

in the shop. The 350 V-8 engine has never failed to start and operates inexpensively. I pulled a fifth wheel trailer 2,600 miles and averaged 16 mpg. I get about 19 mpg empty."

Frank Kostohris, Pisek, N. Dak.: "A Summers sprayer attachment with a Raven Industries electric control panel and switches are my worst buys. The electric valves are worthless. They don't shut the flow off completely and the seals leak anytime there's a bit of high pressure. My dealer has tried to help me but the company has not stood behind their product. They say I have sand in the water. But, I use the same water in my field weed sprayer and have no problems with that unit."

He's happier with his 1971 4620 Deere. "I have over 7,900 hrs. on this tractor and the engine hasn't had any major problems. It's been used for heavy tillage and worked hard all the time."

Arnold Wipf, Hawley, Minn.: "I'm proud of my 3594 and 1480 Case-International equipment. The tractor gets excellent fuel economy, has ample horsepower and is well constructed. The combine has lots of capacity and, for its size, is fairly efficient on fuel and trouble-free."

Emmett Blomquist, Dillon, Mont.: "There's no better trouble-free, cheap operating transportation than my 1984 Isuzu pup diesel pickup. Has 33,500 miles on with no repairs or breakdowns. Gets 45 mpg and only needs regular service and decent care."

Pete Gilliland, Ludlow, Mo.: Pete likes his 25-ft. International 4600 and 41-ft. 4700 Vibra Shank field cultivators. "Both are made heavy and require little upkeep."

He had a problem with his Adja foam marker, bought new in 1986, which the company resolved. "We'd go spray a field, get done and park the tractor. When you would come back, there'd be a pile of foam 6-ft. high around the sprayer. The sun would expand the foam and pop the hoses. The company and dealer did back the product and put in heavier hose. The problem's now fixed."

Bill Blanken, Hanford, Cal.: Bill likes his 6-row 1985 Deere 7100 cotton planter equipped with a Dickey John seed monitor. "Does a good job planting. But, it could use an easier depth adjustment mechanism and a better quality runner opener."

Doug Yanke, Loganville, Wis.: "Our International 800 corn planter is a no-till but it's built very light. The wheels are too small for the unit's weight and the disk openers don't take the hard use of no-tilling."

"Our best buy is an 11-ft. White 435 chisel plow. We use it in stalks and on hay ground. Works greats and mixes soil well."

Rex McCollough, Vail, Iowa: "We're very pleased with the power shift on our 1985 Allis Chalmers 8010 tractor. Has a very roomy and quiet cab and easy-to-reach controls. We've put more than 2,000 hrs. on it with no troubles."

He's not as pleased with his 24-ft. Wil-Rich cultivator with 4-bar drag. "Handles trash nice but shovels are too far apart and it doesn't leave a good enough seed bed. Also, shovels move back and forth too much. We'll be trading it for an Allis Chalmers model with rubber-mounted shanks."

John S. Dietz, York, Penn.: He nominates Westphalia pail milkers and a

1975 New Holland 328 manure spreader as "best buys". "The milkers are easy to handle and do a good job, and the spreader spreads well."

Ron Gasser, Sterling, Ohio: "Our new Van Dale silo unloader makes our old Badger look like junk. It emptied a 20 by 60-ft. silo without any problems."

Michael A. Perino, Braceville, Ill.: "My 1986 Ford 4-WDF-150, with 300 cu.

"When it idles, the whole truck shakes and shimmies."

in. engine, doesn't run very well. When it idles, the whole truck shakes and shimmies. It's been back to the dealer 4 times. Each time he tells me it's the gas. Finally, I talked to the Ford rep. At this time, I'm supposed to get a brand new carburetor. We'll have to wait and see if it improves the truck."

As "best buy" he nominates his 1975 Deere 4400-D combine with 1,175 hrs., bought used. "Performs well and handles like a dream. The dealer has done everything he said he would and more."

