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Joseph A. De Ruiter, Jr., Vesper, Wis.: "My 2019 **Stihl** MS391 chainsaw always starts on the second or third pull, and it runs like a bear.

"I bought a used **Long** 1199B 3-pt. mounted backhoe and am surprised how well it works to dig ditches and holes.

"After my 1980 **Stihl** 031 AV chainsaw finally wore out, I thought I'd save money

"I gave the Husqvarna to my son-in-law, and now he's fighting with it."

and buy a **Husqvarna** 355 Rancher. Big mistake. First the oiler quit working, but I was able to fix it. Then whenever the saw got hot, I had to wait for it to cool down before it would start again. So last year I bought a **Stihl** MS391, which runs great and starts easy. It was worth the extra \$300 I paid for it. I gave the **Husqvarna** to my son-in-law, and now he's fighting with it."

Jay Gear, Osseo, Mich.: "The used 2006 **Chevrolet** Equinox I bought with about 7,000 miles on it now has more than 100,000 miles. It gets 30 mpg and can run with the big dogs on the freeway."

Brian McCafferty, Lee, Maine: "I'm well-pleased with the **Hercules** 20-volt impact driver I bought at Harbor Freight. It's equipped with an optional 5-Ah battery for a longer run time. I used this impact driver with Torx head screws to build an 8 by 8-ft. wooden chicken house, and was able to finish building it with only one recharge of the battery. I give this tool a 5-star rating."

Clayton Shumpert, W. Columbia, S.C.: "I own two 20-volt **DeWalt** drills, one an impact driver and the other a standard drill. Both tools have a lot of power, last all day with normal use, and recharge fast. They're the best cordless tools I've ever owned."

On the negative side, he lists his **Raven** MPV 7100 - a combination riding mower, ATV, and generator in one machine. It uses gas power for cutting and has a 46-in. deck that can be removed if you just want to use the machine as an ATV. Whenever you're not mowing, you can run the machine on electric power at speeds up to 17 mph. The generator is 110-volt so it can be used to supply power for remote locations or anywhere beyond reach of a power cord.

"I bought this machine from **DR Power Equipment** in Vermont, but they have stopped selling it," says Shumpert. "I'm still using it, but don't know what I'll do when I need parts. I'm stuck with a \$3,500 machine and nowhere to go for sales or service."

Mark D. Walleman, Pulaski, Tenn.: "It's lightweight and cuts great," says Walleman about his **DeWalt** DCCS 670 16-in. cordless chainsaw. "We use it a lot to cut firewood. I recommend using a 9 Ah battery to extend the cutting time, although the company's 6 Ah battery works okay, too. The only negative is a poorly designed oil cap. Whoever designed it should try using it without getting wood chips or sawdust in the oil."

Harold H. Cunning, South Wilmington, Ill.: "The 2016 **Generac** generator I bought at Northern Tool is my worst buy. The gas shut-off valve and settlement glass fell out of the fuel tank, and I couldn't order a new tank."

Douglas Bernier, Marlinton, W. Va.: "My 1982 **Mainline/BCS** 725 rototiller has been

a workhorse over the years, but 3 or 4 years ago the **Acme** engine started to go bad and I couldn't figure out the problem. So last year I replaced it with a **Kohler** engine. It came with detailed instructions which made installation an easy job. Works great."

Thomas H. Black, Russiaville, Ind.: He likes his **Deere** tractors but is disappointed with the cost of parts for them. "I was spraying weeds in tall grass with my **Deere** 2503 when grass got caught in the tractor's rear axle and ruined the seal. It cost about \$2,400 to replace it.

"Last year the plastic hood and cowl on my 2000 **Deere** 4600 came apart and fell off. The company wanted more than \$1,200 to replace them."

Wilford Alexander, Dixon, Mo.: "My 1963 **IH** 560 diesel tractor still runs good. The only major repair was to rebuild the fuel pump. I also like my **IH** Super C equipped with a fast hitch, my 504 equipped with a 3-pt. hitch, and my 656 equipped with a 2-pt. hitch."

Wesley Schroeder, Perryton, Texas: "I recently bought a used 1985 **Deere** 4450 tractor with about 2,200 hrs. on it. The powershift transmission works great for swathing and baling, planting, and light field work. Best of all, this tractor has no complicated electronics or computers, which makes it simple to maintain and repair. I wouldn't trade this old tractor for a new one."

Jerry Collier, Mt. Pulaski, Ill.: Jerry's impressed with tractor parts supplier **Yesterday's Tractor Company** (www.yesterdaytractors.com; ph 800 853-2651).

"This company offers wonderful service and prompt delivery. When I needed to buy a heavy engine manifold, their parts center found a vendor located closer to me which reduced my shipping cost. A recent shipment of Ford tractor parts arrived with information on other parts I might need for that tractor, including the part numbers and prices. The company also offers thousands of tractor service manuals. I couldn't be more pleased with them."

Jim Dansby, Hephzibah, Georgia: Jim had trouble with his 2018 **Husqvarna** zero-turn riding mower. "First the deck broke and then the engine stopped working. I wasn't able to use the mower for 9 mos. My daughter finally got Lowe's to refund my money."

James Dailey, Youngsville, Penn.: "My 2007 **Kubota** L5240 tractor, hooked up to my 2015 **Kubota** DM1022 7-ft., 3-pt. mounted disc hay mower, makes a great non-stop combination. I ted my hay right after I'm done mowing and don't see any difference in drydown rate compared to using a haybine."

