

**Otis Lee Berry, Cunningham, Kent.:** "My 1990 New Holland 855 baler is a worst buy. I bought it in May of 1990 and the first time I used it the pickup teeth bent inside the guards. My dealer didn't have enough new teeth on hand so I had to drive 200 miles to find some. Later I lost 75 acres of rented hay because the baler was at the shop for three months even though I called the company service manager three times. They finally brought it back last January."

**Paul H. Rissler, New Enterprise, Penn.:** Paul's had good luck with his 1988 Deere 3155 tractor. "It has 115 hp but is still very fuel efficient. The gear shift levers are conveniently located and the engine has lots of torque. One problem was that the pto clutch went out before 50 hours but it was covered by the warranty. I have 800 hours on it now."

"My 1989 Gehl 170 Mixall grinder mixer makes better ground ear corn than any other roller mill I've ever seen."

**Richard McGinnis, Cardington, Ohio:** Richard's impressed with his 1988 Massey Ferguson 8760 rotary combine but says it has nevertheless had some problems. "One of the main things we like is that the rotor is driven by a hydrostatic motor which eliminates a lot of parts. The engine could use more power like the newer models have. The machine needs better safeguards to keep rocks from entering the rotor. The fuel gauge quit working after two years and the plastic fuel tank leaks slightly. Both sides of the feederhouse throat should be driven by a belt instead of one side being driven by a chain. The grain head doesn't feed well in tough beans and the hydraulic header control could be improved. The cutterbar drive is too violent and shakes the whole combine."

**Alvin R. Starcher, Crocker, Mo.:** Alvin's disappointed with his Hesston 5510 round baler. "The company representative won't return phone messages and ignores

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**John Vosta, Milford, Neb.:** John's happy with his 1990 Ford F-150 4-WD pickup. "I've owned this pickup for 18 months now and it has never been in the shop. It didn't even have any minor problems that usually occur with a new vehicle. It has 20,000 miles on it now."

**S. Joe Eidemiller, Troy, Ohio:** "My Easy Cut combine cutterbar works without a lot of constant adjustment and keeps cutting in less than ideal conditions."

**Carl E. Veasey, Durham, N.C.:** "It's well designed for work or pleasure and the 350 cu. in. fuel-injected engine has plenty of power," reports Carl, owner of a 1990 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado pickup.

"My worst buy is a Poulan model 25 DA chain saw. I use it to cut off fence posts. It runs good, but if it sits for a week I have to work on the carburetor before it'll start again. Even the dealer can't fix it."

**Mitchell Hovell, Seymour, Wis.:** "Our best buy is a Cummins 359 cu. in. B series

diesel engine which we installed in our Oliver 1855 tractor while overhauling it for the second time. The new engine has more torque, smokes less, and is clearly a superior design. It also runs cooler."

**Alan Davis, Thurmond, N.C.:** Alan's the satisfied owner of a 1990 M & W 1500 round baler. "It makes a 4 by 5-ft. bale that's tight and dense and requires minimal operator attention. It doesn't take much horsepower to run and is easy to service. Almost any farm shop could repair it if necessary. It wraps bales in plastic which saves at least 20% of the hay and is faster than using twine. I've done about 900 bales with no problems."

"My 1991 Husqvarna 970 articulated mower is also a best buy. It has plenty of power to cut through tall grass and the floating deck cuts nice and even. The mower turns in its own tracks and trims around trees with ease, eliminating almost all hand trimming. It's a real pleasure to use."

**Vincent A. Manhart, Palestine, Ill.:** Vincent's "best buy" is his Great Plains 20-ft. no-till drill equipped with a center pivot hitch. "It's one of the few pieces of machinery that I've taken to the field and started using without spending two or three days reworking or rebuilding. Company service is great."

"My worst buy is Ausherman rotor bars that I installed on my Case-IH 1480 combine. The bars are made from a soft material. They will probably last only half as long as the original equipment and cost more to buy. I'm very disappointed in them."

