

Conklin's "Rust Not" for Plows: "It's better than paint, grease or anything I've used," says Thomas Small, of Walton, Ind., who put "Rust Not" from the Conklin Products Co., Minneapolis, Minn., at the top of his "best buy" list. He notes that moldboards painted with the special preservative "scour in the first 5 feet of plowing."

Also rating a "best buy" nomination from Thomas is his Massey Ferguson 750 combine with the 83 corn head: "It has unbelievable capacity, even in 160 bu. corn. Maneuverability is excellent for this big a machine. It's easy to service and feeds uniformly into the cylinder. Dealer service has been good."

Deere 7100 planter with Monitrol: "Biggest advancement in corn planting in the last 10 years" is how Dwain Miller, Frankfort, Ind., describes his Deere 7100 planter with folding wings and Monitrol for adjusting planting rate on the go. "I varied the population as much as 5,000 plants per acre on each pass through the field, according to soil type, and probably had my best corn crop ever considering weather conditions. The planter and Monitrol performed flawlessly. I received very good service from my Deere dealer."

Dwain says private brand soybean seed has been one of his worst buys. "I've tried several new brands the last few years and none of them yielded as well as Corsoy which I have been planting for 10 years. The advertising claims have never held up in the field."

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Goodrich radial tires: One season's experience has sold Dale Nielson, Chapman, Neb., on Goodrich radial tractor tires. "They'll do almost the work of dual wheels any time," says Dale, who equipped his new Allis Chalmers 7000 tractor with 18.4 by 38 in. radials. As for the tractor itself, Dale notes that "it has performed quite well, starts easy when cold and is easy on fuel. It's small enough for 30 in. rows and has power to spare for an 8 row cultivator."

Dale is happy with his New Idea model 709 Uni-Tractor, except for a trash plugging problem with the radiator: "In picking one 20 acre patch, we cleaned the radiator with each truckload," he recalls. "There is no way to blow air through to completely clean it."

Dale has high praise for the way New Idea has stood behind the machine. "Once they discovered they had a problem, they bent over backwards to help. The company tells us it's a design problem, that they're working on it, and that all changes will be put on at no cost to me. From

past experience with New Idea, I feel they have better service and warranty than any company, large or small."

Tru-Ride liquid tire sealer and balancer: This product, manufactured by Tri-Texas, 1108 107th St., Arlington, Texas, earned a "best buy" nomination from Richard Dambman, Milledgeville, Ill. He uses it to keep car and truck tires automatically balanced, and to prevent slow puncture and rim leaks on tractor and implement tires. He adds that it solved a tread separation problem on a set of tubeless front tractor tires. "Since using Tru-Ride, I have found no need to change a tire," says Richard. "I even removed 16 oz. lead weights from each front wheel on my 1972 Chevrolet pickup and I have no balance problems, thanks to Tru-Ride."

Watchdog combine monitor: "This electronic device made a believer out of me," says Dick Schmidt, Plaza, Wash. "Last summer, we traded our older Deere 6602 combine for a new one equipped with a Watchdog monitor. This combination of the 6602 and Watchdog turned out to be a team that, in many cases, two combines couldn't match."

Dick notes that "here in the rolling hills of the Palouse Country, we raise peas, lentils, barley and wheat. Changing from one crop to another is sometimes a daily occurrence. This monitor helps us do that in a matter of minutes and all on-the-go right from the operator's seat. When we're through harvesting, we slip the Watchdog monitor out of the combine and into the tractor cab. In a matter of seconds, we're ready to start seeding with the same 'miracle box' monitoring performance of three grain drills."

Several FARM SHOW readers reported that, in view of the tightening cost-price squeeze, they've purchased used rather than new equipment.

"I found a good used cultivator and bought it for \$500. I'm proud of it, reports Robert Bass, Sr., Whiteville, N.C. "I like this Lilliston because you can drive in the field with speed."

Robert notes that Lasso and AAtrex didn't work for him last year. "We farmers need a weed control that works wet or dry, with no carryover. That's why I bought the cultivator for this year's crop." Robert is well pleased with a tobacco coloring generator manufactured by Catalytic: "It done just what they said it would do. Solved our coloring problem, and quality. It works in old barns as well as in bulk barns."

A 5 year old New Idea Uni-System picker-sheller that Franklin Anderson, Lakeville, Minn., bought prior to corn harvest last fall "performed just like a new one. You expect any new machine to run well but this 5 year old rig operated all fall without so much as a loose bolt. The companion 729A sheller has capacity like a large combine and the 702 power unit provides more than adequate power to harvest 150 to 175 bu. corn. It's an excellent corn machine," says Franklin.

