

M.E. Bowman, Branch, Mo.: He's upset with two Briggs & Stratton engines. "About 16 years ago, I bought a roto tiller with a Briggs & Stratton engine and used it for 14 years before I had to repair it. After the repair work, I got considerably more service from it before more repairs were needed and I decided to get a new engine for it.

"Having had such success with the Briggs & Stratton engine, I naturally chose another. In just over a year, the governor on the new engine has never worked. I took it back to the company and they could not make it work, so I've been using it with just the hand throttle."

"About 4 or 5 years ago, I bought a riding mower, also with a Briggs & Stratton 8 hp engine which gave trouble beginning just a few days after a guarantee expired. I replaced that engine with another Briggs & Stratton short block. It lasted six months and I repaired it with new rings and a rod. It lasted for another six months when I purchased another new short block engine.

"I just cannot understand what has happened to Briggs & Stratton. They used to be one of the best."

Maurice Walther, Silver Lake, Ind.: "We've retired from farming but live on the farm and enjoy FARM SHOW," says Maurice. "The magazine is loaded with new functional alternatives, has the courage to print its findings and is refreshingly progressive. Keep up the good work."

James H. Anderson, Sullivan, Ill.: James has had good luck with his 5020 Allis Chalmers tractor with a 60-in. belly mower and 50-in. Side-winder rotary mower. "I like the ease of putting the mower on the tractor and removing it. The mower works great and the tractor has the proper range of gears for all mowing conditions. The tractor is small for the power range. Handy to run augers and other pto equipment."

Milo Kolden, Vienna, S. Dak.: "This is a well-built machine that does a good job on all kinds of small grain, corn and sunflowers. Excellent service from our dealer," says Milo, pleased with his New Holland 1400 combine.

Allen Broster, West Salem, Ill.: "This truck is very uncomfortable to drive, it shifts hard and will not turn short at all. Pushing on the gas pedal is like sticking your foot in a bowl of mush," says Allen, unhappy with his

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Ford LN-750 tandem truck. "The engine has no power and something is always wrong with the electrical system. Very disappointed with the truck in general."

Allen's happy, though, with his Honda ATC three-wheeler. "It has

more uses than I could list and makes work fun. It's a good way to check ground out in the spring of the year, and to check fences. No problems at all."

Milton Ostby, LaMoure, N. Dak.: Milton's unhappy with Carbyne wild oats herbicide. "It gave no control on wild oats whatsoever. I could have done as well with plain water. I might have been at fault because I wasn't on time. I've done a lot better with Avenger wild oats spray," says Milton.

He's pleased, however, with his Posi-Lock gear and bearing puller. "It has to be the best buy I ever made in tools. I saw a demonstration of the puller clamped on the inner part of a sealed bearing to pull it off a shaft. I didn't believe it would work till I tried it myself. The outer jaws clamp solid to whatever you're pulling. No chance of slipping like with other pullers."

Michael S. Calef, Independence, Oregon: "We have problems with compaction in our sweet corn and bush bean ground and the Roterra does an outstanding job of loosening the soil just before we plant without disturbing our layer of pre-plant chemical. My only complaint is that the teeth are very expensive and do not last," says Michael about his 12-ft. Lely Roterra.

Fred Nye, Alvada, Ohio: He's pleased with his Schuld 4-ton bulk feed bin. "We use it to store ground high moisture corn and have been able to move all feed from the bin with no bridging. The corn is approximately 20% moisture. Very satisfied."

Adrian B. Harris, New Sharon, Maine: He had trouble with his 1980 Long 610 tractor. "It was poorly constructed and broke down most of the time. In less than a year it was being repaired more than I was using it. I lost the motor, clutch, pto and had trouble with the hydraulics. I sold it with very few hours on it."

He likes his 1981 Allis Chalmers 6060 tractor. "Gives me no trouble. A good, all-around tractor and loader. Tremendous hydraulics."

Jerry W. McElahaney, Bratt, Fla.: "Our TR 70 combine does a fine job in all crops. Plenty of power with that Cat engine. Have had little down time after nearly 700 hours. Dealer service is exceptional. Am also pleased with Volkswagen's diesel pickup. Excellent fuel economy, handling and comfort."

On the minus side, Jerry's upset with his Allis Chalmers 7060 tractor. "We have always used AC tractors on our farm but this 7060 is making us look at other colors. It has been nothing but trouble and is in the shop more than the field. Dealer service has been good but quality of equipment is not up to par."

Robert Born, Hazel, S.D.: He's unhappy with his Case 2390 tractor. "The fuel tank leaked, hydraulic and power steering hose ends popped off, the manifold gasket blew out, an injector line broke, the cab was dusty and the wheels would lock up and slide if you stepped on the clutch without first moving the power shift to the number one position. Did have good power, however."

