

**Richard J. Cellino, Erie, Penn.:** “The 60-in. finished hardwood workbench I bought last year at **Harbor Freight** is my best buy. I paid \$119.99 for it with a coupon. It’s 60 in. long, 20 in. deep, and 34 in. high with an end vise, twelve 3/4-in. dia. dog holes, four drawers, and a lower shelf. The workbench



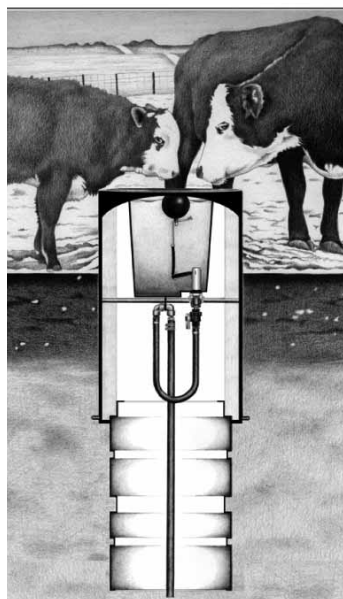
came as a kit and took me 2 to 3 hrs. to assemble. I’m 82 years old so this workbench was quite heavy to handle by myself. But I was so pleased with it that I went back and bought two more for the shop in my barn.

“Over the last 60 years I’ve made several workbenches out of framing lumber. The lumber alone for them cost twice as much as my Harbor Freight workbench, and my benches don’t look as nice.”

**Bruce Hischke, Suring, Wis.:** “We’re happy with our 1948 **John Deere M** tractor, which we use with a plow, drag, and cultivator and also to pull logs. Our 1995 **Deere LX173** riding mower works good and has required only routine maintenance.”

**James R. Hursh, Cropwell, Ala.:** “My 2018 **Stihl 36-volt** cordless chainsaw works even better than I expected. The AP 300 lithium ion battery lasts a long time and comes with four indicator lights that show the level of charge. I’m 81 years old so I appreciate not having to crank a starter rope.”

**Matthew B. Tollett, Asherton, Texas:** He’s impressed with his 2016 **DeWalt 20-volt** cordless drill/driver as well as his 2019 **DeWalt 15-volt** cordless 8-in. bench grinder. “The batteries hold their charge well and also recharge quickly. The drill/driver has plenty of power to drive construction screws into framing lumber, and the bench grinder also has power and a good, heavy housing and base. It’s also reasonably priced.”



**Dustin Fischer, Clear Lake, Minn.:** Fischer and his family operate a cow-calf facility with 200 head of cattle. To provide fresh water, they use “open water” earth-heated livestock waterers from **Cobett** ([www.cobett.com](http://www.cobett.com); ph 888 699-4722). “Other

unheated waters typically require cattle to open a door or lid to access water. Cobett’s open water system is natural, like drinking out of a pond so cattle know how to use them right away. The waterer is partially buried with a water tub on top that’s placed inside a chamber that’s heated by ground heat. No electricity is needed.

“We had minus 50 degree wind chill temperatures last winter and none of my Cobett waterers froze up during the day when the cattle drink. A small amount of ice can form on top that’s easily broken off in the morning and then the waterer stays open the rest of the day. We’re saving \$50 to \$60 a month per waterer in electricity.”

Fischer installed the open water systems himself. “They’re really easy to install. You don’t need an electrician to come in to do wiring, as with other heated waterers, and there is no concrete pad.”

**Delbert Bauersachs, Pinckneyville, Ill.:** “My **Case IH** Magnum tractor handles so easily and has lots of power. Great tractor.

“We can cut 125 to 140 acres a day with a 35-ft. **MacDon** header on our **New Holland CR7090** combine with virtually no grain loss out the back. A MacDon header feeds so evenly that you can do more work than you could with a 45-ft. head from another brand. And this NH combine does a beautiful job processing the crop material.

“I also have a **Kuhn SL118** manure spreader that spreads manure instead of just unloading it, like many other spreaders. It tears manure into small pieces and throws it 75 to 80 ft. Very well-built.”

**Geary D. Titus, Waterloo, Iowa:** “My new 38-hp. **Deere 2038** compact utility tractor is a best buy. Excellent engineering went into this tractor and loader. Very pleased.”



**Barry D. Foti, Meadows Of Dan, Va.:** “Thanks to FARM SHOW for running a story on the **Tractor PTO Link** in Vol. 43, No. 4 ([www.tractortptolink.com](http://www.tractortptolink.com); ph 833-888-5465). It’s one of the best buys I’ve ever made and was worth every penny for this 77-year-old who has stiff hands and a sore back. Every farmer, young or old, should own this product, which makes hooking up a pto easy.”

