

BUYING TIPS YOU CAN USE

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

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Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

Daniel J. Lowe, Laurel, Mont.: "Is there any way we can make companies show justification on their pricing?" asks Daniel, frustrated with repair costs on his Allis Chalmers 7580 4-wheel drive tractor and L2 Cleaner combine. "Both are excellent pieces of equipment but the dollars for minor repairs are staggering. Two internal components for a constant velocity universal joint, which should cost \$45 maximum, cost me \$347. This is way beyond reason and the list grows with other items."

Except for the minor repairs, he's happy with his 7580 AC tractor. "My prime reason for buying this model was because I have had hearing problems and have been advised to avoid any loud noises. Allis Chalmers has the noise-reducing cab I need. In the field, the 7580 responds well with power. We pull 40 ft. of toolbar with it and work at 5 mph."

Martin Wright, New Salem, N. Dak.: "My worst buy is my New Holland 320 square baler with hydraulic tension. The baler has plungers run-

(F.A.R.M.S.) in LaCrosse. The feeding program was incomplete and full of errors. I am told the agricultural accounting program is being worked on."

On the positive side, David's happy with his "H & S 350 manure spreader. After using it 18 months it has required no repair, not even a sheared pin. We use it daily and then some."

Robert P. Nelson, Clear Lake, Wis.: "I've replaced the motor for the second time and it already uses oil," reports Robert about the 7 hp Tecumseh engine used in his Massey Ferguson lawn mower. "Another neighbor has already put in a second replacement and another had a Briggs and Stratton engine put in his."

On the other hand, Robert nominates his John Deere III lawn tractor as a "best buy". "It starts easy, has plenty of power, does a good mowing job, has a good selection of gears, is easy to operate and uses no oil."

Pierre H. Glanzer, Huron, S. Dak.: "The carpenters can walk away when they're done but I'm stuck here and have to live on with it," says Pierre, upset with his pole barn supplied by Lampert Lumber Co.

Pierre is pleased with his 2240 John Deere tractor. "It has a three cylinder diesel and is the best fuel-efficient utility tractor we've ever had. It has 50 horses of power for the bigger jobs like corn cultivating, yet works great with a loader to clean out cattle sheds. Great to have a tractor that seems to run forever on a tank of fuel."

"Our Ford 6700 is also fuel efficient. In addition, it has the best cab for a smaller tractor in the industry. Works great for drilling, planting, dragging, baling, and anywhere else high horsepower is not needed."

Kenneth Juergens, Weston, Mo.: Kenneth likes his John Deere A-25 high pressure sprayer. "Does a great job of removing dirt and grease from equipment. It's nice to remove grease from an area of equipment about to be worked on, as you don't get your tools so greasy. An added bonus is that it also does a good job of stripping loose paint from buildings. I understand some professional painters now use high pressure water sprayers to remove loose paint instead of scraping or sand blasting."

David Peterson, Dumont, Iowa: Heading his "best buy" list is his MFS 30-ft. grain bin with fan burner and Sukup spreader and Stirator. "It's the second one I've purchased and performs just as well as the first. The price was right and the installation real professional."

He's had trouble with a 17-ft. Allis Chalmers 2300 tandem disk. "Its weight and blades seem alright but the drives between the wings, the scrapers and even the wheel bearings on the four transport wheels are continually wearing out. Besides the nuisance, these parts are very overpriced."

Clyde W. Smith, Thomasville, Ga.: "This tractor has no lugging power, the power steering and hydraulics are no good, and I'm generally very dissatisfied with it. The only things good about it are the Armstrong tires," says Clyde about his 7700 Ford tractor.

ning at up to 105 strokes per min. with the tine bar at the same speed and you cannot keep this rear assembly together. I can't keep it running. Dealer service has been fine but we still can't bale much hay."

He's pleased with his 1979 Ford 150 4-wheel drive pickup, despite some problems. "I've driven Ford pickups for a long time and have had good performance but the engine went out of this 1979 at 6,000 miles and had to be replaced. My dealer did a good job and performance since has been excellent."

Lorne and Francis Henderson, Brinston, Ontario: "We bought a 7000 Deere Max-Emerge planter after reading how well it worked for others in FARM SHOW's best and worst buys. We sure like it," says Lorne. "We're also well-pleased with our 1440 International Axial Flow combine. It does tend to fine-chop the straw in barley and oats, but we find concaves can be set farther apart than the manual calls for. Works nice in corn."

He's disappointed with "Our Allied 6-in. portable grain auger. It always seems to have something going wrong, such as bearings and chains."

David L. Bienfang, Jefferson, Wis.: He's upset with "the microcomputer program I bought from Farm and Ranch Micro Computer Systems