

BUYING TIPS YOU CAN USE

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

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Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

OPINION

Timon Heide, Grenora, N. Dak.: "Do you have to be a big operator to get service and warranty?" asks Timon, upset with his **Deere** 12-ft. solid wheel press drill. "The press wheels have split open time and time again. They've been welded and re-welded but were bad to start with. I've had to replace several at my own expense. I wrote to Deere and have approached the local dealer, but have received no compensation."

Donald Ellingson, Waukon, Iowa: "The designers of this stock feeder ring have devised the best automatic ear tag remover known to man," reports Donald, unhappy with his round bale feeder from **Sioux Steel Co.**, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. "The open back design of the angled uprights snag the plastic ear tag or its button and break it or tear the tag from the ear. Our cows lost most of their tags last winter. Tags were always laying around the feeder."

Donald lists his last two new C-20 **Chevrolet** 4-WD pickups with automatic transmission as "best buys". "Since 1976 we have used Chevy

and appreciate the good ride and the ease of shifting to 4-WD and the convenience of automatic lockout hubs. We have driven 7,000 miles without a single problem."

Len Piwarski, Weyburn, Sask.: "This truck is a gas hog and never worked," says Len about his "worst buy" 1980 **Ford** 150 4-WD pickup. "It's got no power and it just keeps falling apart. The Ford dealer wouldn't give me service at any time. Every time I took it in to the dealer in Weyburn, it came home worse than it went in."

Delvert E. Horton, Jordan, N.Y.: He's happy with his **Ford** 7700 tractor. "I particularly like the ease of starting in the winter. We have had this tractor a little over four years and it has given excellent service. Easy handling and excellent fuel economy. If I bought another new tractor it would be a Ford."

Donald Peterson, Langdon, N. Dak.: He's pleased with two "best buy" products. "I can't say enough about our 835 **Versatile** tractor. We've had no downtime. It's an excellent machine. Our **Sakundiah** auger is also a very good product. Lightweight but does an excellent job moving grain. It's a good auger for emptying grain bins."

Howard Eves, Moose Jaw, Sask.: "This truck could only be described as a gutless wonder. It has a 4-cyl. 2.3 liter engine which has poor power and only got about 23 mpg," says Howard, about his 1982 **Ford** Ranger XLS pickup.

He's pleased, though, with his 1982 **Chevrolet** S-10 pickup. "This truck has excellent V-6 power. It rides and handles well and is good on gas. It gets about 30 mpg."

Bruce Peterson, Carney, Mich.: "The **Honda** 110 3-wheeler, with a 4-speed transmission and hi and lo range, is ideal for us both as a recreational fun machine and for checking our cedar post logging operation," says Bruce. "We're also pleased with our **Freedom** 550 portable telephone. It allows me to go anywhere in our post manufacturing facility and still be available for calls."

Keith Nelson, Pawnee Rock, Kan.: "This pickup has been great and in 50,000 miles we've had no trouble whatsoever. It gets 32 to 35 mpg highways and 27 mpg on the farm," says Keith, pleased with his 1980 **Datsun** king cab pickup.

Roy West, Dumas, Ark.: "I have been more pleased with my two **International Harvester** 1460 combines than anything I have purchased in years," reports Roy. "They are very easy to service and economical on fuel. I have been well-pleased with the quality grain samples I have had since using these machines."

Roy had trouble with his **Hustler** rice levee sprayer. "The drive wheel chains are continually breaking. I think a double drive wheel chain or hydrostatic drive would be a great improvement."

Gene Hemberger, Juniata, Neb.: "The **Deutz** 160A 4-WD tractor is well-built and easy to work on. It's fuel efficient, has a quiet cab and there are 24 forward gears. I've pulled

C-20 pickups for custom herbicide application with a skid-mounted 450 gal. 12-row sprayer. The truck is also used for daily transportation, farm work and custom snow removal. Gross weight of a C-20 equipped with the sprayer is 14,000 lbs. and the trucks cover a total of 15,000 acres each year. Repairs have been minor. The trucks are stock except for shocks, overloads, and a frame axle brace."

Dan Bearss, Springfield, Ontario: "We planted 1,600 acres with virtually no problems other than one insecticide change-off sprocket," says Dan, pleased with his **Deere** 6-row, 7000 planter. "We're also happy with our **International** 915 combine. It's been virtually trouble free."

He's had trouble with his 820 **International** flexhead for his 915 **International** combine. "It works perfect when the ground is dry. However, after a rain, when the ground is sticky, the dirt builds up under the sensing pads."

John W. Nelson, Brayton, Iowa: "We're really happy with our 1982 ¾-ton 4-WD **Scottsdale Chevrolet** pickup with 6.2 litre diesel engine. We are using less than ½ the fuel of our previously owned 4-WD **Dodge** gas pickup. Their performance is really great. It has good power for towing and passing. We really ap-