

dependable tractor.

"Our worst buy is a **Kimpex** lawn mower designed to mount in front of an ATV. We haven't been able to cut the grass once without problems. The wiring got caught and ripped out, bearings on the blade shaft seized up causing the shaft to snap, and two nylon pulleys wore out which destroyed the drive belt. The rods that connect the mower to the ATV broke and the clutch fell off. It's still in the repair shop. All of this happened the first summer of use."

Richard L. Caswell II, Narvon, Penn.: "My 1992 **Buick LeSabre LTD** is the best made vehicle I ever purchased. It has more standard features than comparable Ford models.

"My 1990 **Ford F-150 XLT Lariat 4-WD** pickup is my worst buy. It's poorly assembled. I've had problems with the front suspension, bed, and interior—especially the captain's chairs and dash. There are lots of rattles, the power steering pump makes noise, and the fan belt squeaks even though it has been replaced twice in 29,000 miles. I haven't found Ford quality yet. Next time I'll buy a GM pickup."

Eric W. Soderberg, Calgary, Alberta: "My 1992 **Bourgault 850 Centorion II 100-ft.** sprayer is my best buy. It's a good solid unit. Everything on it works well. I really like the mix-and-fill tank—it's easy to clean out. The disc markers and in-cab controls work well. I hate to spray herbicides, but this machine makes the job quite pleasant.

"I purchased two 1992 **Westward 3000**

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25-ft. pto-driven swathers last fall and they're both worst buys. The first machine ran very rough and needed repairs after the first day. The second machine sat idle for a week while we waited for parts. The dealer finally got it running. I think most problems were due to poor quality control and poor setup."

B.J. Hastings, Cisco, Texas: "My 1991 **Case-IH 5140 Maxxum** tractor is my best buy. Works great for baling round hay bales, then moving them to our hay lot with a front-end loader. I really like the shuttle shift and shift-on-the-go transmission."

Eugene Zimmerman, East Earl, Penn.: Eugene's happy with his 1992 **Deere 435** round baler equipped with net wrap. "I can net wrap and twine wrap at the same time. It's simple to operate, almost trouble-free, and makes nice round bales. I've used it to make 2,000 bales—mostly from corn stalks and some high moisture hay bales."

Dale Good, Newmanstown, Penn.: "My best buy is seed corn I buy from **Custom Farm Seed** that has the 'waxy gene'. I started planting waxy corn in 1989 and it has increased milk production and butterfat in my dairy herd by up to 10% because the corn is more digestible."

Bobby Crow, Dardanelle, Ark.: Bobby's "worst buy" is his 1989 **Bush Hog 315** wing cutter. "We bought it thinking that we were buying the best. However, with less than 150 hours on it we've already had to replace two blade shafts, rebuild a gear case, and have both center section axle arms rewelded. The grease zerks are hard to reach which makes lubricating the machine a time

consuming job. The top of the cutter traps water and grass clippings. As a result it takes several hours to clean this machine after it's used, especially if it gets rained on before we have a chance to clean it up."

Shirley Gamble, Sundre, Alberta: "Our 1991 **Stihl Wood Boss** chain saw always starts easy, in hot and cold weather, even if it hasn't been used for a long time. It has lots of power and is easy to operate. No problems.

"Our 1989 **Craftsman II 12 hp 38-in.** riding lawn mower is our worst buy. It rides terrible because the wheels are too small. It's underpowered and smokes like crazy. It also has poor traction."

J.F. Howell, Clarendon, Texas: "My 1991 **Tumblebug** round bale transporter is my best buy (**Durabilt Industries**, Box 717, Pocahontas, Ark. 72455). Lets me pick up, transport, and unload an 1,800-lb. bale without ever getting out of my pickup. No hydraulics or other power required."

Frank Dyck, Silver Valley, Alberta: Frank nominates his 1991 **Honda Civic** car as his "best buy". "We live 52 miles out in the country with only rough gravel roads to drive on. I've put 107,000 miles on this car. It's been completely trouble-free, is easy on gas, and starts good in cold weather."

Kenneth Jones, Lewisburg, Tenn.: "I'm happy with my **Deere 3940** silage chopper which I bought used. It pulls easy. No problems."

