

paint job could be better. There are paint chips all over the vehicle. I'd like to see a central locking system, heated mirrors, and an outside temperature read-out. We installed rubber-covered running boards that are very quiet, as well as mud flaps. We also installed a streamlined bug deflector to protect the paint on the hood."

Peter Witzel, Elora, Ontario: "This machine is absolutely flawless," says Peter, owner of a "best buy" 1989 New Holland 680 manure spreader equipped with an end gate and slurry sides. "We use it to spread manure on about 200 acres per year at a rate of about 30 tons per acre. The slurry sides work great for liquid manure. This spreader definitely is quality engineered."

Ruth Pullman, Alma, Mich.: Ruth's unhappy with her 1989 Chevrolet 3/4-ton 4-WD pickup equipped with a 350 cu. in. V-8 engine. "It blew a head gasket in the first 33,000 miles. Three of our friends and neighbors have had the same problem. It happens on both 6 and 8-cylinder engines. The transfer case, vacuum control, and front wheel drive seals also had to be replaced, and each time we had to pay \$100. The warranty should have fully covered the repairs."

Kenne J. Dailie, Milbank, S. Dak.: "Our 1989 Ford New Holland 520 manure spreader is one of our best buys ever. We're very pleased with its performance."

Otis A. Ueckert, Bellville, Texas: Otis has had good luck with his New Holland 852 round baler. "I bought it used for about one fifth the price of a new 855 model. I've made 543 bales with it while spending less than \$100 on repairs."

"My 1985 Ford 6710 tractor is equipped with a 777F front-end loader. I paid \$26,500 for the tractor. I like it fine except that the front wheel bearings failed. They were made by Toyota in Japan. The dealer didn't have them in stock so I had to buy them at NAPA Auto parts. Think of it - installing car parts on a tractor equipped with a loader. When the bearings went out again I ruined a spindle. I'm switching to Timkin bearings because they're made in the U.S.A."

Rollin Wachter, Hubbard, Neb.: "Our 1992 DR 4 hp trimmer/mower equipped with 16-in. wheels (Country Home Products, Charlotte, Vt. ph 800 446-8746) works great for trimming and mowing odd-shaped or hard-to-get-at places and around buildings, trees, etc. The string-type cutterhead makes it easy to control cutting height. It takes very little effort to use, and the 12-volt electric start is really handy."

Ray McCormick, Vincennes, Ind.: Ray

"They solve all problems associated with planting no-till corn."

nominates his 1991 Martin Row Cleaners as "best buy" (see FARM SHOW's Vol. 16, No. 2 or contact Howard Martin, Kentucky Farms Inc., 169 Allegre Road, Elkton, Kent. 42220 ph 502 265-5817). The cleaners consist of two V-mounted notched wheels positioned close to the planter's seed opener discs. "They bolt directly onto my Deere 7000 flexfold planter in just minutes. They solve all problems associated with planting no-till corn. The units run smooth without 'hair pinning' the residue and allow the seed slot to be easily closed."

Jim Clark, Carson, Iowa: "My worst buy is my Deere 9500 combine. It doesn't have enough power to unload on-the-go and

doesn't clean the grain as well as the International 1460 that I traded in."

Kevin D. Sullivan, Carthage, N.Y.: "My 1990 Deere 335 round baler works excellent for making either dry hay or silage bales. It makes tight dense bales and uses much less horsepower than a forage harvester, which I would otherwise have to use to make silage."

Frank Jones, Cottontown, Tenn.: Frank's had trouble with his 1988 Ford F-250 4-WD pickup. "I was on my way to work one day when I hit the brakes at a highway intersection. The antilock brakes released and before they caught again I was stuck in the middle of the intersection 'dead' - or at least that's the way it could have ended. I often wonder how many poor souls have died as a result of this happening to them."

Lynn Fish, Shortsville, N.Y.: "My best buy is my 1987 Yamaha Warrior ATV 4-wheeler. It starts and runs like a dream and has plenty of power to pull wagons. Everything about this machine was well thought out."

"My worst buy is my 1987 Suzuki Quad Sport 4-wheel ATV. Every time we ride it something breaks, and the distributor won't stand behind the product. The company has been very rude to us."