**Norman Bennett, Newport, Vt.:** “My 1983 **Stihl 028AV** chainsaw has worn out 2 bars and 1 or 2 pull cords and starter springs over the years, but is still going strong.

“I was happy enough with my 2011 **Ford EcoBoost F-150** pickup that I upgraded to a 2019 model with a bigger fuel tank and a step-up tailgate. It gets about 17 mpg in town and 22 mpg on the highway. The new technology on this pickup is fantastic.”

**Joe Eilert, Jewell, Kansas:** Joe’s happy with his 2009 **Central Boiler** outdoor furnace. “We use it to heat our 50 by 80-ft. shop and to provide hot water for our house. We load it with wood once a day.

“We paid \$15,000 to have **Engquist Tractor Service** in McPherson, Kansas, perform an engine overhaul. However, the engine blew up just 21 hrs. after we got it

## “Best Buy” Rare Hay Hauler

Ryan Preul, Truxton, Mo., recently sent FARM SHOW photos of a round bale hauler with an unusual history. It’s his “best buy”.

“The Binkley hay hauler is a small 4-bale machine that can pick up, haul, and unload big round bales using a small tractor,” says Preul. “It came out at a time when commercial round bale haulers weren’t widely available. It has a simple design that was way ahead of its time. I can’t believe it never took off. Yet I’ve never been able to find out anything about this machine. It’s possible that only a couple of prototypes were ever made.

“A local inventor named Bob Baxter invented the machine and sold it to my grandpa in 1982. Grandpa died in 1993, and my dad used the machine until 1998 when he got out of farming. He sold the machine to a farmer about 50 miles away. I knew where the guy lived and called him every couple of years. He said he parked it under a tree but never used it because he didn’t understand how it worked. I was finally able to buy it at an auction in 2016 for about \$700. I replaced a hydraulic cylinder that had started to pit and put new tires on. The machine was designed to operate on 3 remote outlets, but my tractor only has 2 outlets so I mounted a control box on the hitch to adjust the machine’s width.”

The machine is made entirely from 4-in. square tubing and has a pair of rails that raise and lower hydraulically. It’s equipped with a pair of long arms in front.

“The operator lowers the rails to the ground, then drives forward to pick up the bales. The rails slide under the bale and the



The entire Binkley bale hauler lowers hydraulically to the ground to pick up bales.

back, and the warranty was worthless. The camshaft was installed incorrectly.”

**Jake Kappelman, Bloomfield, Iowa:** “No problems with my **DeWalt 20-volt** string trimmer. After about 20 min. of use the battery still has plenty of charge left in it. Also, we can use the same battery in our other DeWalt tools.

“My **Stihl FS45** string trimmer never started easy, even with fresh gas and after the carburetor had been cleaned. I would sometimes spend 20 min. trying to start it, and by that time I could have been done with my trimming work. After rebuilding the carburetor for the third time we finally parted ways.”

**John and Rachel Hege, Selby, S. Dak.:** John says his 2014 **DeWalt 18-volt** drill is still going strong, despite being dropped 20 ft. and landing on concrete in zero-degree weather.

Rachel likes their 2019 **DeWalt 60-volt** grinder. “I have large hands for a woman but still have always struggled to control grinders. This model has a slim profile hand grip and a power switch that I can easily control. The grinder is well balanced and has an automatic shut-off if the wheel gets pinched.”

**Mike Krizman, Grand Junction, Colo.:** “The **Deere 4430** tractor I bought used starts good and runs even better. Works great to disk, plant corn, and bale hay.

“I bought a **Rascal Eradicator** gopher gasser last spring after reading about it in FARM SHOW ([www.rascalradicator.com](http://www.rascalradicator.com); ph 303 910-9106). It comes with an engine that pumps carbon monoxide out two hoses at once to kill gophers and other burrowing rodents quickly and safely. The company delivered the machine to my farm and demonstrated it. I’m still using this machine, but it’s so effective that now we have fewer runs to use it on.”

**Curt Zimmerman, Loyal, Wis.:** Curt is impressed with **Prima** heat lamps he bought from **Premier 1** ([www.premier1supplies.com](http://www.premier1supplies.com)).



“The lamp has a vented chimney that allows greater heat displacement. The lamp is made from glass-reinforced plastic that’s resistant to high temperatures and ornery animals, and comes with a grill that’s easy to attach. Also, the lamp’s compact size allows it to be installed in pens at a safe height.

“The lamp comes with an anti-chew spring wire on an electric cord, a superior ceramic fixture for the bulb, and a secure clip holder that makes it easy to attach to pens. We use these heat lamps a lot during the winter hog farrowing season.”

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You can watch a video of the machine at [farmshow.com](http://farmshow.com).

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