

**Andrew Scott Jones, Walstonburg, N.C.:** "My 1996 **Dodge** Dakota pickup equipped with a 4-cyl. engine and 5-speed transmission has more than 300,000 miles on it but is still going strong.

"I bought my **Farmall** 75C tractor new but kept it for only 2 years because it was always in the shop for repairs. It was a real lemon."

**David Martin, Hamlin, N.Y.:** "We're well pleased with our **K-Line** 36-ft. Speedtiller ([www.k-lineag.com](http://www.k-lineag.com); ph 800 445-6882). This high-performing, dual purpose disc-tilling implement does a beautiful job of incorporating corn and wheat stubble. It's well-built and well-engineered.

"In my opinion, bearings made in China don't hold up compared to American-made bearings."

**Tommy Jackson, Crystal Springs, Miss.:** "My **New Holland** TL30 is one heavy-duty little tractor. Works great."

**John Emerson, Cape Fair, Mo.:** "It's a great truck in most ways but has had some problems," says John about his 2014 **Dodge** Ram 3500 dually 4-WD pickup equipped with a Cummins 6.7-liter diesel engine and 6-speed automatic transmission. "It gets a respectable 18 to 20 mp, handles well, and the engine has plenty of power.

"On the negative side, the company should hire designers who actually drive their own trucks. The bed on mine is up so high that it's hard to reach into. The pickup has too much computerized stuff, and all the bells and whistles can drive a guy nuts. Does everything have to be computer-controlled? Trying to check all the various electronic things shown on the dash while you're driving is just another form of distracted driving. The old Ford Model A came with gauges so that you could check everything at a quick glance. Seems to me that computers sometimes cause a lot more problems than they solve."



**Linwood Starner, Gettysburg, Penn:** Linwood's impressed with his **Black & Decker** 4-volt Max Gyro screwdriver, which automatically turns in the direction you turn your wrist.

The lithium ion screwdriver comes with a squeeze grip trigger on back. When you squeeze the trigger, nothing happens until you turn your wrist in the direction you want the screwdriver bit to turn. The farther you turn your wrist, the faster the bit goes.

"I got a gift certificate from my daughter-in-law last Christmas and ended up buying my Gyro online after I couldn't find it in any local stores," says Starner. "It really comes in handy if your job requires a lot of torquing, because you don't have to keep turning your wrist all the time. It comes with an integrated LED work light on front to illuminate dark project areas such as cabinets and drawers. However, the light shines about 1/2 in. above the bit instead of directly on it which I think could be improved.

"I wouldn't try using it on large screws going into hardwood, but for smaller screws it worked great. I paid about \$49 for it, which I think is very reasonable.

"It comes with a built-in integrated battery. You can't pull the battery out of the tool to recharge it, so if the battery ever goes bad I guess you'd have to buy an entire new screwdriver."

**Marvin Henry, Maywood, Neb.:** "I'm well pleased with my 2014 **Ridgid** cordless drill and impact driver. It comes with 2 batteries and a charger, and it only takes about 15 min. to recharge the battery so I never have to wait to go back to work. Also, the charge lasts a long time.

"After 20 years I finally had to replace the brushes on my **Makita** hand grinder. I've successfully used this tool with a cheap wire cup brush to scrape old paint off a building before I repainted it. I've also used it on iron and to cut off rusted bolts and rivets.

"I had problems raising the deck on my **Cub Cadet** 1040 riding mower in order to keep it from scalping the grass. Also, the needle valve stuck open and filled the crankcase full of gas. I replaced it with an in-line shut-off valve, which solved the problem."

**Dale Maley, Moran, Kansas:** "I use my 2014 **Honda** 250cc Recon 4-wheeler ATV every day. It always starts and is easy to maintain. No major problems.

"My 2015 **Polaris** 570 utility vehicle is hard to start and I have trouble keeping it running. The front differential has been

## "It's hard to start and I have trouble keeping it running."

making noises ever since I bought the machine, and it has had numerous oil leaks. Customer service is poor."

**Paul Moore, Batavia, Ohio:** Paul's the satisfied owner of a 1996 **Chevrolet** 454 3/4-ton extended cab, longbed pickup with about 150,000 miles on it. "This pickup still has no rust and can pull anything I put behind it. It doesn't use any oil and gets 15 mpg on long pulls. It drives and rides better than my 2005 Ford 6-liter diesel."

**Richard Bremilst, Norfolk, Mass.:** "I like the **Huskee** 22-ton vertical/horizontal log splitter I bought at Tractor Supply Co. The Kohler engine always starts on the first or second pull. This splitter runs quiet and can go all day long on a tank of fuel."

He's disappointed with his **American** CLS 4-way log splitter. "The wedge warped, causing the weld that holds the wedge and the log cradle to break off. The company wouldn't help even though the machine was still under warranty."

**Donald Rostad, New Philadelphia, Ohio:** "My **Kubota** L3100 tractor has about 8,600 hrs. on it yet has required only routine maintenance."

**Vestal Kuhn, Ontario, Oregon:** "My 2014 **Stihl** MS211 chainsaw starts easily even after it sits for a long time. And if I shut the saw off, it always starts right up again, unlike many other chainsaws. It has plenty of power for its size."

**James Owens, Ignacio, Colo.:** "Although the cutting depth on my **Dremel** circular saw is limited, I can still use this saw on flooring projects and to do trim work. It's just the right size to make cuts in a limited work space. With the right blade I can also use it on wood, ceramic, and masonry with ease.