Dennis Black, Perry, Mo.: "It works unbelievably fast," says Dennis about his 1989 Westfield MK 100 10-in. dia., 71-ft. auger. "We've moved 150,000 to 200,000 bu. with it. No problems."

"Our 1991 Dodge minivan is another best buy. It works great. No problems."

Keith Satchwill, Urbana, Ind.: Keith owns a 1991 Woods 214 rotary mower. "It's built heavy and does a great job. I especially like how the wings fold up. Makes it easy to change blades."

Ben Stutsman, Goshen, Ind.: Ben's impressed with his 1992 McCulloch Pro-Mac 3200-14 chain saw. "It works great for a lightweight saw, starts easy, and cuts a lot of wood on a tankful of gas."

Louis H. Mundi, Belt, Mont.: "It's the handiest vehicle on our ranch," says Louis about his "best buy" 1992 Kawasaki KLF300 Bayou ATV. "It starts easy and is easy to handle. I use it every day for fixing fence, moving cows, putting out salt, hauling feed, spraying weeds, and going to and from fields. It saves a lot of gas and wear and tear on an expensive pickup. Even our dogs like to ride on it."

"I used a 1966 New Holland 905 swather for 24 years to cut 500 acres a year over rough, rocky ground. It's still in use on another farm. I sold it to get a swather equipped with a cab - a used 1978 model 1112. It's an equally fine machine."

"My 1978 New Holland 320 bales bales 2,000 square bales or more without missing a tie and is maintenance free."

"My 1985 New Holland 840 round baler is also efficient and trouble-free."

Wayne Schweinefus, Decorah, Iowa: Wayne nominates his 1992 Pontiac SE Bonneville car as his "worst buy". "This is my first and last Pontiac. It rides rough and I spend more time fixing it than driving it. The trunk door opens so high that short people can't even reach it to shut it. The seats can't be adjusted for a comfortable ride. The security system had to be repaired."

Jim Weigel, Carrington, N. Dak.: A 1988 Ford Ranger 4-WD pickup equipped with a V-6 engine and club cab heads Jim's "best buy" list. "It's got 113,000 trouble-free miles so far. I use Mobil 1 synthetic oil

and change it every 6,000 miles. I change spark plugs once a year. It doesn't use any oil and has good power. I use it to pull an 18-ft. fishing boat on weekends and it still gets 20 to 22 mpg on the highway. It also rides better than most cars."

Collins Duke, Pahokee, Fla.: "It rides like a luxury car and is still going strong after 175,000 miles," says Collins, owner of a 1986 Chevrolet Silverado K-10 4-WD pickup equipped with a 5.0-liter engine."

Gerald Stephani, Appleton, Wis.: Gerald's 1992 Homelite Super XL chain saw heads his "best buy" list. "It never bogs down when I do heavy sawing and always starts on the first or second pull, even in cold weather. It's reasonably priced and stands up to the best of the high-priced saws. It can't be beat."

Morris Fitzgerald, Owosso, Mich.: Morris has had good luck with his White 2-155 mechanical front wheel drive tractor that he bought used. "I've got only slightly more than 200 hours on it so far but have had no problems. It performs very well."

Scott D. Mueller, Humboldt, Kan.: Scott nominates his 1992 Chevrolet Silverado 1/2-ton 2-WD pickup equipped with a 4.3-liter V-6 engine and 5-speed manual transmission as his "best buy". "It has 10,000 miles and has been trouble-free and fun to drive. The V-6 engine is peppy and consistently gets 20 mpg. One time I got 25 mpg on the highway which rivals the fuel economy of small pickups. However, it has a roomier cab and can haul more than small pickups."

Doug George, North Java, N.Y.: Doug's happy with his 1991 Hesston 1130 haybine. "It will cut as smooth and fast as a 12-ft. self-propelled model."

Gene Hansen, Mazon, Ill.: "The compass on my 1990 Pontiac Grand Prix SE 2-door Coupe has never worked right since we bought the car. Metal buildings and bridges throw it off. The driver's side power window has been worked on twice, and the transmission leaked. Luckily these repairs were all covered by the warranty. It handles well, although it steers a little harder than other cars I've owned. I like the remote keyless entry and the way the instrument panel is arranged - all controls are within easy reach. The radio controls are mounted on the steering wheel which makes it easy to change stations while driving."

