

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

by Harold M. Johnson
Editor

Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

Jerry Reuble, Coupeville, Wa.: "I'm having to do a lot of 'beefing up' just to keep this machine going," says Jerry of his 12-row Farmhand cultivator. "It does a good job if conditions are ideal. But, when on rocky soil, the teeth break off right at the shovel. For a cultivator this big, the material it's made of is not strong enough."

Jerry nominates his Deere 4640 tractor as a best buy. "Its lugging power, compared to any previous John Deere I've seen, is unbelievable. Its engine, teamed up with the power shift transmission, will keep you moving under most adverse conditions. I also like the all-day fuel tank, deluxe seat and quiet cab."

Norris Syverson, McIntosh, Minn.: "Anyone know what's wrong?" asks Norris who's had problems with his International 1066 tractor. "After 320 hours, it started using a quart of oil every four hours and now, at 1600 hours, it uses a quart every two hours."

"I thought I would get some help because the tractor had a one year

used the bottom of the system with the stirring device that was already in my bin. The two really work well together."

Paul Townsend, Rochester, Ind.: "Our worst thought on the whole situation is spending all that money and not getting our money's worth of quality and service, and workmanship," says Paul of his "Grain Systems Inc. grain bins, with Sukup Stirway and Sweepway unloading devices. We put up two 30 ft. by 7 ring GSI bins this past summer. Our worst experience so far has been the quality of workmanship in construction. Our dealer hired a poor construction crew, but he has been helpful in correcting our problems. These problems include loose set screws, belts not tightened, sprockets not lined up right which caused much damage to sprockets and chains, wrong size vaporizer which caused high LP-gas use, plus many more problems too numerous to mention. These kinds of problems cause a lot of headaches and lost time. We can't complain on the quality of the GSI bins or the Sukup equipment. All our problems have been the result of poor workmanship in construction."

Paul adds that he's well pleased with a White Model 253 disk and a Model 385 field cultivator, and a Bush Hog chisel plow. "These three implements were purchased last spring. All three are very good tools and have performed to our satisfaction. No breakdowns so far."

W. G. Craig, Tvronza, Ark.: "It is by far the best planter I've ever used," he says of his Deere 8 row Model 7100 planter. "It is easy to change the seed rate setting for different sized beans. The planting depth is constant and easy to set."

He adds that "The worst buy I made was Cobex herbicide. I applied it on 50 acres of cotton and had the worst infestation of grass and weeds (pigweed) ever. It cut the yield 50% below my other cotton. I also have grass in my soybean fields where I applied Cobex herbicide. I had no problems where I used another brand of herbicide. It was my first and last purchase of Cobex."

Herb Hall, Prophetstown, Ill.: In our last issue Herb reported that he was disappointed with a Jay-Kee gooseneck trailer with grain box: "At the factory, they put the wrong axles under the chassis, thus weakening the trailer. To date, we have broken two axles. The dealer has admitted that the wrong axles were used and that all the axles should be replaced. However, neither he nor Jay-Kee has ever made any kind of arrangement to replace these axles."

Shortly before this issue of FARM SHOW went to press, we received the following letter from Earl Goecke, owner of Jay-Kee Mfg., State Center, Iowa: "We have talked with the dealer in the area of Prophetstown, Ill., to get the true information on the above mentioned trailer. The facts are: Smitty's Welding Service, dealer, at Garden Plain, Illinois, sold two Jay-Kee trailers to A.M. Anderson. Herb Hall of Prophetstown is Anderson's son-in-law. The axles on

guarantee, but it was as though they didn't care about you or the trouble you were having. I talked to the block man and he said he would come out but never did, so I still have my oil problem. Also, the brakes are lousy and the hydraulic seat is like sitting on a stone. Besides these problems, I like the tractor real well. It has excellent lugging power."

Norris nominates his Deere 500 round baler as a best buy. "Doesn't take much power to operate. The pickup on it is poor, however. It's not the floating type. When in a soft field, the teeth dig into the ground."

Clarence Trimpe, Seymour, Ind.: He's disappointed with a 50 by 80 ft. Cuckler all-steel storage building. "Had it put up two years ago and have spent the last year and a half trying to get Cuckler to fix problems with it. We put the building up in August and by February the sliding door tracks on either end of the building were rusting out. For 18 months now we've tried to get someone from Cuckler out here — with no luck. We really can't figure out why it rusted since it was given two coats of paint," says Clarence. "Except for the rust problem, I like the building."

Charles R. Beaver, Millerstown, Pa.: "It lived up to all its advertising claims and that's unusual for most products," says Charles about his "best buy" Shivvers Circu-Lator. "I