

Farmers Nominate Best & Worst Buys

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no more smoke! The mower's engine is still working fine. But I wouldn't use this product in a variable valve timing automotive engine because of the tiny holes that could clog."

Layton Profrock, Rensselaer, Ind.: "My Eel River Steelworks Eel-claw grapple bucket is built to last, without spending a lot of time in the shop (www.eelriversteel.com; ph 260 982-2610 or 800 404-6978)."

Dean Rinta, Darby, Mont.: "I restored my 1959 Chevrolet Apache 32 stepside longbed pickup to like-new condition. It has received



blue ribbons at fairs and parades, and trophies at car shows. The pickup is equipped with a 283 cu. in. engine and 4-speed transmission. It rides on Cooper Trendsetter II tires, which are a best buy. These tires have great traction and ride great."

John Stoltzfus, Aaronsburg, Penn.: "My dad used a Jonserud 670 chainsaw hard for years with no problems, and now I have a model 625 which is also impressive. Unfortunately, these saws are no longer in production. My 625 has been in the shop twice, most recently for a carburetor problem but it has worked flawlessly ever since. It came with an 18-in. bar, but I replaced it with a 20-in. bar.

"I like my Husqvarna chain sharpener. It files rakers down as you sharpen the chain."

Darrell Dothage, Warrenton, Mo.: "My 2015 Kuhn GFS202 hay tedder works great and allows me to bale hay a day sooner. It's built sturdy."

Harry Smith, Marysville, Calif.: Harry's impressed with his Polaris Ranger XP 900 utility vehicle equipped with an enclosed cab, power steering, heater, and windshield wipers. "I use this machine every day to check our rice fields. It's comfortable, easy to drive and fuel efficient. It's a great machine."

Lyle Gearhart, Carney, Mich.: "My 2006 Deere XL280 riding mower is a great machine.

"I use my 2014 Polaris 400 Ranger utility vehicle around our yard and to plant wildlife food plots."

Richard Depenbusch, Zenda, Kansas: Richard's the satisfied owner of a Ridgid 16-gal. wet/dry shop vac equipped with a detachable blower. "The vacuum has a lot of suction, and the blower works great to clean up my riding mower. I use it to blow air out through the filter to clean it."

He's disappointed with his Encore Z42 zero-turn riding mower. "This is supposedly a commercial mower, but I don't think you could keep a client with it. The deck is too short to allow enough overlap between blades. As a result it leaves two long strips

of grass between each pass, even when I go slow. As a result I have to mow tall grass twice."

Jim Ruen, La Crescent, Minn.: "The website Just8Ns.com really came through for me when I needed a carburetor for my Ford 9N. Even though one reviewer of the website complained it took 3 weeks to get his part, I took a chance with them. They shipped it out the morning after I ordered, and it arrived 3 days later.

"I should have just ordered the kit and rebuilt mine for a fraction of the cost, but I was short on time and expertise so I went with



a new carburetor. Of course, I had to pick up a set of flare wrenches for the install, but isn't buying new tools half the reason for fixing things yourself?"

"Never having replaced a carburetor before, I went to YouTube and watched a couple of videos. I even brought my iPad over to the tractor to refer to the videos as I went along. I think there must be a YouTube video for anything you might ever want to try.

"The tractor fired right up, though I still need to adjust the idle. I still haven't replaced the wire filter in the air cleaner that I ordered at the same time. I think I need to buy another tool first!"

Dennis Huwe, Bagley, Minn.: "I recently bought a used Kubota 4032 loader tractor and find it a pleasure to use. I also bought a grapple attachment for it which I used to clean things up after a windstorm. I like being able to use skid steer attachments with this loader."

Dave Worden, White Lake, Wis.: "My Stihl MS210 and MS291 chainsaws are both best buys, but my Stihl 2-in-1 file holder is an even better buy. It sharpens cutters and rakers at the same time and does a perfect job. I can sharpen a 51-tooth blade in less than 5 min., and do a better job than hiring it out. The only drawback is that the price is a bit steep. My wife found two of these file holders on Amazon at almost half price, but they came from Ireland so there was a 6-week wait."



George Bakewell, Wahpeton, N. Dak.: "I recently ordered a pedal-powered pony cart built by Chupp Blacksmith Shop in Fredericksburg, Ohio, (ph 330 695-7191) and featured in FARM SHOW (Vol. 40, No. 4). It's well built and I'm really pleased with it. When a child in the cart pedals the wooden horse, all four legs gallop as the cart moves. Pulling on the reins steers it.

"Our grandkids are having a ball with it, and it'll outlast me by many years. Money well spent."

Douglas Camp, Rock Creek, Ohio: "Our 2006 Deere L100 riding mower just keeps on going. We use it every year to cut two acres of lawn."

Skip Gosser, Aumsville, Ore.: "I love my AmeriDeck hydraulic loading system. I use it with several decks to haul motorcycles, large square hay bales and all sorts of materials for my business, farm and fun. I like them so much I became a dealer.

"The deck fits in a full-size pickup with either a 6 1/2 or 8-ft. bed. It includes its own electric-hydraulic system with a 150-amp breaker. Once installed, a hydraulic arm pushes the deck off and onto the ground. Once loaded, the arm pulls the deck back onto the truck. A system with the standard SuperDeck sells for \$3,640 plus freight.