Bertram Willett, Paducah, Kent.: "It does a good job and is fuel efficient," says Bertram about his "best buy" 1991 Deere 4555 tractor equipped with a powershift transmission."

Bertram installed his "best buy" **Acu-Grain** weight scale on the unloading auger on his Deere combine (Acu-Grain, Great Falls, Mont. 59401 ph 406 761-1781). "When properly calculated it does a perfect job of measuring yields. We rent land in 35 different places in addition to our own farm, so it saves a lot of time and fuel because we don't have to haul partial loads back to check yields."

Robert Greenlee, Okmulgee, Okla.: Robert bought a **Buck Built** "tilt up" blade from Vernon Buchanan after reading about it in FARM SHOW and says it's a "best buy" (Buck Built Blades, Rt. 3, Box 145, Pawnee, Okla. 74058). The hydraulically-powered blade can be used to shape roads, driveways, gullies, and even terraces and pond dams. "It does everything the manufacturer said it would do and is a high quality, service-free piece of equipment. I use it mostly to build terraces on CRP land. I can build a 30-ft. wide, 1/4-mile long

terrace in four hours. I've built more than 30,000 ft. of terraces in the last two years. It paid for itself in the first two weeks."

Johnny W. Garrison, Jasper, Ga.: "My 1990 Case-IH 385 tractor has performed well. The handling, ride, power, and hydraulics make this tractor second to none. I highly recommend it for general farming needs."

David Ferrell, Morrisville, N.C.: "My 1991 Dodge W350 diesel pickup is my best buy. It has plenty of power and torque and averages 18 to 22 mpg."

Harland Cederberg, Galva, Ill.: "One of the best buys I made in the past year was my New Holland 488 haybine. It cuts right through even the heaviest hay. Has caused very little trouble."

"On the worst buy side is our **Lundell** shredder which I bought several years ago. I've spent more time working on it than

"I've spent more time working on it than using it."

using it. Something goes wrong with it every time we go to the field."

Roger Jones, Granby, Conn.: "My 1991 Forage King Hay Basket is my best buy. It loads 100 bales with no problems and unloads them in 30 seconds. We own two Hay Baskets. We use a 1-ton pickup to pull one to the barn while we fill the other one behind the baler. We paid \$2,500 apiece. We're well pleased with them."

"We're also happy with our 1985 **Same** 4-WD tractor and loader. It has 3,000 hours. The 85 hp engine is air cooled. We use the tractor for heavy loader work. No problems."

Walter Lamb, Olive Branch, Miss.: "My best buy is my 1986 Deere 750 tractor. It's a good compact 18 pto hp tractor and it handles almost any attachment. It has required only routine maintenance."

On the negative side, "I can't find parts for my **Hardee** 25B sprayer so I have to fabricate them myself. There are no dealers in my area to help. Other than that it's a pretty good sprayer."

John Lee, Monona, Iowa: John's happy with his 1991 **Sunflower** 1232 21-ft. disk. "It's built heavy and is put together well. Handles major tillage with ease and could be used to plow if you had the horsepower to pull it."

"My 1992 **Hiniker** 5000 cultivator is also a best buy. It works well in high residue and is designed for ease of adjustment, low maintenance, and speed. I can run two gears faster than with my conventional cultivator in the same size crop. Weeds can't escape the single sweep design."

"I'm also pleased with my 1991 **Ficklin** 435 gravity wagon. It has a capacity of 315 bu. and is a good value for the money."

Frank Glenn, Farmer City, Ill.: Frank's impressed with his "Yazoo 60-in. twin 18 Wisconsin mower. This is our second one and it should last until we retire."

"Two years ago I traded our Steiger 310 tractor in for a Deere 8960 equipped with a 24-speed transmission and 18.4 by 42 Firestone tires. The Deere tractor has better fuel economy, more power, no separate drop box, much better hydraulics, better traction without tracking, more useable gears, and a much better cab. However, the

Continued on next page