

# Best And Worst Buys

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interchange. We especially like the way the 6600 runs our 466 John Deere pto baler. It turns out 100-lb. or better two-wire bales that are uniform and just what the hay truckers and buyers want.

"We average about 600 hrs. per tractor per year, using the 6600 and 4000 daily to feed cattle. The 5000 has a cab and is turbo charged. With about 7000 hrs. on it, it's never been overhauled and does all our plowing. The 9600 was purchased used and does all our disking, ripping, haychopping, and pulls a 14-ft. Towner scraper."

On the negative side, Cyril's disappointed with his Long 460 42-hp. diesel tractor. "We had purchased our second hand Ford 4000 the year before and used it to do the same work as the new Long 460, which cost nearly twice as much as the Ford with 4,000 hrs. on it. Today, the Ford is still going strong without having had a fraction of the maintenance needed on the Long.

"When we could get the Long started it was fine, but half the time it wouldn't start. The first year, while it was under warranty, several things failed, including the pto clutch, electrical system, and battery. They were good at fixing it up for us but the down time was costly. After the guarantee ran out, it lost still another clutch and had more breakdowns that always cost \$500 or more to fix. Getting parts was slow. It doesn't pay to buy foreign equipment."

**James Neuhaefer, Lacon, Ill.:** "It's tops in my opinion," says James, pleased with his new John Deere 4840 tractor. "It replaces a Deere 6030. There's less power, but you get more work done because it's one of the best handling and riding tractors available. You're willing to put in longer hours."

**Ray Brunker, Olathe, Kan.:** "Our Kinze 400 auger wagon has done everything the company said it would do and more," Ray reports. "We bought it just to 'hold' grain while our tandem wagon was in town but have found we use it to catch grain on the go whenever we get the chance. With the auger wagon, we can have our tandem headed back to town with 600 bu. 15 min. after it gets to the field.

Ray's also happy with his International 1460 rotary combine. "Buying the 1460 was one of the best moves we ever made. We've had it for two years now and would never think of going back to a conventional combine. It puts a much better product in the grain tank and has fewer moving parts than other combines."

**Clifford Osthus, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.:** "These tires were on a 4240 John Deere tractor I bought one year ago," says Clifford, upset with his Goodyear tires. "Cornstalks punctured the two rear tires and

both had to be repaired at different times. The front tires had flaws in them and, after 300 hrs. of use, they began to show where they had been spliced together, so I replaced them."

Clifford's had good luck, though, with his John Deere grain cart. "It's great at getting corn out of the field when ground conditions make it impossible to drive a truck in the field, such as in snow or mud. Ordinary wagons are much harder to maneuver under these conditions. In fact, a good truck and this grain cart are all that is needed to harvest corn, beans or small grain."

**Norman Reinhart, Cambridge, Minn.:** Norman's best buy nomination is his "Dahlman 20-ft. potato bulk box with extensions from Dahlman Inc., Braham, Minn. I use the box for grain hauling, not for potatoes. We hauled more than 50,000 bu. of corn last year with

**"I use this 20 ft. potato bulk box to haul grain. Works great."**

not a bit of trouble. The hydraulic drive on the belt conveyor lets you control the speed of unloading. I'd recommend this product to anyone for moving grain."

**Richard C. Pierce, Stratton, Neb.:** "We feel the errors at the factory were the cause of most of our problems during the last two harvests," says Richard, disappointed with his 1979 model 550 Massey-Ferguson combine. "It's been nothing but trouble since the day it was delivered. Defective wiring and malfunctioning hydraulics were the first problems. Then, during the two harvests, at least a dozen unloading auger belts had to be replaced. The bearing on the main drive shaft was not properly packed, causing heat to travel down the shaft and making the belts shrink. Also, the tube connecting the separator clutch bearing to the grease bank wasn't hooked up at the factory."

**Terry Kastens, Herndon, Kan.:** "This three-wheeler has saved us more hours of labor than we ever imagined," says Terry about his Yamaha 125 Tri-moto three-wheeler. "We use it mostly for doing chores on our dairy farm, toting buckets of grain and milk from one location to another. It's also handy for checking or herding livestock, checking pasture fences, and just plain getting around when it's muddy. It's been quite trouble-free

except for the drive chain. But Yamaha made available a totally enclosed drive chain case which completely eliminated the drive chain problems.

"We're upset with our Eagle Eye flowmeter for measuring gallons per minute from irrigation wells by means of measuring differential water pressure," says Terry. "This meter is grossly inaccurate if the well pumps any air. It's slow, cumbersome and we find it hard to get air removed from the meter. Also, the tube that is placed inside the irrigation pipe to deliver the differential water pressure to the meter is ridiculously expensive for as simple as it looks. I think a rotating-fan type water meter is cheaper, simpler, and more dependable for measuring irrigation flow rates."

