

## BUYING TIPS YOU CAN USE

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

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### An Apology

FARM SHOW owes the Krause Plow Corp. (Hutchinson; Kan.) and its dealers an apology. In our last issue (Vol. 16, No. 2, 1992), South Dakota farmer Thomas Hoefert, of Wessington Springs, nominated his "model 496 cushion gang 32 ft. disc harrow" as a "worst buy" (page 13).

While most farmers readily recognize the 496 as a Case-IH product, we mistakenly identified it as a Krause product. We regret the error and apologize to Krause Plow Corp. and its dealers, and to Mr. Hoefert. Pinning the wrong brand name on his problem 496 disc harrow was our mistake, not his.

Harold Johnson, publisher

David R. Cook, Marshall, Mich.: "Our 1991 Hardi TR500 sprayer is a worst buy. Nozzles and nozzle screens plug continuously. Nozzle check valves plug when using dry flowable materials. Self cleaning screen often plugs. If it does self clean, it sends dirt back into the spray tank. The electric valves open too slow for spot spraying herbicides. The pressure gauges are too

line needed to be updated, we decided to replace the entire system with new Surge equipment. It has performed well so far with good dealer service."

Glen Phelps, North Platte, Neb.: Glen nominates his 1990 Ingersoll-Rand 2 hp, direct drive, single stage air compressor as a "worst buy". "I've used it strictly to fill tires and clean out radiators and have never used it with air-powered tools. It's very noisy. When it quit last February, I called the toll-free number listed in the owner's manual and was told that the company division that made this model had been sold. After making many calls to dealers, I learned that the parts needed to repair the compressor were 'on back order'. It needed a new piston, counterweight, and rotor that cost a total of \$587. We paid only \$262 for the compressor when we bought it new."

Warren Lathe, Guilford, Vt.: Warren owns a "best buy" 1990 Kuhn E135 tiller. "It's rugged and well built. I've used it on stony ground with no problems. I've recommended it to friends who've bought their own. It's a quality product."

"My 1989 Valby chipper is a best buy. I really work it hard and use it to chip brush, slabs, and logs up to 6 in. in dia. It takes everything I throw into it. It's a quality machine that I'd recommend to anyone."

"Some time ago I reported an unsatisfactory purchase of a Morton building that was published in FARM SHOW. The building had a problem and the salesman didn't report it to the main office. Then an official at the main office read your magazine. Needless to say, I got instant response. The problem was corrected beyond my expectations. FARM SHOW gets the message out and I thank you. I now believe that Morton Building Co. stands behind its products. I was so well satisfied that I had the company erect two more large buildings. Their crews are experienced and do excellent work."

Alvin Shantz, Camrose, Alberta: "My best buy is my 1986 Plymouth Caravelle rear wheel drive automobile. It has over 35,000 miles and the only problem has been a faulty resistor spark plug that caused the engine to misfire. I change oil every 3,000 miles and never have to add oil. In the summer it gets up to 32 mpg (imperial) on long drives. I installed a carburetor enhancer from Eagle Research (Box 86, Yahk, B.C. V0B 2P0)."

Keith Senska, Woonsocket, S. Dak.: "It makes uniform bales in all conditions," says Keith about his "best buy" 1991 Deere 535 baler. "It's easy to operate and adjust. I'd recommend it to anyone."

Tom Probst, West Liberty, Iowa: Tom says a 1990 Case-IH 7110 Magnum tractor heads his "best buy" list. "I'm extremely pleased with it. It easily pulls a 22-ft. disk-chisel plow without lugging down and regains rpm's very quickly. The powershift transmission is smooth and has speeds where I need them. It's a pleasure to operate. The cab is quiet and well designed with great visibility."

"I traded a Massey Ferguson 2745 tractor for the Magnum. I wish I had never seen that tractor. I could afford it when I bought it, but in the end the down time and repair costs made it too expensive to keep."

Marcel J. Dufault, Haywood, Manitoba: "I'm a crop adjuster so I travel a lot over rough fields and country roads. I find that my 1989 Chrysler Reliant K-car is a best buy. The 2.5-liter engine has plenty of power and is fuel efficient. It drives comfortably and handles well on unpaved country roads. The 5-speed manual transmission

# Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

## OPINION

small and hard to read. Everything is metric and the plumbing is too complicated. When the tank has less than 50 gal. in it, the gauge won't show the volume. When there's 30 gal. or less in the tank and the sprayer is on sloping ground, the pump will suck air causing the sprayer to lose pressure. It's very difficult to finish a job without having a lot of leftover chemicals in the tank.

"Our 1991 Deere 750 no-till drill is a best buy. We've used it to seed soybeans and wheat in both no-till and conventional till with excellent results. It even did a good job seeding beans into irrigated corn ground that hadn't been touched after harvest. The beans made 53 bu./acre."

Myles C. Elsberry, Wausa, Neb.: "Our 1992 Case-IH 8480 baler is a best buy. It may not make the best looking bales in the world, but we've got the best quality hay we've ever had. We've used it to make over 1,000 bales so far and have had only a few minor problems."

Herb Lofy, Richfield, Wis.: Herb purchased his "worst buy" DeLaval (New Century) milk cooler in 1983. "We're very unhappy with its performance. It took over a year to get it to work properly, and we had to hire someone on our own to repair it. Just before the 5-year guarantee expired, a seam on the bottom of the tank split due to poor spot welding on the stainless steel. We brought the problem to the attention of factory representatives several times at farm shows, but got no response. The washer has also caused many problems. When the pipe-