Richard Mench, Mishicot, Wis.: "It's the best that's built and does everything the company said it'd do. I've never had any problems with my 1983 8-hp. Troy-Built tiller."

"I also like my 6206 Deutz tractor I bought used. It's good on fuel, starts fast and is a joy to operate."

Wayne Herrick, Hill City, Minn.: "My 1985 4-WD Ford F-250 diesel pickup starts good in our northern Minnesota winters. It handles a tri-axle trailer very nicely. Even with all the extras, it gives a very comfortable ride with good mpg."

He's not as happy with "imitation visegrip pliers bought through Harbor Freight, out of California. The adjusting screw slips and if it does hold, the teeth in the jaws strip off."

John Gibson, Blairsville, Penn.: "Our worst buy has been a 1982 Deere 317 garden tractor. First, we had to rebuild the hydraulic system. We did that two times and then had trouble with the starter. This year, the pto coil went on it. We got it home and cut about 4 acres and now the starter is going out again."

"Our best buy has been a Deere 2510 tractor. It'll pull a 4-bottom plow and work circles around a 3020."

Raymond Steinhour, Greenview, Ill.: "I'm very satisfied with my 1984 Allis Chalmers 8010 and 8070 tractors. They've been virtually trouble-free. Fuel consumption is good and cabs are quiet with plenty of room and good visibility."

Howard Kain, Medaryville, Ind.: "My Deere 722 mulch finisher is best buy. Saves one trip and does good work."

Warren Horsley, Marshall, Ill.: "I use my 1987 Dodge Dakota 4-WD pickup on a mail route and also on the farm. The V-6 engine has plenty of power to pull big loads. The payload is better than regular 1/2-tons and gas mileage is good."

Joe Keninger, Ackley, Iowa: He nominates his 1986 Chevrolet Celebrity as "best buy". "Drives well, gets 32 mpg, and has comfortable seats."

Lenard E. Geater, Vinton, Iowa: "I

think the 1987 White 5100 8-row planter is the best on the market for depth control and seed placement. I planted 600 acres of corn and soybeans in really dry conditions and came off with a perfect stand while a lot of other farmers have poor stands. It also saved a lot of bean seed. I'd recommend it highly to anyone."

Lenard's not as happy with Scepter herbicide. "I put it on to control cocklebur, but I don't think it killed any. I have to go in and spray everything with Basagran."

Willis Korum, Northfield, Minn.: "My worst buy, by far, last year was the Last Perch sparrow trap. It cost \$50 and so far it's trapped 6 sparrows for a cost of over \$8 per sparrow. It's hard to empty. Instead of having a trap door at the bottom, you have to remove the whole basket and shake the sparrows and other debris out the small hole that they fell in."

Carroll Mohlman, Platte Center, Neb.: "I'm generally satisfied with my 1981 12-row (30-in.) International 500 planter. By having it semi-mounted and adding 2 crazy wheels in back, it's easy to maneuver even though it's over 30-ft. wide. With its 2 seed hoppers you can carry 30 bags of seed and plant 100 acres of corn at 25,000 plants per acre and do it in under 5 hrs. I really improved depth control, especially for soybeans, by adding depth control wheels next to the double disc openers instead of having the press wheels control depth."

Clarence Hoffman, Dowling, Mich.: "My 1982 Dodge Aries wagon needs more power. It rattles and has wind noise around the corner of the windshield. The rear window defroster quit working and I took off the power steering and went to manual because I couldn't stop it from leaking oil."

Shafe Boles, Shelbyville, Ky.: "This 1985 Ford F-250 with 6-cyl. engine is the first Ford we've had after many GM and Chevy trucks which all seemed to rust out badly. The Ford performs very well as a farm truck but does run out of power pulling a trailer. But, overall we're well-pleased."