Robert also reports some problems with his TR 70 New Holland combine. "The shafts and gear boxes were too light. Brackets fell off due to poor welds."

Robert adds that his 9350 John Deere drills and 7000 Max-Emerge planter have proved to be good purchases. "After using the drills last season, I've had no problems. The three 10-ft. drills have a hydraulic transport that goes from field to road position, or vice versa, without unhitching the tractor. I've used the corn planter three seasons with only one breakdown."

J.W. and Ricky Winburn, Water Valley, Miss.: They like their John Deere 4440, 4640 and 4840 tractors, all purchased within the last year. "Prior to our purchase of these tractors we owned Massey Ferguson and International. True to their slogan 'Nothing Runs Like A Deere', minor problems have been taken care of promptly and thoroughly by our dealer."

Gene Davis, Northwood, Iowa: His Hesston Hydro Swing 1010 haybine, Hesston 5500 round baler and M.F. forage boxes are all "best buys". "The Hesston hay equipment is a pleasure to operate. No problems whatsoever and the dealer is great. Our M.F. boxes are great to chop in and unload."

Joe Thomas, Elizabethtown, Ky.: "One of my worst buys has been a G.B. quick-tach 880 loader. The loader hits the side rails on my 185 A.C. tractor. It was leaking and the hydraulic hoses were taped up on delivery. The dealer replaced the hoses but did not correct the cause after 16 months of promising. I gave up."

"One of my best buys is a 538 Ford Haybine. I have had a few problems but the dealer has been excellent in taking care of them."

Jim Brown, Alta Vista, Kan.: He had trouble with his Gleaner F-2 combine. "The machine had no capacity or power. I complained to the dealer but he said I would never be happy because it was not red (I have almost all IHC machinery). Finally this summer, during wheat harvest, we got his mechanic to work on it and found that the governor was not opening up. He adjusted it and made a new machine out of it. This combine does an excellent job of cleaning grain but has too many high speed chains and sprockets."

On the "best buy" side, Jim's pleased with his International 490 tandem disk. "We used it on about 800 acres this year with no problems whatsoever. Does an excellent job preparing seedbeds and deep disking in place of plowing. The frame and wheel carriers are built very heavy and should stand lots of work without shaking apart."

Gerald Williams, Duncombe, Iowa: "I purchased two Parker 2500 wagons last year with 16.5, L-16 tires. My wife hauls to the elevator and I don't have to worry at all. I also purchased diverter chutes for the wagons. They shoot the grain under the wagon real well. The people that unload really like them."

Harold Cox, Holladay, Tenn.: "For

a small combine, this machine has great capacity. It really handles a 4-row cornhead well. The cab is comfortable and we've had good dealer service," reports Harold about his "best buy" Gleaner K-2.

He nominates his 1979 Ford 150 diesel 2-wheel drive pickup as his "worst buy". "The paint has come off, the motor is shot, the transmission gone and dealer service is terrible."

Damon Lacey, Middletown, Ohio: He's happy with White's 5100 folding 8-row Seed Boss planter. "We bought this planter for its mobility as we have scattered fields. The Deere planter we traded for it didn't fold. The new planter's durability has been way beyond our expectations. Depth control and seed spacing is better than any planter we've seen. It's incredible! Even with the bad spring this year, our stands are almost perfect."

On the negative side, Damon's upset with his John Deere 220 folding disk. "This machine constantly breaks. It has about as much downtime as it has working time. The breakage includes axles, blades, standards and entire gangs that fall off. Small rocks are murder on this disk. It's pure junk!"

Randy Fischer, Adams, Neb.: "My worst buy is my Acra Plant Trash Whippers. I've used these furrow openers two seasons and had nothing but trouble. The bearings are no good and the disc mounting for the Max-Emerge planter is light and weak. Because of the poor performance of these openers, I have a poor milo stand. The manufacturer has been very uncooperative with me and my local dealer."

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Ron McCoy, Crookston, Neb.: "I would like to nominate my 1981 Ford F-350 pickup as my 'worst buy'," says Ron. "When I first bought it, I got 7.75 miles to the gallon with the 400 cu. in. engine. The dealer worked hard for me but couldn't get Ford to give me a new carburetor so I finally bought a new 1979 model carb and my mileage jumped to 13.5. But I had other problems. The gearshift lever fell off in my hand. I called Ford Motor Co. and all they did was refer me to the dealer, who, in turn, can't get anything out of Ford."

Ron adds that he's happy with his two John Deere 4840's. "They're trouble free and have a world of power and comfort. I also have high praise for Deere's 12-row Max-Emerge planters. I've owned three of them and they're the Cadillac of planters."

Tim Shaver, College Corner, Ohio: Tim nominates FARM SHOW as a "best buy". "I really enjoy reading

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