"Any cheap air or electric tool I've ever bought has always failed. The last one was a 90 degree air-powered cutter that I bought at **Tractor Supply Co.** It stopped working the second time I used it. The head on it came apart and I could never get it to work right again."

**Wilson Smith, Fallston, Md.:** "I've farmed for more than 60 years and have had more than 100 different trucks and tractors,

## Sheller Makes Peas Easy To Process

When they got married, John Owens' wife told him, "Don't plant peas," because she disliked shelling them. That's why he bought a table-mounted Pea Sheller Jr. to turn the tide on his wife's attitude and fill the freezer with peas.

"Once we get our Pea Sheller Jr. set up on our pea-shelling table, all she has to do is feed them through," says Owens. "She can shell faster than I can pick them off the vines."

The Pea Sheller Jr. can be clamped to any surface but, when used with Owens' special table and a power drill, it works even better.

"I built the table to hold the Pea Sheller Jr. and my power drill on one end," says Owens. "Instead of a table top, the sides hold a plastic pan that sets into the frame.

"The peas fall into the pan as the pods go through the sheller," says Owens. "Instead of the hand crank, I use my power drill on the main shaft."

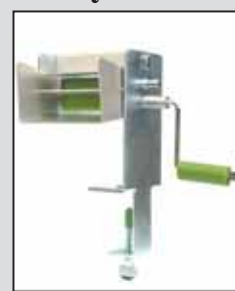


Table-mounted Pea Sheller Jr. is designed to be cranked by hand but Owens uses a power drill.

When the peas are shelled or the pan is full, the peas are carried into the house and put in plastic freezer bags. "We don't wash them or anything, just fill the bags," he says. "When we take them out to cook, they taste like they are fresh out of the garden."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John N. Owens, P.O. Box 875, Paris, Texas 75461 (ph 903 982-6952).

but my 2006 **Ford** F-450 dump truck equipped with a 6-liter turbocharged diesel engine is my worst buy ever. The trouble started at 23,000 miles when the turbocharger went bad. It required 3 major repairs at a cost of more than \$7,000. The truck now has about 72,000 miles and is in excellent condition, but I haven't been able to sell it because of the engine's poor reputation."

**Ron Shook, Spencerville, Ohio:** "For years I used only **Marvel Mystery Oil** when drilling holes in steel and for removing rusted nuts and bolts ([www.marvelmysteryoil.com](http://www.marvelmysteryoil.com)). Then I read the label on the bottle and learned that it can also be added to oil and fuel. This product works great.

"A couple of years ago I replaced my old torch with an oxy-acetylene torch that I bought at **Harbor Freight**. I was planning to use the new torch one day when I heard a hissing noise, luckily before I hit the striker. It turned out the hose had dry-rotted. I called the company for help but they weren't interested in my problem. So I put the 40-year-old hose from my old torch on it, and now it's working fine."



Plowing in the drip lines.

**Kelly Garrett, Arion, Iowa:** "My **Netafim** PC subsurface drip irrigation (SDI) was such a good buy that I recently more than tripled the acres using it ([www.netafimusa.com](http://www.netafimusa.com); ph 888 638-2346).

"I was interested in adding irrigation, but a center pivot wouldn't work. We have a rolling topography with creeks and ditches and no flat fields for center pivots. I heard about subsurface drip. When I checked it



Main water pipes feeding drip lines.

out, **Netafim** PC with pressure compensating emitters was the only product that I thought would work.

"I tried it on 78 acres with 80 ft. of elevation change across the field. Yields jumped by 70

bushels over the 220 to 230 bushels per acre we had been getting.

"My net return on those acres was 4 times my return on my dryland acres, and that was after paying for the drip. That's why I put SDI with **Netafim** PC on another 190 acres this year. Eventually, I hope to have it on all my fields.

"It's a no-brainer. It's cheaper than buying more land. You don't need another planter, help or a combine. You don't even need more seed. The worst case is having to get another truck to haul away the bushels, and that's a wonderful problem to have."

**Ron Gallagher, Los Molinas, Calif.:** Ron's disappointed with the **Champion** winch he bought at Tractor Supply Co. "The winch was only a year old when the brake mechanism on it went out. The dealer referred me to the company, and when I contacted them, they said the part I needed wasn't covered by the warranty. I said that I would pay for the part if I had to, but they told me it wasn't available anyway because the winch is made in China. Now my 1-year-old winch is obsolete. Poor service, poor product."

**Paul Welfaert, Britton, Mich.:** Paul pulls a **Remlinger** 3-bar drag equipped with double rolling baskets behind his field cultivator. "It leaves a nice seedbed as long as I go 7 mph or less, and it lets us work the ground closer in field corners than we could with a roller. The mounting baskets on it are a little light considering how heavy the drag is. But company service is great.

"We've had to replace several belts on our **Deere** combine including ones for the rotor, accelerator, and feederhouse. Some belts barely lasted a single season, while others didn't even last that long. I don't know who makes these belts, but they're junk."

**Irvin Yoder, Nappanee, Ind.:** "I ordered 6 mower blades for my **Grasshopper** 72-in. riding mower from **David Bynum, Inc.** at a cost of \$129. However, when I received the package they were the wrong blades. I returned them by UPS more than 2 mos. ago, but to this day I still haven't seen a credit on my account."

**Dwight Colson, Caledonia, Miss.:** "Two years ago I bought a used 2009 **Deere** 6700 self-propelled sprayer, and I really like how it rides and operates in the field.

"I bought two 2012 **Honda** Rancher 4-wheelers with camo paint to use in my agritourism business. The company charges about \$400 extra for the camo paint color.

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