

## BUYING TIPS YOU CAN USE

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

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**Jerry Pape, Dyersville, Iowa:** “My best buy is a pair of tire chains I bought for my Yamaha ‘utility vehicle’, which was formerly an electric golf cart. The chains kept me moving all winter, right through ice and snow.”

**Gary Pennock, Great Bend, N.Y.:** “I’m very pleased with products from **Lucas Oil** (www.lucasoil.com; ph 800 342-2512). I was having trouble with the fuel pump in my 2000 Saturn car. A fellow at the auto parts store

are and how well they stay in place. Other kneepads I’ve tried in the past moved all over the place and seemed to create more problems than they solved. These just become part of your clothing. If I were a carpet or tile guy and spent all day on my knees, I’d definitely want a pair of these. And at \$37.95 a pair, they’re worth it to me. You can buy direct at [www.comfortknees.com](http://www.comfortknees.com) or find them on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com).”

**Jon Jorgensen, Beloit, Kan.:** “A couple years ago I read about the ‘Best Mouse Trap Ever’ in FARM SHOW and bought several of them to put around my farm.

I could never make them work and yet I still saw them written up in this year’s ‘Best of FARM SHOW’ magazine. I tried everything, including lots of types of bait and different locations, but nothing works. I set up regular mousetraps right next to them and caught mice right away, but never anything in these traps. I talked to the manufacturer and he sent me some of his ‘special’ bait, which didn’t work. He argued with me about returning my money but finally did. However, I had to pay return shipping. These traps do not work and you shouldn’t show them in FARM SHOW, especially since the company does not provide a money-back guarantee.”

**Wallace Browning, Buckingham, Va.:** “Five years ago I bought a used 1978 **Kubota B6100 2-WD tractor** equipped with an 18 hp., 3-cyl. diesel engine. It’s my best buy ever. This tractor is very fuel efficient - I can operate it all day long on 1-gal. of diesel fuel. It has a 3-speed manual transmission with 2 gear ranges so I have to shift gears a lot, but that isn’t a big problem. I use this tractor to do just about everything on my small farm, including pulling tillage implements and hauling pallet loads of firewood. All the components on the tractor are designed simply, making it easy to operate and maintain.

“I also own a slightly bigger 1977 **Kubota L185 DT tractor** that I bought used 5 years ago. It has a 4-speed manual transmission with 3 gear ranges and will run all day on about 1 1/2 gal. of diesel.

“Back in the 1970’s **Kubota** made a lot of low horsepower tractors for the Asian market. These tractors had a simple, fuel efficient design and came with manual transmissions so they could be easily maintained in remote areas. I think they’re a bargain for small farmers. I paid \$750 for the B6100 and \$2,100 for the bigger L185 DT.

“I bought the B6100 at a local farm auction after no one else bid on it. Both tractors have been mostly trouble-free. It goes to show you don’t always need something new and fancy to get the job done - something a little older and less fancy may be all you need.”

**Terry McClain, Carson, Iowa:** “I’m happy with the 12-volt battery maintainers I bought at **Harbor Freight**. I paid about \$7 apiece for them. The batteries on my antique tractors used to lose their charge when not in use, but these inexpensive maintainers keep them ready to start.”

**Dave Weidner, Chambersburg, Penn.:** “My best buy is my 2003 **Husqvarna YTH 1542XP riding mower** equipped with a hydrostatic transmission. My son sold this mower to me because it was too small for his 5 acres (he bought a new **Grasshopper** riding mower and loves it as well). I use it almost every day for cutting grass, getting rid of leaves, and transportation to my tractor shed where my second best buy is stored - a 1974 **Cub Cadet**. It still purrs like a kitten rubbing against your leg on a cold winter night.”



# Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

## OPINION

### Tell Us About Your “Best or Worst” Buy

Send your nominations to:  
**FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029,  
Lakeville, Minn. 55044, or use  
the survey form on our website at  
[www.FARMSHOW.com](http://www.FARMSHOW.com),  
or E-mail your comments to:  
[Editor@FARMSHOW.com](mailto:Editor@FARMSHOW.com)**

suggested I try **Lucas** upper cylinder lubricant and injector cleaner. A 5-oz. bottle treats up to 25 gal. It started working right away after I put it in. I have 183,000 miles on the car and I saved a lot of money not having to replace the fuel pump or injectors.

“It worked so well I decided to try **Lucas** complete engine treatment. You add 1 oz. for every quart of oil when you change your oil. Since I started using it, the car starts up much quicker than before and runs better. I’m very grateful to **Lucas** for these products, which I think will make my engine last for a long time to come.”

**Bob Wilson, Hancock, Md.:** “In the last issue, various readers talked about trouble with **Cub Cadet** and **John Deere** lawn tractors bought at discount home and garden stores. What they probably got was a **Murray** disguised as a **Cub Cadet** or **Deere**. If the serial # on the **Cadet** starts with a 13, it’s a **Murray**. If your **John Deere** serial number starts with a D it’s also a **Murray**. For me, it was quite a surprise to find I was now the proud owner of a **Murray** and not a **Cub Cadet**. Sorry to disappoint all those folks out there who thought they got a deal.”

**Mark Newhall, Lakeville, Minn.:** “I’ve been using a set of **Comfort Knees** kneepads



for a few months now when clearing the garden, doing odd jobs in the garage, and even trying to fix a squeak in our kitchen floor. I can’t believe how comfortable they