

even after it went through several cycles. I tried trading it for a used Whirlpool upright washer but the dealer refused. I wasted \$1,000 on this machine.”

Paul D. Bessette, Stafford Springs, Ct.: Paul's impressed with his **Keen boots** (www.keenfootwear.com; ph 866 676-5336). “I suffered from a heel spur which caused me to limp along for about a year. Several months after I bought these boots the heel spur disappeared, and it hasn't returned. I'm now on my sixth pair. These boots are rugged and durable, and most styles are waterproof and shock resistant. They're definitely a best buy.”

David Roth, Cheney, Kansas: “I use my 2016 **Husqvarna zero-turn riding mower** equipped with a 61-in. deck to mow about 2 1/2 acres of grass. It's built heavy.

“I've found the quality of **Sears Craftsman** shop tools has declined. Their wrenches just don't hold up under punishment like they did in the past.”

Tom Borchers, Williamsburg, Ohio: “My 2016 **Milwaukee 18-volt lithium ion 1/2-in. impact wrench** has more power than my air impact wrench. It can easily change all 4 tires on my pickup and do a brake job on one battery charge.

“My **Milwaukee grease gun** can go through 4 or 5 tubes of grease on one battery charge.

“**Rust Bomb** is the best penetrating oil I've ever used (www.conklin.com). It just eats up rust and makes PB Blaster look like it's made of water.

“I think the quality of **Harbor Freight** tools has improved.”

On the “worst buy” side, he lists his **Sears Craftsman** ratchet wrenches and screwdrivers. “The ratchet wrenches have big-toothed gearing that doesn't hold up to heavy use, and their screwdriver tips break even if you're turning the screwdriver by hand.”

John E. Hohmann, Pataskala, Ohio: John's impressed with “Who Gets Kissed” open pollinated sweet corn seed from **High Mowing Organic Seeds** in Wolcott, Vt. (www.highmowingseeds.com; ph 866 735-4454). “This bicolor sweet corn was developed at the University of Minnesota in



collaboration with Martin Diffley, a longtime sweet corn producer. It was introduced in 2015.

“I've grown the corn for two years and saved the best ears for planting. It produces two large, well-filled ears per stalk. The flavor is similar to Ambrosia bicolor corn. This sweet corn does need early electric fence protection, because raccoons will attack it a couple of weeks before the ears are even ready for harvest.”

Clifford Crumrine, New Bavaria, Ohio: “An expensive bearing on my **Cub Cadet riding mower** went out twice in 8 years, even though I have only a 1/2-acre lawn, so I traded it on a **Country Clipper Wrangler zero-turn riding mower** equipped with joystick control. I love it. (www.countryclipper.com).”

Jeffrey H. Smith, East Brookfield, Mass.: “My **Stihl BR600 gas-powered backpack leaf blower** just runs and runs, with no problems. I've put hundreds of hours on it.

“The **Kohler engine** on my **Cub Cadet LTX 1042 riding mower** is junk. I think these engines put the Cub Cadet name to shame.”

Donna Gordon, Canaseraga, N.Y.: “I like my **ABI manure spreader** (www.abiattachments.com; ph 877 533-8753). The company offers a variety of both ground and pto-driven spreaders designed for small farms. They range in size from 25 to 125 cu. ft. capacity. We use our spreader every day, and it has been super handy and reliable.”

Rusty Ephemeris, Cheltenham, Ontario: “My 1967 **David Brown tractor** still runs great.”

Robert Fine, Excelsior Springs, Mo.: “I use my **Deere Gator** every day and believe that every old man like me should have one. I use it to pick up the mail, to gather sticks, and to haul chainsaws, weed trimmers, and fencing items. It has almost 1,000 hrs. on it. I can't keep my grandson off it, and I wish I could buy one for my wife, too. I do think the company could lower the price.”

Dennis Wenthe, Fennimore, Wis.: A **Grilla Grill** rates as Dennis's “best buy” (www.grillagrills.com; ph 616 392-7410). “I like to eat but don't have time to grill. With this new pellet smoker grill you can push a button, throw your food on, and come back in 4 to 6 hrs. and it'll be done to perfection. The Grilla Grill is sold only on the internet, but hands down it's the best grill for the money.”

Duane Riddle, Rochester, Ind.: “My 2015 **Chevrolet Silverado 4-WD pickup** drives like a car. It has a smooth ride and is the best handling vehicle I've ever owned. It has more than 63,000 miles on it but still has the original tires and brakes.

“It's much less expensive to pay rent on something and return it than to spend a bunch of money on a boat anchor.”

“How did we ever live without cordless tools? I use a 1/2-in. impact wrench to remove tires from my pickups and skid loaders. The batteries on it have a built-in gauge that tells how much power is left. I like it so much that I'll never buy an impact tool without one.

“I haven't had many bad experiences lately, mainly because I insist on having a thorough, lengthy demonstration on any piece of equipment before I buy it, even if I have to rent it or lease it for a while. That way I can make sure the machine does what they claim. It's much less expensive to pay rent on something and return it than to spend a bunch of money on a boat anchor.”

Ben Salenbien, Monroe, Mich.: “It's sold as the **Best Mouse Trap Ever**, but I haven't caught any mice with my **Casmac live mouse trap** no matter what I tried. I spoke with the inventor who said only one other person had complained, but there have been several “worst buy” reports in FARM SHOW. It was a total waste of money.”