Thomas Henry, Bixby, Okla.: "I wouldn't recommend the **Borzit** system to anyone. They promote it for drilling under roads and for digging shallow wells with a 1/2-in. drill and the **Borzit** tool with its roto coupling. A ball valve on the tool connects to a garden hose to inject lubricating water into the 3/4-in. boring pipe. Once the pilot hole is drilled for a well, you attach a 5-in. reamer to 4-in. casing and follow the pilot hole to water.

"When I first contacted **Borzit** in the fall of 2017 with questions, they were very helpful. After I ordered the system in early May of 2018, they told me the 5-in. reamer was out of stock. First they said it would be ready to ship by mid-April and then mid-May. After voice mails and emails went unanswered, I contacted **FARM SHOW**, who contacted **Borzit**. Then they promised to fill the order.

"Instead, they offered a refund, which I didn't want. I wanted the reamer to use with their system to drill a 40-ft. well. They offered to send me a competitor's reamer and then one of theirs when it was available.

Heavy-Duty Live Traps

If you want a live trap that'll last for years, **Daniel Yoder** has a heavy-duty model for you. The fabricator and owner of **Country Side Repair** in Ontario, Wis., sells traps tough enough to catch and hold big male raccoons and other varmints, according to one of his customers, **Butch Hooverson**.

"I have three of them," says trapper **Butch Hooverson**. "They are awesome. I caught over 100 raccoons in one for pest control and never broke a wire."

Yoder started making the traps about 10 years ago based on a design from a friend who had died. Over the years he made some upgrades, improving it to the point where he can offer a 5-year warranty.

"I use 5/16-in. rod to weld the frame together and wrap it with 12-gauge chicken wire. I use real hog rings to fasten the chicken wire to the frame," Yoder says, noting that even the strongest raccoon can't break the heavy rings.

The 22-lb. cages are 12 by 12-in. sq. and 36 in. long. Yoder offers two models. One has a solid back (\$95) and another has a back door for baiting or releasing (\$110). He sells



Two trap models are available, one with a solid back and the other with a back door for baiting or releasing.

them at his shop and a few area businesses, but can also ship and welcomes inquiries from wholesalers.

Contact: **FARM SHOW** Followup, **Daniel Yoder**, **Country Side Repair**, S341B Little Ridge Rd., Ontario, Wis. 54651. (Or leave a message with **Butch Hooverson** at 608 606-1628).

"Later that year I started drilling, and the first part went well. I started out drilling in soft dirt, and it literally took longer to add another piece of pipe than it did to bore 6 ft. Until it hit clay. The first layer of clay at a 20-ft. depth was about 12 in. thick. It took quite a while to get through it. We found if we turned off the water, it went through faster, as the clay expanded when it got wet and clamped to the drill bit.

"We believe we then hit groundwater before hitting a second layer of clay. As it was already wet, we decided to stop there and see if it produced enough water. When I went to try the wedge-shaped reamer to put in a 4-in. well pipe casing, I realized it wouldn't work with the **Borzit** system.

"The reamer is supposed to have a narrow end with a hole in it for water to lubricate the hole. The wide end has the connection for the threaded pipe. However, the one they sent me was reversed. It couldn't follow the pilot hole with the wide end of the wedge.

"I contacted them in early October of 2018 and asked for the reamer they had promised, explaining the problem. No response. In January I copied **FARM SHOW** on an email to them. That was months ago and still no reamer.

"I gave up hearing from **Borzit**. In the meantime a friend who is a retired welder looked at the reamer and said, 'I can make one of those.'"

"We still haven't finished the 45-ft. well, but hope to do so in May. It has been a learning experience, but other than their roto coupler, the company's products were a big disappointment.

"That said, I do think the products would have worked well boring a hole under a concrete slab or roadway. It just doesn't work good for wells."

Roger Anderson, Wamego, Kan.: I bought a **Wheelman Pro** auto-steer system (www.handsfreefarm.com; ph 877-943-3562) online last year and am really happy with it. I have odd-shaped fields and terraces and wanted to reduce skips and overlaps.

"It cost about \$4,000, and that included everything needed for installation. Installing it was not difficult and took only a few hours.

"Directions were easy to follow, but I'm not that technically advanced and did have to call tech support. They were real helpful and walked me through my problem.



"Just replace the steering wheel. The steering unit sits on the steering column and handles steering whether on an A/B line or contour. Calibration takes only minutes, and there are no other costs, like monthly subscriptions.

"You can't buy any competitive auto-steer system for the price. I expect it will pay for itself pretty quickly.

"I mounted it on a 2006 **MXU** 115 Case **IH** used mainly for spraying and fertilizing. It made those jobs much less stressful and reduced skips and overpasses.

"This coming year I will try it on a drill. If I like how it works, I may add a second system to my row crop planting tractor."

Andy Offenburger, Chariton, Iowa: "I apply **Karo** dark corn syrup to the nipple of an ordinary milk bottle to get a newborn calf to suck. The syrup comes in a plastic squeeze bottle which makes it easy to apply. My daughter-in-law gave me the idea about 3 years ago. The syrup can be applied to a cow's teats, too. What's more, mix it with butter and peanut butter and you've got the makings of a pretty good sandwich."

Cal Miner, Willmar, Minn.: "I like my 2015 **Stihl** MS211C chainsaw equipped with **Easy2Start**, which lets me start the engine with just a light pull on the cord. By using just 2 fingers I can start the saw while standing on a ladder or laying down. Once the ratchet has enough tension it spins over by itself, so that when I gently pull on the cord once or twice the saw will start right up. The company offers 3 different models with this starting action."

Rob Davis, Schell City, Mo.: A 2005 **TYM** 4-WD loader tractor equipped with a 40-hp. **Kubota** diesel engine and **Eaton** transmission and rear axle with differential lock rates as **Rob's** "best buy". "This is a tough little tractor, and I've never had a lick of trouble with it. I've