

these trailers were misrepresented by the axle company. However, the dealer repaired the first axle because the new ones were not immediately available. The second axle was replaced with a new one. The repaired axle was to be taken back to the dealer for replacement at the convenience of Mr. Anderson, which has not been done at this time, but the new axle is at the dealers and has been there for some time. I would hope that you would print this clarification in your newspaper."

W. C. Watson, Aberdeen, Miss.: He's disappointed with "two 8 ton M & W Little Red wagons. First, the grease retainers wouldn't stay in, which let in dirt to wear out the bear-

"I could write a whole page on this disaster."

ings. Then, the hub bolts would turn off if you went to take off a wheel. If you had a flat, you'd have to take off the whole wheel, bearings and all. I could write a whole page on this disaster."

On the plus side, he notes that his Deere 7100 8-row Max Emerge planter with a seed monitor is "the most trouble-free planter I've ever used. Planted all seed approximately the same depth so we got a good stand. My son, Chip, is also well pleased. The seed monitor is a must in a planter that size since it saved us from having several large skips."

George Seymour, Island, Ky.: "This is a well built piece of equipment that does its job as promised," says George of his Calumet 2250 gal. liquid manure spreader. "The best feature is the care that the manufacturer took in making and shipping it. It actually looked new when it was delivered. Most equipment that we buy needs repainting before it is ever used. A well-built piece of equipment that does its job as promised."

George adds that "subscribing to FARM SHOW was also one of my best buys".

Maurice Simmonds, Lansing, Iowa: He's disappointed with an International Harvester 830 chopper he bought a year ago. "It would throw out corn at the rate of at least 20 bu. per acre. The company came out and made various attempts to beef up weak parts but nothing seemed to help. I would have to get off and push the corn through. After one year, I traded it off. This is a \$12,000 chopper and I can see no reason why the farmer should have to test these machines for the company and take a \$2,000 loss on a trade-in. My neighbor traded his 720 in after 6 months."

Dwight Brown, Wynne, Ark.: "It was the best work truck I've owned but I couldn't keep it out of the shop," says Dwight of his 1977 Ford F-250 four-wheel drive. "I put two transmissions in it, gas mileage was poor and I had to put in 2 power steering

pumps and lifters on the motors. At 25,000 miles I got rid of it."

On the plus side, Dwight nominates his IH 915 rice combine as a best buy. "It is one of the better combines to keep serviced and maintained. It is a lot easier to work on than the John Deere which I previously owned. I wish they would improve the comfort from the operator's seat to the steering wheel. It does a good job cutting rice in all kinds of conditions."

Cap Proffitt, Alden, Kan.: He's well pleased with a half-circle alley made by Valley Sales, of Lexington, Neb., which leads to a Powder River squeeze chute. "The adjustable width curved alley is much cheaper than feedlot type alleyways and the strength is adequate for farm use. Cattle move to the squeeze chute on their own with no hassle or pushing. The Powder River squeeze chute's front opening makes cattle think they can run right through, making them easier to catch. Also, the chute is very sturdy and easy to operate."

Cap also lists a 1978 Chevrolet K-20 4 by 4 pickup and an A & L 425 grain cart as best buys.

"The grain cart is a life saver in muddy fields and for corn harvest. It's completely trouble free, and allows us to unload on the go in corn, which saves valuable unloading time."

Cap is disappointed with the IH 400 cycle air planter. "Bearing troubles throughout the entire planter have cost valuable downtime. We have a 6 row narrow and an 8 row narrow that are both stored in the shed after planting so weather can't be a factor. Just very cheap construction. The planters are only one and two seasons old. We have the same situation on an earlier model which we traded in. The dealer won't stock an adequate supply of parts and personnel know very little about the product."

Lee R. Miller, Winthrop, Iowa: He's pleased with his Shivers Circulator and Dri-Flo System. "It's fast, accurate and saves time, labor and fuel expense. I have to credit our dealer and local construction companies for good service."

Lee adds that "my 1755 Oliver tractor has been a lemon from the start. We've had it in the shop for five engine oil seals, two clutches, brakes and a broken axle within 1600 hours. The only good thing was the service from our dealer."

John Wing, Mechanicsburg, Ohio: John's "best buy" nomination is the USS Cold Flow NH3 box he bought. "We applied 450 acres of Cold Flow to soybean stubble and previously plowed ground last fall and had very little if any, loss. The ammonia applied will be there come planting time this spring. We were shooting for 170 lbs. N applied per acre and achieved 173 lbs. by weight. The Cold Flow box was mounted on a 28½ ft. Deere field cultivator and used 2-in. double-pointed spades. We made our own row applicators."