John E. Mills, Howell, Mich.: John's satisfied with his 2016 **Polaris Ranger 4-WD utility vehicle** equipped with a 900 cc engine. “It has excellent power, a smooth ride, and starts good in hot or cold weather. We use it every day on our farm. The only problem is that it shifts really hard into reverse the first time we use it every day. With 4-WD and a

He Likes His Reversible Cooling Fan

“During the busy seasons, it's a daily job to clear dust, chaff and plant residue from the radiators of harvesting equipment and tractors on my farm, but that's not the case with my **JCB 260 skid steer**,” says FARM SHOW contributing editor Lorn Manthey. “It has a reversible fan, which blows out dust, leaves and other stuff that collects on the protective grill screen that covers the radiator. I really like the fan because it can be set to operate automatically. I can reverse the fan manually by pushing a button on the console. With either setting, it sure seems to keep the engine temperature constant even in the hottest conditions.”

“I wasn't familiar with the reversible fan when I bought the 260, but now that I've used it for a few years, I wouldn't be

without it,” says Manthey. “It reduces fuel consumption and keeps the engine operating at peak efficiency in any environment.”

Manthey points out that **CLEANFIX** makes an aftermarket reversing fan system that's been on the market for nearly 20 years. The company says a reversible fan can easily save hundreds of dollars annually by lowering fuel costs and reducing downtime for fan cleaning and engine maintenance. Newest versions of the **CLEANFIX** have blades that adjust automatically to the engine's load.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, **CLEANFIX North America Ltd.**, 250 Wright Blvd. Stratford, Ontario, Canada N4Z 1H3 (ph 519 275-2808; www.cleanfix.org).

locking differential, this machine will go just about anywhere.”

On the minus side, he lists his 2014 **Deere Gator** equipped with a **Briggs & Stratton engine**. “The engine developed a head gasket problem soon after the warranty expired, and the dealer wouldn't cover the \$1,200 repair bill. He offered to take the machine on a trade-in but I declined. Instead I brought it home, waxed it up, and sold it. Then I bought the **Polaris**, which is a superior product in every way.”

Jim Salentiny, Heron Lake, Minn.: “I like my **W.A. Johnson combine feederhouse debris deflector** (wajohnson.com; ph 502 266-7177). It's a simple piece of 4 by 4-ft.



vinyl that mounts above the feederhouse and keeps trash off the top of it. I used it last year for both corn and beans, and it kept any grain, corn ears and bean stems from building up on the feederhouse. It also kept the contour master area of the combine free of debris, as well as the reverser area.”

Jim Stricker, Helena, Ohio: Jim's a believer in **K-Seal multi-purpose**, one step coolant leak and head gasket repair (www.kseal.com; ph 888 254-0150). “Last spring I found my **Allis Chalmers B tractor** had 3 quarts of extra fluid in the engine oil due to coolant leaking in. It was brown and ugly looking. My local auto parts store told me about this product. At \$40 a bottle it seemed pricey, but I knew it would be a real bargain if it worked. I used the product as directed, and since then the tractor's oil level has stayed perfect. No more coolant leaks.”

Robert C. Schroeder, Cedar Grove, Wis.: “I bought my **Whirlpool Mark I refrigerator-freezer** new in 1976 and haven't spent a penny on it since, not even for a service call. It always keeps an even temperature so food stays frozen. To this day it's the only refrigerator I've ever owned.

“No problems with my 1981 **Echo chainsaw** after all these years. I heat my home with wood so I cut several cords per year. I've also used this saw at work to clear brush away from buildings.

“I've had problems right from the beginning with my 2002 **Polaris Sportsman 700 Twin 4-wheeler**. It wouldn't start whenever the temperature went below 50 degrees, so I had to take it back to the dealer several times. Whenever they reset the carburetor, the crankcase would fill with gas. The dealer

couldn't fix it so I called the company, but they said that customers weren't allowed to talk to their engineers.

“Finally someone told me the company has had problems with the head gaskets on this model. I removed the head and found a black rubber coating on the gasket, which was why it wasn't sealing properly. I ordered a replacement gasket that turned out to be different than the original one, so I guess the company had a fix for the problem. After that I also had to replace the starter drive, and the electronic ignition with an aftermarket system. The machine works fine now.

“I understand that companies sometimes have problems with their products, but it's how they handle those problems that matters. I was ignored after calling and writing them. Since all this happened I've bought 2 snowmobiles, an Arctic Cat and a Ski-Doo, and have had no problems with either one. So maybe **Polaris** did me a favor by causing me to change brands.”

Gary L. Baker, Mechanicsville, Iowa: “In the past I wrote to FARM SHOW that my **Case IH 360** with a CVT transmission was the best tractor I had ever driven. However, last fall I was able to drive someone else's **Case IH MX 380** equipped with the same transmission, but tracks instead of wheels, I like it even better than the 360. Ground slippage was only 2 to 3 percent instead of 14 to 16 percent with the 360 model. I was able to cover many more acres per hour while using less fuel. The tracks also made for a much nicer ride.

“I had read good reports about **Steuart's Pain Formula** that's supposed to ease aches and pains. I have arthritis in both knees so I decided to try it. I used the product according to the directions, but it didn't work for me. It came with a money back guarantee so I returned the **Pain Formula** container, but I never heard back from them.”

Bill Shultz, Millbrook, N.Y.: Bill like the arm chaps he bought from **VanStarr Enterprises** (www.armchaps.com; ph 651



492-4830). “The company says these form-fitting leather arm protectors are useful for protecting people with ‘thin skin’ or who bruise easily, which describes me. I've used them while doing mechanic work, tree work, and so forth and I never get bruises while

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