"You can select from various decks and options, from the 58 by 96-in., flat SuperDeck to the ChoreMaster with solid tapered sides, dual function dump gate and 40-cu. ft. capacity. You can even get a Van Body deck that can hold up to 2,000 lbs. of tools and materials and can be locked up and left at a job site. Multiple decks can be used with a single loading system. Just drop the deck on the ground and drive away.

"Options include a deck extension, bulkhead attachment, side rails and mesh sides, stake and solid stake sides and a topper for the ChoreMaster.

"I can deliver a large square bale of hay to a farm and drop it off, even stack bales on end.

"You can haul any load under 2,500 lbs. I know a guy who rents out Smart Cars. He picks up and delivers them with his AmeriDeck. I use my Motorcycle Deck with my own motorcycles. I use a ChoreMaster for garbage. Just drop it in place and pick it



Pickup-mounted loading system uses a hydraulic arm to push deck off and onto the ground. It can even handle big square bales.



Once loaded, arm pulls deck back onto pickup.

up to haul away when it's full.

"The longer I have the deck system, the more uses I find for it. I don't even like lifting my pressure washer into the truck bed anymore. I just roll it on a deck, strap it down and raise the bed into place. Without a bed, the arm makes a handy lift arm. I've used it to swap out motors at a race or to pull on things.

"If you're interested in hearing more, give me a call at 503 749-1601 or send me an email at info@ezload-decks.com."

Edgar Phillips, Marshall, Mo.: Edgar's impressed with the Greenworks G-Max 40-volt, 12-in. cordless chainsaw he bought at Northern Tool (www.greenworkstools.com; ph 888 909-6757). "I'm getting older, so if I want to trim trees along a fence line I don't want to start a heavy chainsaw and have to bend over and cut the tree, then start the chainsaw again after I paint the stump with Tordon herbicide. This saw works great for trimming trees from a ladder or loader bucket because its light weight makes it much easier and safer to use. There are no electrical cords or gas pull cords, and no hot exhaust or hazardous fumes.

"I'm surprised how much this saw will cut without recharging. According to the company website, up to 100 cuts can be made on a single charge."

Larry Skoglund, Miltona, Minn.: Larry says his LockNLube foot-operated grease gun coupler makes it easy to grease machines quickly, safely, and with no mess (www.LockNLube.com; ph 603 795-2298). "The foot-operated grease gun comes with a large canister that holds up to 16 lbs. of grease. It's equipped with a grease coupler and a pressure release foot pedal. The operator lifts the pedal to relieve back pressure and return grease to the canister.

"The grease gun coupler comes with a sliding sleeve that's activated by a thumb lever. The unit's 4 spring-steel jaws lock onto the grease zerk, creating a leak-proof seal and preventing the coupler from coming loose.

"The LockNLube is well made and locks on so it won't come off while I'm greasing equipment. It's the best product I've bought in years," says Skoglund.

Merle Erickson, Couderay, Wis.: "I like my 2013 Volkswagen Passat diesel car. It consistently gets 45 to 52 mpg and has 65,000 trouble-free miles on it. But this will all end soon, because the EPA says these fine cars have to come off the road because they

pollute too much.

"My 2013 Ford F-150 pickup, equipped with an EcoBoost engine, has 12,000 miles on it. It gets only 9.2 mpg pulling a small trailer. Without the trailer and using gas with a minimum corn blend, it gets about 15 mpg, and with 100 percent gas about 17 mpg. This pickup has been in the shop for repairs 6 times, and 2 of those were for 5 days at a time. I wonder which of my 2 vehicles pollutes the most?"

Stanley Miller, Towanda, Penn.: He got a Gorilla-Lift tailgate lift as a Christmas present last year and uses it on his 4-ft. 9-in. by 4-ft. 2-in. utility trailer, which has an angle iron tailgate ramp (www.gorilla-lift.com; ph 877 388-8895). It's an enclosed two-sided lift-assist assembly that virtually eliminates the weight of most trailer tailgates.

"My tailgate used to be hard to put up and down, but with the Gorilla tailgate lift assist I can just bump it with my foot and it comes right up to me," says Miller. "I don't have to bend over. It was easy to install and worth every penny I paid for it."

Dave Simpler, Elkton, Md.: "I have two Kubota tractors, a B6200 and an L295DT, that I bought used. The problem is that even in 90 degree weather I have to use glow plugs to start them. The B6200 had a gutted exhaust that was so loud I had to wear ear plugs. The L295 probably still had the original exhaust, but the exhaust fumes were so bad that I couldn't hook implements up to the 3-pt. hitch unless I first shut the tractor off. I researched the problem and learned that the exhaust on these tractors is designed to help slowly cool down the valves. So I may have bad valves because of the former owner's negligence."

Jerry Wright, Hutchinson, Minn.: "My 1978 Ford 8700 and 1971 David Brown 990 diesel tractors are both best buys. The Ford has more than 12,500 hrs. on it but just keeps on going. The David Brown is super efficient and handy to use."