

very little maintenance. I don't know of anything the manufacturer could improve on it," says Neil about his **Rockite 16** by 65 silo and unloader.

Harvey A. Tobin, Langford, S. Dak.: Harvey's happy with a squeeze chute and loading chute he bought in 1978 from **Lambert Mfg. Co.**, Smith Center, Kan. "The squeeze chute is very quiet and doesn't excite the cattle. Makes it easy to work on cattle. The loading chute is a dream to work with because of its adjustability."

Warren Wing, Newkirk, Okla.: "Our 1982 **Deere 158** tractor loader is strong and durable and easy to attach and detach from our tractor. It's big enough to handle a sizeable load of silage or anything else you want to handle. However, the 7-ft. bucket on the loader is not heavy enough to handle its size. They should reinforce the bucket with heavier steel to avoid bending the bottom and sides."

Glen R. Hochstedler, Wakarusa, Ind.: "I use this feeder auger to move high moisture corn and concentrate which has been processed through a roller mill. It was rated at 50 ft. but we are going 80 ft. with no problems," says Glen, pleased with his **Brock 125** flex auger. "We're also pleased with our **Steiner 80** cu. ft. feed mixer bought in 1983. It does a very good job mixing with only a 1 hp. motor."

Bradley Piper, Olmstead, Kty.: "This pressure washer isn't worth 15 cents," says Bradley about his **White** washer. "The soaper never has worked and there's no way to improve it. I like the rest of my **White** farm equipment, however."

Elston Dirks, Butler, Mo.: "In 1982 we hung a **Store More** breather bag and container on the outside of our sealed silo. It's a best buy because it takes the pressure off the silo when the bag inflates or deflates. We believe this eliminates wear and tear on the silo and you can also watch to see if it's working. It lets us hold another 1,200 bu. of corn and we can fill clear to the top and not worry about hitting the bag. I doubt if it will ever wear out."

Fred Kaufmann, Moscow, Iowa: "We're well pleased with our **Gehl** model 65 grinder mixer. It blends feed well as it's grinding. The only thing I'd like to see is a latch or hook to keep the unloading auger in place when backing up to an indoor feeder."

Dennis Haack, Gladbrook, Iowa: Dennis nominates his **LB White LP** gas heater, bought in 1982, as "best buy". "It's easy to install and move if necessary. Simple to start and operate, and it keeps the building in a very close temperature range. There's no vent to install so there's no heat loss and no fumes that I can detect. Possibly they could enclose the air intake and heat outlet with some type of wire that would keep mice and birds from nesting inside."

Larry Fischer, Sleepy Eye, Minn.: Larry's happy with his 18 by 65-ft. silo built by **Hanson Silo Co.**, Lake Lillian, Minn., and his **Hanson** ring drive silo unloader. "The price was very competitive and I feel the silo is better built than other makes. I especially like the stainless steel doors. The silo unloader is expensive but

built very strong and worth it. It's simply designed but rugged. The building crew was also good."

Gerald Chirnside, Holiday, Mo.: "I'm pleased with the service we've had from our **Ford F100 1982** pickup with a V-6 motor and 3-speed overdrive. Gets good gas mileage even when we pull a stock trailer with it. We're very pleased with its performance under load."

Donald Lott, Minneapolis, Kan.: "It's definitely my candidate for worst buy," says Donald, about his **Johnson PPL 6000** business band 2-way radio. "It caused a very annoying noise in our other radios when we talked and it would only reach about half the distance it should. The dealer worked on it several times and even gave us a new one but it had the same problem. The dealer took it and reworked the insides to get most of the noise out but it still had no distance."

Wilbur Woods, Ann Arbor, Mich.: "I've had other 4-WD tractors but none compare with **Versatile**," says Wilbur pleased with his "best buy" 875 **Versatile**. "It's very easy to work on, good on fuel, nice to drive, runs at a low rpm level and has lots of power."

Tom Ayers, Iantha, Mo.: "There were no fireplace inserts on the market that would fit my fireplace, which only has a 21-in. opening. The company custom built my insert to fit perfectly and it uses little wood and heats my 2,500 sq. ft. house in 0° weather. It burns green or dry wood and has never smoked," reports Tom about his "best buy" **New Aire** custom-built fireplace insert made by **New Aire Co.**, Joplin, Mo.

Randy Scoggins, Charleston, Ark.: "My wife drives our 1984 **Ford Tempo** to work every day and she's had little trouble with it in 4,500 miles. Very good dealer service. We've also had good luck with a 5-year old **Poulan 306A** chain saw.

Downay J. Brigham, Litchfield, Mich.: "This saw is nothing but junk. It falls apart every time it runs. The dealer told me it should have been

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recalled and replaced. It begins to come apart due to vibration the minute it is started," says Downay about his "worst buy" **McCulloch 310** chain saw.

Dennis DeHaan, Platte, S. Dak.: "We would have had trouble getting our corn in last spring without the mechanical front wheel drive on our **Deere 4850** tractor. We pull a 16-row planter. When we started to ditch our corn for flood irrigation with an 8-row ditcher, we had the switch off for the front drive and the tires spun out. When we flipped the switch it took right off."