Ted Meyer, Kendrick, Idaho: "My 32-ft. **Wil-Rich** cultivator is my best buy. It has walking axles on each of its four wheel positions. I use sweep points for optimum soil penetration."

Wayne A. Stuhr, Walton, Ariz.: "My 1989 **Chevrolet 1/2-ton 4-WD** Suburban equipped with a fuel-injected engine is my best buy. It has much better acceleration than the 1986 model it replaced. It's fuel efficient, rides comfortably, and the only repairs we've made have been to the alternator, belts, brakes, and water pump. It has 170,000 miles."

Foster Ipsen, Malad, Idaho: A 1991 **New Holland 492 9 1/2-ft.** pull-type swather rates as Foster's "best buy". "This is the fourth New Holland swather I've purchased. I use it to cut about 400 acres of alfalfa. Does a nice job of cutting and handles gopher mounds well."

Eugene L. Reed, Racine, Minn.: "My best buy of all time is my 1977 **Ford F-350** truck equipped with a 460 cu. in. engine. I use it to pull livestock trailers and campers. I've had it in the mountains, to Alaska, and over half the U.S. The drive train has never been out of the truck. It has 192,000 miles and is still going strong."

Bill McKeeman, Spruce Grove, Alberta: "My 1985 **Volkswagen Jetta** equipped with a diesel engine and 5-speed transmission is my best buy. I spent only \$11.90 for repairs in the first 120,000 miles before I had to replace the tie rod ends and brakes. I finally sold it to a neighbor when it had about 140,000 miles. It got 43 to 62 mpg."

Boyd B. Buyck, Danvers, Minn.: Boyd likes his 1989 **Deere 750 15-ft.** no-till drill but has had some problems with it. "I've planted 5,400 acres with it and it does an excellent job of seed placement. However, we've had to replace 262 bearings in four seasons. Also, it seems to pack the ground too much. Another problem is that one end of the drill goes empty before the other end."

Linwood Thompson, Tenants Harbor, Maine: "I traded my **Deere 1050** tractor for

a new 1070 model in July 1991 and it's my best buy. It's the fastest starting diesel tractor I've ever owned even in winter. I really like the synchromesh transmission and gear selection, although the 1.8 to 3.4 mph jump from third to fourth gear is too much. There should be another gear in between. An overdrive transmission would be nice for over the road. Overall, it's a nice tractor."

Biron Smith, Vanue, Ohio: "I'm happy with the good seedbed and excellent stand I got last year using my 1992 **Remlinger R.T.C.** tillage tool together with my 1992 **Case-IH 5300** grain drill on 240 acres of soybeans. They're both best buys."

Kendal Pliner, Ft. Dodge, Iowa: "My 1992 **Brent 674** auger wagon equipped with a 17-in. dia. auger is my best buy. The auger is mounted on the front corner of the wagon which makes it easy to fill trucks. It really unloads fast."

Gene Taylor, Daniel, Wyo.: "My 1990 **Vermeer 605F** round baler will bale 20 tons per hour in grass hay and makes 1,700-lb. bales that are nearly perfect. It's my best buy."

"I've used my **Besler** pickup-mounted round bale handler to haul and feed over 10,000 tons of hay. It's a best buy."

"My 1990 **Dodge 3/4-ton 4-WD** diesel pickup will easily pull a 10-ton load in mountain country and gets 25 mpg empty."

"My worst buy of all time was my 1982 **Subaru 4-WD** car. It made the mechanics rich and me poor."

Philip Long, Bethany, Mo.: Philip's impressed with his **Deutz-Allis 9190** tractor. "It's far superior to the **Deutz-Fahr DX160** model that it replaced. I've used it slightly more than 200 hours and have experienced only a couple small problems that my dealer promptly took care of. The ride, handling, visibility, and fuel economy are better than I expected. I'd recommend **Deutz-Allis** to anyone who wants a trouble-free, economical tractor. Mine uses only 9

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to 10 gal. of fuel per hour and doesn't smoke at all."

