

## BUYING TIPS YOU CAN USE

Randomly selected farmers "tell it like it is" in nominating their "best" and "worst" buys.

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**Kent Estes, Altoona, Kan.:** "It really irritates me when manufacturers don't stand behind their products," says Kent, upset with his "worst buy" **Acra-Plant** "trash-whipper" furrow openers installed on his 7100 Max-Emerge planter. "They're supposed to be an improved version with notched discs and two bearings supporting each disc. The first year several bearings went out. The Deere furrow openers I owned before were on their fourth year before I ever lost a bearing. The only "whipping" these furrow openers do is in clean tilled fields. And, because they don't have any disc scrapers, dirt builds up and stops them from turning. Changing depth is supposed to be as easy as pulling a pin on the adjusting straps and slipping the opener up and down but the pins won't come out until the straps have been bent over with a large crescent wrench. I've called the company several times and always get the same old song and dance routine. My implement dealer has also called Acra-Plant. They always promise to get back to us. This has gone on for two years."

**Harold Eason, Howell, Mich.:** "The automatic transmission has never worked right. In cold weather, I

sun out. The wood floor stays very warm.

"I also like our **Toro 521** snowblower. It's small, but really moves a lot of snow. I like the fact that it's so lightweight."

**Leo M. Schmidt, Williamsburg, Iowa:** "My 1982 **International 5088** tractor runs great, has lots of power, and shifts on-the-go without any gear clash. Equipped with a stereo radio and cassette player, it's a pleasure to drive."

Leo's also pleased with his "best buy" **International 1460 Axial Flow** combine. "I've had this machine for seven years, harvesting about 6,000 acres. It's a dependable and hungry combine that does an excellent job in corn and soybeans. I never have to worry about dockage for foreign material."

**Dennis Borowski, Glenavon, Sask.:** "All I've had to replace is the turbo charger and radiator. The motor and transmission haven't been touched," comments Dennis happy with his 4630 **Deere** tractor with Power Shift transmission purchased used.

**Al Rod, Sublette, Ill.:** "I thought my neighbors were playing tricks on me by putting fuel in the tank," says Al, happy with his fuel efficient **Deutz 6806** tractor. "Many of my friends have bought Deutz tractors and once they've bought one they always seem to end up buying two or three more. I'm really sold on the company's air-cooled engine. I liked the tractor so much I also bought a used Deutz DX 160. I can't believe the high quality of the workmanship in the tractor. I can see why the company is expanding so fast."

**Ron Badertscher, Tecumseh, Neb.:** "Our **M & W Gear** turbo charger really gave my 1981 4240 Deere tractor a boost in horsepower. Very satisfied with it."

**Kent R. Franz, Monroeville, Ind.:** He's pleased with his 6-row **Buffalo** cultivator ridger unit. "Does an excellent job both in eliminating weeds and also in building nice, high ridges."

**Jerry White, Morganfield, Kent.:** "It's another good green tractor engine," says Jerry, pleased with his **Deere 4250** with a 15-speed Shift transmission. "The engine has good power and there's lots of drive comfort, convenience and ease of handling. The transmission has excellent gear selection for power take-off work in haying, silo chopping and other field work."

**Vernon V. Heutmaker, Belle Plaine, Minn.:** "My worst buy was a **Menards 450** by 63-ft. pole shed. The initial order called for it to be completed by September 1st but final completion was not until November 15th. Many phone calls and letters were needed to get materials and crew to the site. Workmanship was very poor throughout and, once completed, the roof leaked in numerous locations. Menards people tried to fix the leaks but at least six remain. Snow blows in through the roof ends. A strong wind can cover the floor with snow 10 ft. into the building."

**Don Stirling, Morpeth, Ont.:** "You never get tired before quitting time

# Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

## OPINION

have to drive 2 miles or more before it shifts into high. I took it back five times to get fixed but, apparently, the company guarantee doesn't mean much," reports Harold, disappointed with his 1982 **Ford 150**, 6-cyl. pickup.

**Ray Thooft, Lynd, Minn.:** "We purchased our **White 2-155** tractor in November, 1983. It has plenty of power and handles like a charm. The cab is very quiet and has good visibility. We're also pleased with our **White 2-105** tractor."

**Wayne DeVriendt, Royalton, Minn.:** "It pulls like a tank. We want our money back," says Wayne about his "worst buy" **Deere 3600 7-bottom** plow. "Bottoms float, it bulldozes soil, and it just won't plow like an on-land hitch plow should."

**John W. Hass, Rock Rapids, Iowa:** John nominates his earth sheltered home from **Everstong Homes**, Redwood Falls, Minn., as "best buy". "We've lived in it nine months and utility bills are much lower. The all-wood house feels just like a conventional home but doesn't have any drafts. The south wall of windows provides great solar heating and the 32-in. roof overhang keeps summer