**Roger Kiefer, Austin, Minn.:** "My Case 600 forage blower is a best buy. It pulls easy and can handle anything I put in it."

**Vernon Munson, Brunswick, Mo.:** Vernon likes his 1989 Case-IH 7120 2-WD tractor. "I've used it about 900 hours without much trouble and have had good dealer and company support. I'm well satisfied with it. The only negative is that the cab door should be stronger."

**Marke A. Lyon, LaRue, Ohio:** Marke's unhappy with his Crustbuster 30-ft. grain drill. "The disc openers were supposed to last 3,000 acres or more but wore out in the first 1,200 acres. The company wouldn't pay for new ones and provided very poor service."

"My 1990 Deere 4955 tractor runs smooth and is dependable. It's a best buy."

**Tom Ewing, Olathe, Kan.:** Tom's pleased with the ease of operation and performance of his 1990 Case-IH 1620 combine. "Two pulleys and a cleaning auger drive shaft broke but were covered by the warranty."

"My 1989 Deere 4055 tractor is a pleasure to drive. I purchased it equipped with a Westendorf loader which also works well. "I've had some problems with a Bush Hog 9-ft. disc mower that I bought new in 1990. A hub on the belt drive pulley broke. It was covered by the warranty, but I had to wait three weeks for parts."

**John Voigt, Avon, S. Dak.:** John's "best buy" is high tensile fencing from DARE Products, Inc. (P.O. Box 157, Battle Creek, Mich. 49016). "I used their materials to build a permanent electric fence across a ravine. Spring tensioners and ratchet strainers keep the wire tight while rolling insulators allow it to be stretched across major dips and rises. A variety of other insulators and equipment is available."

**Ernie Rinehardt, Rockwell, N.C.:** "It has good pulling power and averages 21 to 23 1/2 miles per gallon," reports Ernie, satisfied with his 1991 Dodge diesel 4-WD

truck equipped with a Cummins diesel engine.

"My 1987 Ford 2810 is also a best buy. It's a very versatile tractor for its size."

**Richard Ainsworth, Tallahassee, Ala.:** Richard's "best buy" is his Rhino Gyro 84 series pull-type cutter. "It cuts everything from brush and saplings to pasture. The top is smooth and easy to keep clean, and the high 13-in. sides make it easy to maintain the blades and keep the underside clean."

**Jason Starnes, Salisbury, N.C.:** "It's a very reliable tractor," says Jason about his "best buy" 1981 Deere 4040. "I really like how it handles and the quick response of the hydraulic system. The cab is the best on the market. It has plenty of room, a comfortable seat, excellent radio, great air conditioner, and outstanding visibility. I'd buy another Deere if I were in the market for a new tractor."

**M.P. Carley, Rapid City, S. Dak.:** He's satisfied with his 1990 Isuzu pickup. "It's

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**Raymond Hegerfeld, Russellville, Mo.:** Raymond likes his 1989 Husqvarna 254 professional chain saw. "I'm pleased with how it cuts, but even more impressed with how the company stands behind its products. The saw was two years old and one year out of warranty when a lower rod bearing failed, yet the company rebuilt it at no cost to me. It's nice to see a company that still believes in quality and service."

On the negative side is a 1990 Blue River Equipment post hole digger. "This is another example that shows you get what you pay for. We thought we could get by with a cheaper digger, but it worked like it was supposed to only for a couple of holes. Now it hardly digs at all. The auger is built too light. We should have spent the extra money and bought a good brand name digger."

**Fred Dunlop, Stayner, Ont.:** Fred's the pleased owner of a Deere 2555 tractor equipped with a cab and front wheel assist. "It's a beautiful tractor to drive except that the 18.4 by 30 rear Firestone tires are 1/2 in. out of round. It causes a rough ride on the highway when the tires are cold."