Paul V. Sands, Syracuse, Ind.: "I'm satisfied with my 1981 **International 800 8-row, 30-in.** no-till planter. Does an excellent job of planting in ground that was in setaside for five years and also does a good job in continuous corn ground. I added 16 **Auscherman** coulters to the planter - 8 in front of the rows and 8 beside the rows - for fertilizer placement. They do a good job of cutting through trash."

John T. Bennett, Jr., Henderson, N.C.: "My 1992 **Massey Ferguson 399** tractor is fuel efficient, has plenty of power, and can handle big jobs as well as cultivating."

Gale Odle, Stockton, Kan.: Gale bought a used 1989 **GM 1500 4-WD** pickup with 40,000 miles and says it's a "best buy". "It has 60,000 miles now and I've spent little on repairs. I use it to pull my 20-ft. livestock trailer."

"My **Deere 826** snowblower is a best buy. I bought it used. It got a real workout last winter."

Gerald J. Yoder, Goshen, Ind.: Gerald owns a 1992 **Snapper RT4151** rolling trimmer equipped with a fixed line head and says it's a "best buy". "We used another **Snapper** model (RT451) to trim around

farm buildings, overhead fuel tanks, etc., but it didn't have enough horsepower so we returned it and got this model. It's often used by the National Forest Service and by fruit growers."

Norman Sotka, Rosburg, Wa.: "My 1993 **Ford F-250 4-WD** super cab pickup equipped with a 7.3-liter diesel engine, 4:10 rear axle, and 5-speed standard transmission is my best buy. I use it to pull my 18-ft. fifth wheel livestock trailer. It has much more power and fuel economy than my old GM pickup and gets 20 mpg empty."

John W. Pavey, Rising Sun, Ind.: "It's quiet and comfortable and gets 22 to 23 mpg," reports John, pleased with his 1992 **Ford Crown Victoria** car. "My only problem is that I ordered a full size spare tire, but the wheel didn't match the wheels on the car. I had to pay \$300 to get a matching wheel."

Chris Sane, Jr., Rutherfordton, N.C.: "My 1978 **Husqvarna** chain saw cranks right up the first time, every time. I can always depend on it."

"My 1989 **Ford F-250 4-WD** super cab pickup equipped with a 7.3-liter diesel engine is the worst truck I ever purchased. It has gone through four flywheels, two clutches and one throw-out bearing. The cab floor cracked between the seats and grease seals failed on the rear axles."

Mark Goodman, Algona, Iowa: Mark's had good luck with **Goodyear Wrangler** AT all-season radial tires which he purchased last year. "They provide excellent traction in all conditions and have good weight carrying ability - over a ton per tire. They're quiet at highway speeds and help improve the ride of my pickup."

Ken Murawski, Port Austin, Mich.: "My 1985 **Mack** semi-truck equipped with a 350 cu. in. engine and 13-speed transmission has plenty of power, and the air-ride cab makes it a pleasure to drive. It's my best buy."

"My **VHF Motorola** FM radios are the top of the line. They come in clear and are dependable."

"My **Deere 1060 54 1/2-ft.** field cultivator is a pleasure to operate. I don't have to pull any pins to unfold it."

"My 1992 **Deere 9500** combine is my worst buy. The unloading system is the biggest problem. We plugged it up at least a dozen times and the gearbox twisted off the auger. The fuel sending unit broke twice and the fan monitor also broke. My dealer took care of the problems. Despite the defects, grain quality is great and it's a pleasure to operate."

Mike Stresse, Dennison, Minn.: "My best buy of all time is my 1978 **Deere 7000** planter equipped with fluted coulters. The coulters work a 3-in. wide strip in front of each row."

Michael Dunn, Meriden, Iowa: "I purchased a used **International 1460** axial flow combine with 2,800 hours on it. It's my best buy. Repairs and maintenance on this high hour machine are much lower than newer machines I've owned in the past. Also, it does an excellent job of shelling corn with almost no kernel damage. There's almost no foreign matter."

Clyde M. Waylan, Delavan, Kan.: "I've used my **Heckendorn** lawn mower for 20 years with no repairs (Heckendorn Equipment Co., Box 134, Peabody, Kan. 66866 ph 316 983-2186). Only the belts have been changed. It's a well built mower that's

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