

that never work and keep burning up belts. Shields get in the way of greasing and oiling and must be removed to service properly. It took months and many heated arguments with the company to get a second machine, which was not a great improvement. But we have had good luck with it since we stripped off the shields and removed the loading auger."

**Floyd Hasstedt, Piqua, Kan.:** He's been pleased with his 1980 **International** 1086 tractor. "Except for some delay in getting things done under warranty, this has been a good tractor. It uses 6 gal. per hour of fuel where the 4230 Deere I traded off used 7½ gal. under load. This summer, planting with a 12-row planter, it used about 3 gal. per hour. The Deere 4230 never used less than 4½ to 5 gal. per hour under light loads. It also starts well."

**Henry Tjoelker, Everson, Wash.:** "I strongly disagree with the FARM SHOW reader who recently named his **Jonsereds** chain saw as a worst buy," says Henry. "I bought a new **Jonsereds** chain saw 10 years ago, and have used it for everything from logging to wood carving and have worn out more chains than I can remember. It has never been in the shop and has never failed to start. It is as fine as any chain saw ever made."

**Jim Van Der Pol, Kerkhoven, Minn.:** His "best buy" is a **White** 588 5-bottom plow with spring resets. "The plow is a sturdy, simple machine that clears trash well, holds straight and steady in the toughest plowing, and pulls easily. It's priced right, too."

On the minus side, Jim says he's had trouble with products purchased through discount stores. "They sell the product a little cheaper but they refuse to provide any service or repairs. From now on, I'll spend more to buy from someone who backs up their products."

**Lester L. Reynolds, Erin, Tenn.:** "It required too much maintenance and I was always working on either the mower or the tractor. I traded it off and bought a **Woods** RM59 and solved our problem," says Lester, disappointed with his **Bolens** model 1050 tractor/mower.

He's pleased with his **International** 574 tractor. "I bought it used and it has been everything that I expect a tractor to be. It's a pleasure to drive and a real workhorse. The only problem is that it's a little hard to start in cold weather."

**Donald J. Hecht, Cumberland, Wis.:** "The feeder is supposed to distribute haylage evenly along the entire 80-ft. length of the feed bunk. However, after many attempts by the dealer and ourselves to get it to feed haylage uniformly, it still drops one pile halfway down the bunk and another pile at the end. In the extremely cold weather of the 1981-82 winter, it often dropped all the haylage off along the first half of the bunk, so we had to carry haylage by hand to feed our 70 cows. We tried to trade it off but the dealer didn't want our trade-in," says Donald, disappointed with his "worst buy" **Patz** 101 "Ta-

pered board feeder."

He's had good luck, though, with his **Posi-Lock** gear puller from **Octagon Tool Co.**, Fargo, N. Dak. "It has jaws which can be tightly clamped to a bearing or gear to remove it, unlike other pullers which work so poorly you have to hold the jaws with one hand while attempting to tighten the center screw with the other. It's great for removing the remains of sealed bearings from shafts."

**Art Walz, Luana, Iowa:** "After reading in FARM SHOW about wood furnaces that install outside the house, we bought a **Sure Flame** 2000 furnace from **Sure Flame Co.**, Huntington, Ind. There's no fire danger, dirt, or smoke inside the house. Temperature control is very constant, never varying more than 1° above or below the thermostat setting. It burns green wood without danger of chimney fire. Since installing this unit we have burned no LP gas in our regular furnace and the **Sure Flame** burns everything from old boards to bags of twine. With good firewood, it holds fire easily for 10 to 12 hours."

"Another of my best buys is my **Deere** 8640 tractor. It's very easy to handle, rides good and has lots of power. Deere has been outstanding in updating these tractors to new specs at no cost to owners. I know of no other company that takes responsibility for their products as Deere does."

**Bill Knoff, Nahotah, Wis.:** Heading his "best buy" list is his **Owatonna Manufacturing Company** 330 hydrostatic skid steer loader. "I never thought one machine could do so much, from cleaning manure to painting the house to moving machinery without a tractor. It also carries feed twice a day 365 days a year to steers and brood sows outside. Excellent serviceability, too."

"Also on the plus side is our 16-ft. **Royal** livestock trailer. Loading steers and hogs was never so easy. Maneuverability is excellent and, with a 2-in. ball on the tractor, it'll go anywhere. It has an open full rear door so the cattle can jump right in without having to be forced up truck ramps. It's the most natural way of loading I've ever seen."

**Brian Yokimas, Selkirk, Manitoba:** "Since I took delivery of my 986 **International** tractor in July of 1979, I've had no downtime at all," says Brian. "It has unreal power for only 105 hp., easily pulling 30 ft. of seeders at 6 mph. It never burns over four imperial gallons of fuel per hour."

### "Unreal power for only 105 horsepower."

Very reliable and economical.

"We also have three best buy older **New Holland** combines that just keep going and going. The first one, a 980 which I bought used in 1973, has had

less than ½ hour of downtime in the 10 years I've owned it. Very good machines."