Walter Fifeiski, Wayland, Mich.: "My worst buy was a Weedeater string-type grass trimmer. It's hard to start and keep running. The handle won't hold and the drive cable causes trouble. The string head doesn't feed out properly and when it does run, it numbs your arms. It now hangs on the wall."

"My best buys are Toyotas—a 1981 4-WD pickup and a 1983 Camry car. I have 40,000 problem-free miles on each. They're super to drive and very economical."

John G. Rau, Metamora, Mich.: "I'm well pleased with our 1987 Plymouth Reliant car. Gets good gas mileage."

E. Hunziker, Hillsboro, Ore.: "I really like my Yanmar 336 4-WD tractor. Has ample power and does everything I want it to."

Monroe Neihart, Braddyville, Iowa: He nominates his 1986 Dodge pickup and Goodyear Vector steel-belted tires as "worst buys". "The truck has a small slant 6-cyl. engine, and gas mileage is less than 12 mpg. Paint is falling off, the starter sucks and doesn't release and the clutch will not sync with the transmission—you have to shut off the engine to put it in gear."

"Patches don't hold on Vector tires, there are large bulges on the sidewalls, and once there's a nail hole in the tire, the belts rust and let go."

"My best buys are 4 1/2 by 7 1/2-ft. metal Porta Hut hog and calf shelters. They're inexpensive compared to other hog farrowing sheds. They're also lightweight, easy to move, strong and durable. With front closures and rollers, baby pigs are held with sows 10 to 14 days and all the sows can be fed and watered in one area."

Clifford Tuninga, Neerlandia, Alb.: "We bought our 1978 Massey Ferguson 2745 new and could never put more than 100 hrs. on it before it had to go back for service or other repairs. We had to re-ring the motor and replace the power pack for the transmission. Both the pto shaft and the main drive shafts to the rear end twisted off. The main bearing in the motor went out. It had to be split 3 to 4 times to fix oil leaks. Then, the main hydraulic pump and pto clutches went out again. The tractor was the worst fuel hog we ever had and service was bad. One time, we brought the tractor in to be repaired in July and didn't get it back until November."

As "best buy" he nominates his 1980 A-

"I bought it new and never had it back to the dealer in six years."

lis Chalmers 7045. "I bought it new and never had it back to the dealer in 6 years. It's a real quality tractor. Easy to service and work on, quiet cab and easy on fuel."

"I also like my 1985 Kubota 6950. It's easy to service and very easy on fuel. I've put 850 hrs. on it with few problems. Service from the company is very good. After we had it a year, two factory reps came out and checked the tractor. They really want a person to be happy with their product."

Evan Koller, Cornish, Utah.: He's disappointed with his IBM AT computer. "Overpriced and a difficult system to learn. Service is too far away. The keyboard went 'kaput' and the cable to the printer added its own things. IBM disc drive eats up disks."

William J. Cody Jr., Burlington, Col.: "My best buy is a 1985 8-row (30-in.) Buffalo planter. Does an excellent job of planting and covering the seed, so seed comes up whether or not it rains. Rig's computerized so you can change population rate on the go."

Gene Skriver, Iowa City, Iowa: "I like my 10-ft. Hy-Co 'Boss 10' 3-pt., 10-ft. rotary cutter manufactured by Howse Imp. Co., P.O. Box 86, Laurel, Miss. 39440. It's built heavy-duty and seems to do the job cutting set-aside acres and timber ground. I bought it because it was \$1,000 cheaper than any other comparable product."

Allen Eck, Stitzer, Wis.: "In all these years, my 1982 Deere 55V chain saw has never failed to start immediately. It's vibration free. I might add I've used nothing but Amsoil 100 to one mix 2-cycle oil, which I really like."

H. T. Kendall, Marcellus, N.Y.: "My best buy hydrostatic 1986 International Cub Cadet 1811 has a 44-in. mower deck and a 45-in. 2-stage snow blower. The two-cylinder Kohler engine is very smooth and quiet. The mower does an excellent

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