

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

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# Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

**Harold Hawthorn, Foresters Falls, Ontario:** "My 'worst buy' in 30 years of farming has been my new 1980 model 5540 Hesston big round baler," Harold told FARM SHOW. "With the help of a good dealer and a good service man from Hesston, I succeeded in getting my hay baled. However, I wasn't told that this baler would not bale straw.

"After every bale of hay, I have had to clean out loose hay that works up through belts and can't get out. The pickup will immediately self-destruct if it picks up a handful of tough hay — we demolished it twice in 600 bales.

The automatic twine tie is not dependable. If there isn't 1800 psi in the tractor hydraulics, the tailgate won't lift, which blew the pump on my Case 730 tractor and cost me \$300 before I even had the baler in the field. I had to run the new pump 300 lbs. over maximum before it would lift it. Obviously, the 5540 was not designed to function on all tractors. I feel this

money to go to an overseas country if they can get equal value here at home."

**Gene D. Arlt, Ritzville, Wash.:** "I had them on my car and machinery when Mount St. Helens erupted last spring. They saved my engines when others failed due to the abrasive ash," says Gene, pleased with Fram air and oil filters.

He notes that "Mount St. Helens" was the worst natural disaster I've seen in my lifetime, making equipment fail when it shouldn't have, with wear about four times normal. Hard to tell a good product from a bad one under conditions like this."

**Robert P. Butcher, St. Johns, Mich.:** Robert's happy with his Troy 7-hp. garden tiller. "We have stoney ground but the tines are located on the rear so the tiller's well-balanced and easy to handle. It's also well constructed and easy to maintain. Just ask my wife."

**Walt Herrmann, Brimfield, Ill.:** "I think the American public is making a big mistake by importing so many cars. Why not be patient with our auto industry and give them time to produce smaller gas efficient cars?" asks Walt, pleased with his 1981 Chevrolet Impala with a 305 V-8 engine and automatic transmission with overdrive. "I get 20 mpg in everyday driving. It has the room of a big car and snappy acceleration. Rides very well."

**Gordon Smith, Maddock, N. Dak.:** "A little over one year after I bought a 2-150 White tractor, the bearing on the pto shaft froze. I hadn't used the pto more than six or seven hours, but with the one-year warranty off, I wasn't sure if the company would fix it. I wrote to them and explained my situation. They sent their block man and I gave him the replaced parts. In about a month I received a letter from White, giving me credit for the parts that caused the problem. I was well satisfied!

"I like the tractor very much. It has good power, is economical, has a quiet cab and is nice to handle. This past fall my son Gary and I purchased another 2-150."

**Gordon Vogler, Wakarusa, Kan.:** "Some time back I bought a wood splitter from Tri-Star Corporation in Vandalia, Ill. It has never worked and I've written them. They never even answer my letters."

**David Foehner, Boling, Tex.:** "Its diesel engine had every problem in the books, aggravated by slow, inept service by a dealer who couldn't have cared less after the sale was made," says David, upset with his 1979 Oldsmobile Delta 88 diesel.

He's been pleased, though, with his Glencoe Soil-Saver chisel plow. "It's built strong and sturdy and the coulters eliminate choking up in trashy ground. I like the easy depth adjustment on the cylinders. Plow shares are reversible for double life," says David.

**August Schueler, Bristow, Iowa:** "This attachment is a real money maker. Makes combine operating much easier and has almost eliminated the pushing of dirt while cutting close to the ground," says August about his "best buy" Hiniker

baler should be recalled and redesigned.

"My 'best buy' in recent years is a used John Deere combine. It just keeps on operating without problems. A pleasure to have it in the field," Harold concludes.

**Bill Larkin Jr., Independence, Mo.:** "Last spring, my father and I purchased a 1600 Eversman land-plane manufactured by Eversman Mfg., Denver, Colo. Without a doubt, this is one of the finest operating pieces of machinery we have ever owned. It does a fine job of leveling land and preparing a seedbed. We feel that there are several benefits involved with this planing operation. The first thing we noticed was how much better our planters and drills worked on a firm, smooth seedbed. All cultivating operations are so much smoother and faster. While combining soybeans, we discovered we were able to cut closer than ever before — and faster, too.

"We've also been very impressed with the Eversman Company's excellent followup service. If more American manufacturers would return to the basic concept of value for dollars paid, and service after the sale, they wouldn't be crying about hard times and looking for a government bailout. No one wants their