**Bill Leffler, Americus, Kan.:** Bill says his 1990 Case-IH 1660 4-WD combine does an excellent job of threshing and is a "best buy". "This combine is fuel efficient and simple to service. Of course, it's 4-WD so it takes a little more turning room. The grain tank could be a little larger and the bottom sieves could be easier to adjust."

**Bill Short, Hamilton, Mo.:** Bill likes his Sears Craftsman 1/2-in. 3/4 hp electronic variable speed reversible drill. "The quick change automatic chuck lets me change drill bits instantly. It's a safe drill to use because the electrical components are double insulated. Very good availability of parts and service. It has plenty of power for tough drilling jobs."

**William W. Jerzak, Ivanhoe, Minn.:** William's "best buy" is hog barn ventilation equipment made by Raydot Inc. of Kokato, Minn. The equipment includes building fans, inlets, and controls. "It has enough built-in flexibility to work for all conditions."

He's disappointed with a Dickey-John portable moisture tester that he received after qualifying for a seed corn purchase. "It's very hard to calibrate and keep calibrated. I can test the same sample a number of times and it gives a wide range of readings. I just don't trust it."

**Delmar Lee Brus, Walcott, Iowa:** "It's an excellent planter for planting corn and beans of all seed sizes," says Delmar about his "best buy" White 6100 Field Boss corn planter.

**Bill Brown, Walnut Grove, Mo.:** "I haven't had any problems at all with it," says Bill about his Bobcat 843 skid steer loader. "It does a great job of stacking round bales inside a barn and works good for any loading chore, plus driving fence posts and other jobs."

"My Kansas Klipper tree shear is practically maintenance-free and easy to sharpen. It does a good job and is well made."

"My Bush Hog 9-ft. disc mower does a great job of mowing. I've used it on about 1,000 acres of grass hay with no problems at all. It's much easier to move through narrow gates, bridges, etc., than a mower conditioner."

**Billy J. Abernethy, Vale, N.C.:** "I'm very satisfied with my White 5100 4-row no-till air planter."

"My Lilliston 18-row no-till drill also works good, although trash clearance is a bit of a problem."

**James E. Hazen, Gibson City, Ill.:** James is the owner of a 1990 Ford F-250 truck equipped with a 460 cu. in. engine, E40D transmission, heavy duty 4:10 rear end, and heavy suspension system. "I bought it to pull a 16-ft. gooseneck trailer and 26-ft. fifth wheel recreational vehicle trailer and it does a great job on both."

**Pete Minow, Miles City, Mont.:** "My International 1460 Axial Flow combine equipped with a 20-ft. 810 grain head and 1015 pickup is a best buy. I bought it used and it performs wonderfully, with only two hours of down time in over 1,400 hours of use. It's the best used machine I've ever purchased."

**Roger L. Liehr, Chambersburg, Ill.:** Roger's 1990 Case-IH 1640 Axial Flow combine heads his "best buy" list. "It does a good job, is quiet, fuel efficient, and doesn't have as many moving parts as some other brands. Dealer service has been excellent."

**Steve Burt, Itasca, Texas:** Steve's had problems with his New Idea 5409 disc cutter. "There isn't enough bearing surface between the frame and cutterbar which causes several problems: 1) Belt drive tension cannot be properly maintained; 2) The drive gearbox bearing surface wears excessively; 3) Bushings mounted between the frame and gearbox wear excessively. I submitted an unsatisfactory report and made a phone call to customer service but they didn't respond."

**John Reese, Hiawatha, Kan.:** John's had trouble with his Case-IH 6200 press wheel grain drill. "I can't keep tires on the end press wheels. I was told by a dealer to replace them with new tires and use an adhesive between the tire and wheel. It didn't work. Can anyone help me solve this problem?"

**James E. Viar, Culpeper, Va.:** "The best riding mower I ever bought was a Power King Economy tractor with 14 hp Kohler engine. I bought my first one in 1972 and used it for six days a week doing lawn maintenance work. It ran fine for 10 years

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