**Davie L. Overton, Jr., Henderson, N.C.:** "Since I am a small farmer, I don't buy much new equipment," says Davie, naming his **Farmall M** tractor as one of his all time "best buys". "This **Farmall** gives good service and is just the right size for our heavy disking jobs. At one gallon per acre, it's easy on fuel. Haven't had any trouble."

He had problems though, with his **McCulloch** 110 chainsaw. "It worked well the first year but after that the carburetor kept clogging up. I bought it new to trim trees on the edge of my fields but I have ended up spending all my time working on it. It is a nice light saw but it's hard to keep the carburetor working."

**Robert W. Gilliland, Urbana, Ill.:** "My worst buy is my 1982 **Chevy** S-10 pickup with a 4-speed manual transmission and a 4-cyl. engine. I was told it would get up to 35 mph but I have never gotten more than 25 mpg, and that was with the wind behind me. When I'm bucking the wind, I have to drive in third gear because fourth gear won't handle it. We know that it has the wrong rear end in it and General Motors knows it too, but they won't do a thing. Needless to say, this is the last GM product I will ever buy."

"My best buy is my 1460 **International** combine. It has never given me any major problems. The quality of grain that it puts out is excellent."

**Kevin Heavner, Lincolnton, N.C.:** He had good luck with his 010 **Stihl** power chain saw. "It handles a 16-in. cutting bar as well as competitive saws that are much heavier to handle. It's quick starting and is so economical to operate that it's a pleasure to saw wood."

**Jerome Berman, Amelia, Ohio:** "It's rugged, easily maneuvered, and very accurate for grains and especially soybeans," says Jerome, pleased with his **International** "soybean special" planter. "Placement and metering are excellent. We had our best yields ever after using it last year."

**Nick Verbarg, Wellandport, Ont.:** "**Pioneer** chain saws must be the worst," says Nick. "We have tried two and they are terrible to start and bog down continuously."

**Bert Voskamp, Atwood, Ont.:** He's pleased with his 045 **Stihl** electronic "quickstop" chainsaw. "We rely on wood for heat so I needed a saw that would start and be comfortable to operate, and this saw more than fills the bill. No vibration and it's extremely quiet considering its power. Dealer service was excellent. After 8 to 10 hours use, the chain bar had a small chip on its tip but the warranty fully covered it with no hassles."

**Glenn Baker, Edgerton, Minn.:** He nominates his **Deere** 2700 plow as "best buy". "It has excellent clearance — never plugged once in heavy corn stalk residue."

Also on the plus side, Glenn likes his **Bradford** gravity box with a 10-ton gear. "It cleans out completely and is well-built but the adjustable

tongue is a joke. It only moves 4 to 5 in. so we had to redo it. Also, the sliding gate bent after the first 10 loads."

**Elton Zimmerman, Buffalo, Mo.:** He's disappointed with "**Golden Harvest** Si-Gro 400 forage sorghum. We lost most of it due to lodging of its too-thin stalks."

On the plus side, he names the non-clog cutterbar on his **Deere** 1209 mower-conditioner as "best buy". "Cut through just about anything. I cut through wet clover and thick matted fescue and it never clogs up."

**Dale L. Hekrdle, Stanton, Neb.:** "My **Deere** 4440 has lots of power and a great cab. My 6620 **Deere** combine with hydrostatic drive is quick to service and simple to adjust. It has plenty of power and capacity, and is a

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joy to operate. I've had little downtime or problems with any of my **Deere** products."

On the minus side, he's had trouble with his "**Dakon** gravity box. The welds and seams are breaking and cracking on the box. Very poor construction."

**George Oliver, Fairview, Alberta:** His 1981 **Case** 4490 tractor heads his list of "best buys". "It's a very reliable tractor, comfortable and quiet. This tractor gives me perfect service. Fuel consumption is good and visibility excellent."

**Lloyd J. Hicks, Mortlach, Sask.:** He likes his **Massey-Ferguson** model 35 swather. "Cuts at a high ground speed and lays a good swath that is easy to combine, yet has good weather resistance," says Lloyd.

**Allen Derrer, Shannon, Ill.:** "We were impressed with its exceptional grass and volunteer corn control in our beans," says Allen, pleased with **Poast** herbicide from **BASF**. "It's the only solution we've found for wirestem mully."

**Mike Dugan, Cedar Falls, Iowa:** "The basic difference between parking a tractor in my 10-year old **Butler** Famstead building and parking it outside, is that outside it dries off more quickly after it rains," says Mike about his "worst buy". "The contractor who installed it was unable to correctly install the roof panel fasteners. This resulted in leaks wherever the over-tightened screws stripped out, or the under-torqued ones failed to seal the rubber washer. Once they got their money, we were on our own."

"My best buy has been a **Bradford** 225 bu. gravity box with 12-in. extension mounted on a 10-ton **Bradford** gear. It unloads wet grain easily, and it costs far less than comparably sized competitive models."

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