

can't help and the importer doesn't have any answers. Apparently, the only solution is to avoid doing heavy pt work."

Francis J. Weber, Jesup, Iowa: "My 1992 Ford F-150 Supercab pickup is equipped with a 300 cu. in. 6-cyl. engine and 5-speed transmission. It rides nice, has plenty of power, and is fuel efficient. No problems. It has 20,000 miles and I've never had to take it back to the dealer."

Kendall Probst, Northport, Mich.: Kendall's had good luck with his 1992 Deere F-525 lawn mower. "It's a well-built machine and does a good job around trees, shrubs, etc."

Arnold Weber, Stacyville, Iowa: Arnold's pleased with his 1981 Massey-Ferguson 124 small square baler. "It ties bales perfectly."

"We previously owned an International 120 small square baler that never worked right. The mechanics worked on it for three days after the dealer brought it out to our farm, but they never did get it to tie right. It has never worked a full day without a major breakdown. It's the biggest lemon I ever bought."

L. Kirkpatrick, Watino, Alberta: A 1991 Honda 18 hp riding lawn mower equipped with hydrostatic drive, a 46-in.

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deck, and rear bagger heads his "worst buy" list. "The blower and bagger leaked grass, and dust plugged it up constantly. My dealer tried to fix it several times with no luck. I took it to Honda Canada in Vancouver a year ago and as of July 1 they still hadn't fixed it. They tell me to wait, but the grass won't wait. Finally I bought a new Deere LX188 with a 48-in. deck and a bagger. It's twice the mower. I just wish I had bought it to start with."

Milo Buchholz, Fingal, N. Dak.: "We recently bought a used 1992 Maschio 5-ft. wide, 3-blade finishing mower. It does a super job of mowing. It's 3-pt. mounted but rides on four tires and follows the ground as good as a mid-mount mower. The best part is that I can put it on or take it off in only about one minute. We originally had a 3-pt. model made by another company, but it rode on two tires and either scalped or skipped."

Justin Zitterich, Dunnell, Minn.: "My 1993 Deere F-525 front-mount mower cuts close around trees. It's speedy and leaves a lawn that looks like velvet."

Lawrence Brenner, San Felipe, Texas: "My 1990 Dodge Dakota pickup is my best buy. It's been trouble-free except for the air conditioning. Handles well and rides comfortably. It carries a bigger payload than a Chevrolet S-10, Toyota, or other pickup brands."

Walter Zissler, Vassar, Mich.: "My Unverferth double roller basket makes an excellent seedbed in heavy clay soil and also firms up sandy ground so it doesn't dry out and blow away."

Jon C. Rastede, Ebensburg, Penn.: "I'm well satisfied with my 1992 Deere 265 riding lawn mower. It does an excellent job, has plenty of power, and is easy to use. It has a strong frame. However, it could use foot

controls for forward and reverse."

Dan L. Smith, Lyons, Neb.: "My 1991 New Idea 486 baler is my best buy. It has plenty of capacity and makes good, firm bales. It has stood up well to custom baling. I've made 4,200 bales so far with it. I'm well satisfied."

Todd Intermill, Colman, S. Dak.: Todd's impressed with his Motorola hand-held cellular phone. "It's the most durable radio of its kind I've ever seen. I've dropped it from my truck cab onto cement, and dozens of times it came unclipped from my belt and bounced down the tractor steps and onto the ground, yet it just keeps on working. I know farmers who have other brand name portable cellular phones and handle them like they're dynamite, yet they're always breaking off the antenna or cracking the display screen."

John R. Farrell, Scottsville, N.Y.: John likes his Deere 970 roller harrow equipped with S-tines but has nevertheless had some problems. "This is a great machine. However, the S-tines don't do a good job in stony soil because they don't penetrate well enough. The old-style C-shanks would fit the harrow, and most machines in our area have them, but Deere doesn't offer them as an option on new machines. They have to be purchased through parts."

Gerald Klimek, Glenwood, Minn.: Gerald likes his 1992 Lincoln SP-250 wire-feed welder. "I've used it on 16 ga. 3/8-in. metal with .025 to .035 solid wire and .045 core wire. It's been trouble-free. I use argon C25 mix gas. The built-in computer makes it easy to set. It has memory pulse and other features."

"My 1988 Deere AMT 600 5-wheeler equipped with a hydraulic lift box is a best buy. I use it to do a lot of different jobs including picking up rocks on our 200 acres of soybeans after we plant. It's been trouble-free."

James H. Graves, Wheatland, Wyo.: "Our 1993 Polaris 250 Trail Boss is our best buy. We use it a lot on our ranch for fencing, irrigating, checking on cattle, etc. It works like a charm with no problems - as long as I keep the kids off it."

"My worst buy ever was my 1988 GMC 3/4-ton 4-WD pickup. I bought it new in the fall and by the time the first snow fell, the front axle went out. I waited two months to have it repaired. Brush and snow tore up the 'boot' cover on the front axle U-joint. It had to be replaced several times. The odometer went out twice. The door handle on the driver's side fell off, and the gas gauge failed. The final straw was when the radio quit. The dealer wouldn't honor the warranty because we couldn't prove the mileage. However, he was the one who repaired the odometer - twice. We traded this pile of junk for a used 1984 GMC 1-ton pickup. We're still using it."

