

BUYING TIPS YOU CAN USE

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

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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
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Tom Gray, Ostrander, Ohio: “I was surprised to see the Foolproof Live Catch Mousetrap from **CasMac Innovations** featured in the 2018 Best of FARM SHOW, since there have been several worst buys published in your paper on this trap. I bought 6 of these traps after reading about them a few years ago and they’re terrible. I’ve caught just one mouse, even though the areas where I put them are infested with mice. I don’t know what the problem is, but there’s definitely a problem with this trap.”



Ed Truty, Knox, Ind.: “I bought two Live Catch Mousetraps from **CasMac Innovations** and still have yet to catch my first mouse. Absolutely the worst purchase I’ve ever made.”

Dwight Worker, Bloomington, Ind.: Dwight nominates his **Troybilt TB30 R** riding mower equipped with a 30-in. deck as his “best buy”: “It cuts well and is small

lightweight and portable sandbag-filling tool allows one person to bag sand without any help. It works about 5 times faster than two people using a shovel.

“It’s made of heavy-duty plastic and is open on both ends. You just insert a bag on one end and scoop into a sand pile with the other end, and then pick it up and remove the bag. It works with either wet or dry sand and can accommodate any size sand bag.”

Larry Shepler, Reynoldsville, Penn.: Larry’s the satisfied owner of a 2014 **New Holland 7230** discbine. “This is our third New Holland discbine, starting with a model 411 and then a 1411. We’ve had great luck with all of them, but it’s nice to see that as they get older they get better. Each new model seems to outperform the one before it. The 7230 mows and dries hay fast and is very reliable.

“Our 2015 **Krone Swadro 42T** 3-pt. mounted rotary rake is well constructed but hard to level, and it does a poor job when going through dips and hollows. It misses hay at the bottom of a dip, but unfortunately rakes in all the rocks on the edges. Our **Vicon 423T** rake follows the contours much better but is poorly constructed.”

Allen Davenport, Godfrey, Ill.: Allen’s the owner of a “best buy” 2017 **Toyota Tundra** pickup equipped with a 5.7-liter V-8 engine. “I owned a 2008 Tundra before and decided to upgrade. Both models are built well and pull like Clydesdale horses. One time I was able to tow a 12,870-lb. load more than 400 miles at 70 mph down the freeway with no problems. It gets 17 to 18 mpg empty and 9 to 10 mpg towing a 9,000-lb. travel trailer.”

William S. Mattox, Jasonville, Ind.: “I’m well satisfied with the 2017 3-pt. mounted, 8-ft. landscape rake I bought from **Everything Attachments** (www.everythingattachments.com; ph 866 581-5818). “I saw a YouTube video that showed how to use their rakes and was so impressed that I ordered one. I think it’s the best landscape rake on the market. It can be used with either a Cat. I or II 3-pt. hitch and is rated for a 75 hp. tractor.

“I use my rake to level gravel and dirt, to do garden work, and to help clean up pastures. The rake is reversible, so if I want I can turn it around and push material with it. It’ll push logs weighing up to 300 lbs. The company offers numerous helpful how-to videos on much of their other equipment, too. They also offer free shipping on almost every attachment on their website.”

Jerome Webb, Harrold, S. Dak.: Jerome’s impressed with his 2016 **Arrowquip** portable Q-Catch 86 series cattle chute and alley (www.arrowquip.com; ph 866 383-7827). “This is a fantastic cattle working chute - the quietest and quickest squeeze chute and headgate we’ve ever owned. Our veterinarian likes the head stabilizer better than the one on his hydraulic-operated chute. For us, this chute makes working cattle half the job that it used to be.

“My 2016 **Lincoln PowerLuber** 12-volt rechargeable grease gun is a good product, but can be too easily damaged when used on a zerk that’s tough to grease. We have at least 2 of their grease guns go bad every year. The company will fix or replace them, but the guns just need to be made better.”

John F. Clement, Delano, Calif.: “My 2015 4-WD **Tesla S 70D** electric car is the best car I’ve ever owned, and I think it’s the best car in the world for under \$100,000 (www.tesla.com; ph 888 518-3752).”

Steve Ference, Gretna, Neb.: “I like my **Sport Dog 825S** field trainer dog collar (www.sportdog.com; ph 800 275-6797). It’s an electronic training collar system with a receiver that matches up with a transmitter. We couldn’t keep our Great Pyrenees dog

enough to mow around our many fruit trees and to fit through our gates. Because of the rear-mounted engine we have a good view and don’t have to breathe exhaust fumes. The best part is that I can’t get my wife off the machine, so now I don’t have to cut the grass any more.”

Billy R. Moore, Galatia, Ill.: “My 2002 **Chevrolet** 1500 pickup has 138,569 miles with no problems. I just change the oil and filter. No leaks.

“I replaced a belt on my 2002 **Grasshopper** riding mower equipped with a 52-in. deck. I haven’t had any other problems.”

“**Steuart’s Pain Formula** works great to relieve the pain caused by my arthritis (www.steuartlaboratories.com; ph 877 210-9664).”

Helen Kasten, Marceline, Mo.: “We had trouble from day one with our two 2008 **Cub Cadet** 1045 riding mowers. Right after we bought them the engine blocks on both machines had to be replaced. They also blew fuses, belts broke and pulleys had to be replaced. I won’t buy another one.”

Philip Allen, Guildhall, Vt.: “Our new **Kiotti** 4-WD loader tractor with bucket and snowplow works great.”



Brad Miller, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio: “The **GoBagger Scoop** is designed as a more efficient way to fill sandbags (www.gobagger.com; ph 415 488-6291). This heavy-duty,