**Dale K. Moore, Stromsburg, Neb.:** "I'm very unhappy with the way this planter plants milo seed," reports Dale, upset with his John Deere Max Emerge 7000 planter. "We continually get 10 to 15-ft. skips unless we go to small seeds. I have contacted dealers and district men and always get the same story, that an improvement is on the way. But it never comes."

Dale's pleased with another product that he first read about in FARM SHOW. "We used Broyhill's Bo-Bar wick applicator for applying Roundup to shattercane and volunteer corn in 500 acres of milo and beans. We got good control of both weeds in both crops. We're also pleased with the use of Bicep at planting for control of shattercane in milo."

**Joseph Dugan, Jr., Roblin, Manitoba:** "The teeth are poor and bend very easily," reports Joseph about his "Crown reel-type stone picker. The company hasn't been of any help in solving the problem."

**Don Stellpflug, Trempealeau, Wis.:** "It's been my most outstanding buy in nearly 20 years," says Don, happy with his Balzer truck-mounted manure spreader from Balzer Manufacturing, Mountain Lake, Minn. "I bought it new in 1961. It has spread every kind of manure possible and outlasted two trucks. After over 18 years, it still performs like new."

**Al Denecky, Stirling, Alberta:** "We depend on this one machine to harvest approximately 2,400 acres a year," says Al about his "best buy" Gleaner L2 combine. "It shows no concern for acres and just keeps right on rolling indefinitely. I wouldn't be afraid to tackle twice the acres. We just bought a new one — our third."

He's not happy, however, with his "Morris Magnum 35-ft. chisel plow. It wouldn't penetrate and pulled too heavy. The trip release mechanism was too complex to our liking. The dealer and manufacturer ignored our complaints."

**Craig Sorgenfrie, Winnebago, Minn.:** "The heater hangs outside and blows air into the building — cold air, that is," says Craig, disappointed with his "L.B. White model 407 barn dryer. The dealer gave so-so service but I finally felt I

could do the repair myself after so many calls. Was only too happy to get rid of it for a heater that works.

"My Case 1830 has added enjoyment to my chores and I find new jobs for it every day," continues Craig. "It has the power and ease of a much bigger tractor. Very pleased with Case dealers and look for years of work from my machine."

**W.G. Foote, Wenona, Ill.:** Heading his "best buy" list is his 179 grain stirring device from David Manufacturing Company. "This machine has caused no trouble and has been a great time and energy saver in our corn drying."

**Fred Phillips, Lucknow, Ontario:** "My Gleaner M combine is a 'best buy'. It's given me no trouble and is

**"The corn head isn't worth the powder to blow it up. Plugs up and is hard to repair."**

easy to work on, but the corn head isn't worth the powder to blow it up. Plugs up easy. Hard to repair. Chains always coming off."

Fred says he's also had trouble with his Allis Chalmers 770 Air Champ corn planter. "The frame is always breaking. Had to get a welder to the field every year. The seed disc opener plugs easy in sandy ground, causing seed to be buried at least 4 in. instead of 1½ in. Needless to say, it has to go, but I can't get rid of it. Even our Allis Chalmers dealer wouldn't touch it."

**Quinton Nelson, Stitzer, Wis.:** "It's just like driving a Cadillac," says Quinton about his 8700 Ford tractor. "Lots of power and easy on fuel. Both the cab and hydraulics are super. No breakdowns in 18 months."

"We're pleased, too, with our 6620 John Deere sidehill combine purchased last fall. Works great, with well-designed cab and controls. Runs smooth and comfortable. Also, our John Deere 7000 Max Emerge is the best planter we've ever used."

**Lyle Abrams, Crookston, Minn.:** "This is the poorest auger I ever bought," says Lyle, upset with his 67-ft. Versatile auger. "It has a bottom drive that has given us trouble from the start. We have also had trouble with flighting that breaks."

**Ted M. Schmidt, Jordan, Mont.:** "I find your magazine the most interesting farm paper I have ever read, and I read every word in it," says Ted.

**Richard G. Spangler, Wilmington, Ill.:** "The combine we bought had to have been made from rejected parts," says Richard, upset with his TR-70 new Holland combine, purchased new in 1978. "The main shaft was bad, the motor threw a rod, bearings broke, the hydraulics leaked like a sieve, belts broke, and chains snapped."

Richard likes his Deere 7000 12-row planter. "It's accurate, easy to fold when going from field to field."