Robert Gardner, Chester, Md.: "We're really pleased with our Case-IH 3900 24-ft. disk harrow. It disks nice and level."

Eric Wallis, Rudyard, Mich.: "Our 1992 Gehl 2170 haybine is our best buy. I'll know in 10 years just how good it is, but for now I'm quite pleased with the quiet operation, simple design, low maintenance, and hydraulically-operated tongue."

David Simpkins, Connersville, Ind.: David's satisfied with his Deere 214 riding lawn mower but says it could use a couple improvements. "I wish it had individual rear wheel brakes and a differential lock."

Phil Marshall, Macomb, Ill.: "My 1979 Allis-Chalmers 5030 tractor is my best buy. I use it for mowing. It has 3,400 hours



Emily Coffey, Arvada, Colo.: "We had less than 1,000 hours on our 1990 Ford-New Holland 276 bi-directional tractor when it caught fire and burned up while we were cutting hay. The tractor and swather head were a total loss. We're lucky nobody was burned. We'd like to know if anyone else with the same model has had this happen to them. The tractor cost \$77,000 in 1990 with the swather and a loader, but our Farm Bureau insurance policy will only reimburse us for \$35,000. "It doesn't seem right that such a new

tractor would burn up. We asked Farm Bureau to send out a fire investigator. He said he will send us a report soon. Ford-New Holland sent out a couple of people but they haven't yet been able to determine the cause of the fire. The fire started under the cab. The operator had no warning from any gauges that anything was wrong with the tractor. There was only time to turn off the ignition key and get off the tractor before it was completely engulfed in flames."

and still looks and runs like new.

"My 1993 Chevrolet Lumina 4-door car is a best buy. It's a sharp looking car with an excellent ride and plenty of power. It has a lot of features that you wouldn't expect to find in an economical car."

"I also like my Skil pistol-grip battery-operated screwdriver."

Carl Setlak, Standish, Mich.: "It handles well and does excellent work," says Carl, generally pleased with his 1992 Deere 9400 combine. "The corn head works great. The floating soybean head works well in small grain, but it's a nightmare to use in soybeans. My dealer can't seem to solve the problem. I'm very disappointed with it."

Thomas W. Biddle, Geddes, S. Dak.: Thomas owns a "best buy" 1982 New Holland 851 big round baler. "It's a good baler and has generally been maintenance-free. The only problem it has is with straw that's short and dry. When the bale gets about 1/3 full it quits turning. Otherwise, I don't know how this baler could be improved."

W.E. Fardoe, Brandon, Manitoba: "My Canon PC1 photocopy machine is my best

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buy. It's reasonably priced, doesn't need to be warmed up, and can make copies with shades that vary between dark and light. It's quick and makes excellent copies. I couldn't do without it."

Kenneth G. Zylstra, Lynden, Wash.: "My 1990 Harsh mixer wagon mixes well and works fast and is a heavy-built machine. We accidentally ran cement blocks through it and also frozen silage with no problems. It's built to last."

Kenneth Bernard, Wabasso, Minn.: "My worst buy is a manure spreader that I recently purchased from H & S Mfg. It's designed to handle both solids and liquids,

but it leaks liquid manure like a sieve. If I had to haul very far I wouldn't have anything to unload by the time I got there. The company is supposed to solve the problem, but they've been slow to do anything."

William Atwater, Havana, Ill.: A 1993 Ford F-150 Super Cab 4-WD pickup equipped with a 351 cu. in. engine and an overdrive transmission heads William's "best buy" list. "It rides like a car and is fuel efficient considering it's 4-WD and has an overdrive transmission. It gets at least 14 mpg alone, and when pulling a 29 1/2 ft. trailer it gets 9 1/2 mpg. It's a pleasure to drive."

Steve Kutzler, Dodge Center, Minn.: "My 1992 Case-IH 7120 Magnum tractor handles well and pulls all implements with exceptional fuel efficiency. The transmission shifts smooth and has a good range of speeds. The tractor has been trouble-free."

Jerry L. Weaver, Newark, Ohio: A 1992 Krone 151 baler rates as Jerry's "best buy". "We've used it to make nearly 1,500 bales. It bales quickly and cleanly and is trouble-free. We especially like the net wrap attachment - it speeds up baling and helps save hay that we store outside."

J. Joe Meyer, Williamsburg, Ind.: Joe's had trouble with his Simplicity 12 1/2 hp LTH riding mower. "I've had problems with the bearings on the deck. The transmission pulley locks and has to be pried loose to make it work again. The deck lift lever is a joke."

Jim Howard, Waurika, Okla.: Jim generally likes his three Polaris ATV's - a 1990 350 4-WD, a 1992 350 4-WD, and 1992 250 4-WD - but has had some problems with them. "We also have two Hondas and one Yamaha ATV, but the Polaris models are without question the best running, best handling, and easiest to ride. However, the chains and sprockets are a never-ending battle and very expensive to replace. Another problem is that the brake pads have to be replaced every three months. And the best way to describe the front end, tie rod ends, etc., is that they are a night-

(Continued on next page)