Dan Bancroft, Dalton, Neb.: "Have had real good luck with the new Crust Buster grain drills. Best thing about these drills is the fact that they

can be transported from field to field with ease. I also like being able to back up to corners without getting out of the tractor to take the drills out of the ground. They're an all-around time saver."

Gene S. Bontrager, Kolana, Iowa: Heading his "best buy" list is the soil test program offered by Brookside Farms Laboratory, New Knoxville, Ohio. "Brookside's area representative comes in May or June and takes my soil samples. He sends them to be analyzed and returns in September or October with the report and works out next year's fertilization program. The thing I appreciate most is that I can look at my recommendation sheet, order directly from it and not have to refigure fertilizer needs. It helps me to be in the field where I need to be, and not at the calculator still trying to figure out what I need."

Walter Shockley, Jr., Salisbury, Md.: He says his 1977 Ford 250 4WD pickup is "just about indestructible. We've never been stuck in sand or mud with it, and we carry loads that are unbelievable. My friends and neighbors say I need a tank and that I should be ashamed to treat a vehicle so badly. I haven't had to take it to the shop since the day I bought it."

Dave Putz, Greeley, Iowa: Dave likes his Calumet 1500 liquid manure spreader. "It's got a fast pump and the tank is built to last. Of course, the price is higher than the rest."

Gerald and David Damaske, Victor, N.Y.: "The Webster 810 wet lime/fertilizer spreader is very well built and works very well. We also had it equipped with a 'seeder' which works well for applying 10 to 20 lbs. per acre of Borate 68," says David. "Good service. After planting, the company president stopped by to see if we were having any problems."

David adds that "we adapted a Deere 443 corn head to our New Idea Uni-System. We feel, from the performance it gave us, that it's the best head on the market. Very little maintenance."

David registered disappointment with "an insecticide kit for our Deere 7000 corn planter. After one season of use, the fiberglass hoppers cracked and leaked insecticide. Deere gave us no satisfaction on the warranty."

Harry Poplawski, St. Clair, Mich.: "Last spring, I purchased a Lely Roterra which prepares a seedbed by rotary action of its tines. In working ground, the machine replaces the disk, drag and culti-packer and prepares a very good seedbed on fall plowed and spring plowed ground, as well as fall chisel-plowed ground. Its operation is, by and large, a once-over trip. It does the best job of incorporating herbicide of any tool I've ever used. And, when it comes to preparing seedbed for alfalfa seedlings, it can't be beat. I can't say anything negative about this machine."

Richard Horth, Hudson, Colo.: "Does a great job of welding, even on vertical and overhead welds which were always difficult for me," says Richard of his Lincoln Weldon Power 150. "It provides not only 4500 watts of standby electricity but is a really nice 150 amp portable welder — at a price you would normally expect to

pay for a standby alternator of that size alone."

Curt Bell, Keota, Iowa: He's well pleased with his Oswalt (Butler) mixing wagon. "It really is a plus with us because of its mixing capabilities. It thoroughly beats the conventional chuck wagon we used to have. We mix high moisture corn with silage and liquid molasses, and the giant augers mix it so good that the cattle get a well mixed ration from beginning to end. Also a plus with the wagon is that the gears and chains are all easy to get at. They all run in oil and are continuously lubricated."

Paul Hinderer, Waterville, Wa.: He nominates a 1977 Ford 350 one-ton truck as a "worst buy". "The cab is wide and the seat is comfortable until you have three big men in it. The seat is too short for the cab. The turning is terrible. Our two-ton trucks can turn easily inside of this small one-ton. The rear-end ratio is for 70 to 75 mph driving. This makes the truck act like a 3-speed transmission with an overdrive."

John Guthrie, Muncie, Ind.: He's disappointed with "an Owatonna model 30 skid loader. The service has been good, but there have been too many problems, such as mud and manure packed between the wheels and frame, and problems with the brakes and engine."

On the other hand, he says his Gehl 4400 skid loader, which he uses every day in his dairy and hog operation, has caused few problems and "is easy to operate".

John wonders if there's anything

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that can be done to make the 986 International tractor easier to shift?"

Merrill E. Woerner, Lafayette, Ind.: "I've made two purchases of equipment I first saw in FARM SHOW and both have been best buys. One was an electric Flameless Blowtorch from John Sturges House, Westport, Conn. It's worked well every time I've used it. I also bought Rid-A-Bird pest bird controls and put them in a machine shed I built last fall. They work great and I hope to see more good buys in your magazine in the future."

Jack Roberts, Mill Springs, Ky.: Jack's pleased with his model 345 Massey Ferguson automatic spring reset plow. "It's the only plow I've ever used that does a good job in rock ground. It's heavy enough to penetrate well, and the reset feature works perfect when plowing through obstacles."

Reuben R. Smith, Jr., Church Hill, Miss.: "We work on it as much as we use it," says Reuben about his John

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