Alan Weber, Princeton, Ill.: Alan's had good luck with his 1984 **Nissan**

4-WD King-Cab pickup. "It has more than 5,000 miles on it with no problems. I get 39 mpg or more, which makes it the best vehicle on our farm for running after parts and doing other small jobs. However, a person must remember that it's not built to pull heavy loads like a big truck."

Tom Davis, Greysbull, Wyo.: "I'd like to nominate my **Ford TW-10** tractor as best buy. It's a much better designed and built tractor than the International 66 series tractor I have owned before. I have over 1,000 hrs. on the TW-10 and have had only a couple of very minor problems. Dealer service has been excellent."

J. G. Walker, Sulphur Springs, Tex.: "We've had continuous problems with our **Brown** backflush milking system. It won't shut off the flow of water at the end of the flush cycle. Numerous service calls have not permanently solved the problem."

Walker's happy with his "best buy" 780 **Hesston** tractor: "Very efficient on fuel and it has a quiet cab."

Gerald Malin, Campbell, Mo.: "Any improvements or changes to the combine have to be paid for by the

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customer. The company pays for nothing," says Gerald, upset with his **International 1440** combine. "After 750 hrs. the front sheet metal cone behind the feeder housing wore out. The parts cost nearly \$1,000 and it took considerable labor to install a new one. The company should have replaced it since the original material was too thin to begin with."

Gerald's been pleased with his **International 800** series planter. "Good depth control, easy adjustments, and good dealer support."

Fred Wilson, Lander, Wyo.: "I bought this baler new in 1983 from a dealer about 250 miles away. I had a minor problem with the knottor that I was not able to overcome and they came right out and fixed it. It never missed a bale the rest of the season," says Fred, pleased with his 124T **Massey Ferguson** hay baler.

"My only worst buy is an **Armstrong** tractor tire on a new tractor. I nicked the tire on a fence post and it burst like a paper sack from the top to the bottom of the sidewall, which was very thin. The company would make no adjustment and I had to buy a new tire and tube."

Leroy Poorman, Waterloo, N. Y.: "Very poor design," says Leroy, displeased with an **Acorn** ventilating fan kit for his new pig nursery. "The fan motors are not sealed against dirt. The ventilating shutters collect condensation to the point that the fan cannot open them. The motor failed in 6 months. We repaired the bearings and 60 days later, the motor quit again."

On the plus side, Leroy's pleased with his **Aerovent** pit ventilating system for his farrowing house. "These units were installed in July 1975 and we've used them ever since. The only service work on them has been to clean the blades and motor of dust and dirt."

William P. Cook, Mesa, Wash.: "I've used the corner catcher **Valley** pivot irrigator for two seasons with no real trouble. One wheel came loose but the dealer replaced it."

Guy Clark, Boyceville, Wis.: He's pleased with his **Deere 112** lawnmower. "I didn't think such a large mower could be so maneuverable but it works great. We have a large lawn with many trees and flower beds. It maneuvers and shifts easily."

E. Ralph Titus, Newton, Kan.: "It's the handiest way I've ever seen to check or drive cattle and to check and repair fences. It has no gears to shift up or down and will turn short. I trail it behind machinery from home to field so I can return for the truck or combine," says Ralph about his "best buy" 390 **Commuter** 3-wheeler.

Bill Rush, Rogers, N.M.: "We have a 1982 **International 1086** tractor that has been almost trouble free. It's the most fuel efficient piece of equipment we have ever owned and it's a pleasure to drive. We also have a 1981 **Ford F-150** super cab that has almost 100,000 miles. It's been a very good vehicle."

R. W. Tegtmeyer, Sumner, Iowa: He nominates his **International 596** tandem 22-ft. disk harrow and his 1982 **Chevrolet Caprice** diesel car as "best buys". "The disk harrow has excellent cutting ability. No ridging at all. We consider it to be the heavyweight champion of tandem disks. Our Chevy Caprice diesel is truly a good performer that gets great mileage. No problems whatsoever."

Elton Zimmerman, Buffalo, Mo.: He likes his **Vermeer 605H** round baler. "It makes tight, square-edged bales up to 2,000 lbs. with much less spoilage than other balers."

John Strunk, Waco, Texas: John's **Lincoln 200** amp portable welder with a 4-cyl. water-cooled Continental engine heads his "best buy" list. "I bought it new in 1980 and have had no trouble at all. My old welder was a Lincoln, too. In my book they are the best."

"We're also pleased with our **Victor** acetylene cutting rig. I own two of them and I think they'll both last a lifetime. Parts and cutting tips are available everywhere."

Hubert Hickman, White Heath, Ill.: "I like the ease of handling, the power, and the reduced cost of operation per acre," says Hubert, happy with his **Deere 4630** tractor. He's also happy with his 1982 **Chevrolet C-20** pickup with a 6.2 diesel engine. "It rides almost as well as a car. The fuel economy is very good at 19 or 20 mpg on short driving trips. It has no trouble starting at 15° below zero. The truck has a 4-speed overdrive automatic transmission which takes some time to get used to before you can get the mileage up."

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