's the best pickup I've ever owned," says Cleveland about his 2009 **Ford** F-250 Super Duty model equipped with a 5.4-liter engine.

"My 1957 **Ford** 660 tractor still starts faithfully. I use it to rake hay with a Ford 3-pt. mounted rake."

Wesley Smith, Quanah, Texas: "I like my 1987 **Massey Ferguson** 3650 front wheel assist tractor and also my 1990 **Massey Ferguson** 3120. They're both reasonably priced and economical to operate. I've had some problems with the electronics. These tractors work great for operating a round baler."

Elvin Zimmerman, Mifflintown, Penn.: "I like my 1996 **Suzuki** 4-WD mini truck equipped with a dump bed. I bought it used in 2010. This truck has about 90,000 miles on it with nothing replaced except the spark plugs."

Vernon Virgin, Lebanon, Ill.: "The 2010 **Anbo** grapple fork we mounted on our **Deere** 6200 MFWD tractor has made our lives a lot easier (ph 866 684-3330; www.anbomanufacturing.com). We used it to help tear down an old barn and also for tree clearing. It makes transporting logs and limbs to a burn pile an easy job. It also saves on chainsaw wear and tear because it can handle bigger pieces of wood."

Andrew Heinonen, Gwinn, Mich.: "I like my 2005 **Makita** 14-volt impact driver.

"The manufacturer no longer makes these units. If anyone has one and is willing to sell, I'd like to hear from them."

tractor and another on the implement for quick hookups. We like these hitches so well that we have all 3 of our tractors and 15 implements equipped with them. To hook up the operator simply backs up to the implement, raises the 3-pt. hitch, and you're ready to go. Only implements that have a pto require getting off the tractor. The Freedom Hitch works flawlessly and saves a lot of time and labor.

"Unfortunately the manufacturer no longer makes these units. If anyone has one and is willing to sell, I'd like to hear from them."

"Our 3 **Kubota** diesel ATV's - two 900 series models and one 1140 - have performed flawlessly. They're fuel efficient, always start, and go anywhere. They far outperform the hard-starting Kawasaki gas-powered units that we traded in."

James Hepworth, Hart, Mich.: He's been happy with his two 2000 **Dodge** Ram B3500 15-passenger vans. "There's plenty of room for cargo and passengers, which we often

Robert Thomas, Oak Grove, Mo.: "I bought a **Bradford Built** flatbed for my truck and the company stands behind its product (ph 785 325-3300; www.bradfordbuilt.com). When I wanted the bed powder-coated, they did the job at less cost than anyone around. And when they were done they rewired the bed and replaced the lights."