Also on his "best buy" list is a Quick Bin for grain storage which he

read about in FARM SHOW. "Grain storage was awfully tight so I decided to try a Quick Bin for temporary storage. So far, the bin has withstood 50 mph winds, rain and snow with no damage to the corn, and no visible damage to the bin. It was easy to put up (about half a day). At 18 cents per bu. cost, the bin is an efficient and reliable way to store grain." Manufacturer of the bin is Quick Field Products, St. Norbert, Manitoba, Canada.

In many cases, FARM SHOW readers reported that the favorable overall performance of a new machine or product was clouded by a minor but irksome problem. For example:

Lowel Zentz, Etna Green, Ind.: "I was very well pleased with this piece of equipment," says Lowell of his

"Considering what you pay for these machines, it looks like manufacturers could do better."

Deere 6600 hydrostatic combine. "The only complaint I have is that the paint job was very poor. The underside and hard-to-get-at places weren't painted at all. I sprayed it myself before putting it into service. Not much of a gripe I guess but, considering what you pay for these machines, it looks like manufacturers could do better."

Jeffrey Dare, Eaton, Ohio: "We used Sencor and Treflan tank mix incorporated for soybeans. We read all the notices and instructions, and still had some damage to our beans. We had excellent control but Sencor is strong and I think they should make more of a point to tell us."

Jeffrey adds that he's well pleased with his Brady model 206 crop cooker: "We were paying way too much for supplement each month. So, we bought the crop cooker and cook our own soybeans. I know we're getting the best quality supplement to be had, and the hogs do better, too."

Gaylord Ennis, Conwango Valley, N.Y.: He's well pleased with his New Holland 718 field chopper, noting that "the machine is easy to service and stands up well to hard usage. The company has thought of just about everything. However, I can't understand why the forage harvester companies have not devised a simple device for unhooking the wagon from the chopper right from the tractor seat. It should be standard equipment."

Leroy Bonnstetter, West Bend, Iowa: On the plus side, he notes that his Deere 4440 tractor "is well engineered compared to other brands and I'm pleased with its performance." On the negative side, he notes that "factory workmanship is very poor. After 54 hours, the tractor

had to be taken into town and be completely split to replace seals. It was back in the field only 2 hrs. when hose clamps not properly tightened at the factory let loose and blew oil all over the tractor. After visiting the factory assembly line, I'd say these problems are caused by the speed at which tractors are assembled."

J. B. Jurgens, Sidney, Neb.: He notes that his Deere 7700 "is a good combine but small breakdowns have been aggravating — such things as air conditioner problems, breaking the shaft behind the platform that drives the sickle and auger, and other small incidents."

Jurgens adds that he's well pleased with the power and handling of his new Deere 8630 tractor: "It responds to load variations much better than the 7520 I traded in. I'm also pleased with Deere's program to replace all components in this tractor which have been proven to be weak points. So far, my dealer has performed over \$6000 worth of update program work."

Richard Deal, China Grove, N.C.: He's pleased with performance of his 370 Tox-O-Wik grain dryer, made by Gilmore-Tatge Mfg., noting that "it does an excellent job of drying grain evenly." However, he has experienced minor problems in getting the right temperature setting to get the proper dried moisture content, and says the dryer was delivered with some of the parts missing. "It's also hard to keep the area under the dryer clean."

William Chalmers, Choteau, Mont.: Heading his "best buy" list is a set of Sears Road Handler radial tires he bought for his Ford 150 Supercab, 2 wheel drive pickup. "These are a soft rubber tire with no studs. They provide good traction and footing on glare ice and snow." William faults his International 241 big baler "for failure to start feeding in wild hay or straw. Also, the upper rollers are impossible to keep clean. I spend all of my time off the tractor unplugging it."

Joe Sherle, Hobart, Okl.: "The engine and drive train are good, but GM needs a beefed-up automatic transmission for its 4-wheel drive pickups," says Joe. He notes that the transmission in his 1976 3/4 ton Chevrolet "has been removed and overhauled 3 different times during 50,000 miles of operation. The 330 automatic is just not strong enough to handle 4-wheel drives."

On the plus side, Joe says his 32 ft. Sunflower chisel plow "has a heavy 4 by 6 in. frame which adds plenty of weight. The rocker shafts are mounted below the frame near the wheels to increase leverage. The optional dual wheels on the center section save bearings and help prevent flat tires."

Jake Cutchin, Jr., Suffolk, Virg.: "My only complaint is difficulty keeping the monitors adjusted so they work properly. It's next to impossible," says Jake of his Allis Chalmers Gleaner F combine. He describes it as "one of the smoothest running and handling combines

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