

(Continued from previous page)

7 ft. wide, which is ideal because it covers the width of the tractor wheels, yet it's small enough that I can back into tight corners, get close to fence lines and easily work on small



fields and get through small gates. Three rows of shanks are mounted on heavy-duty spring coils spaced 6 in. apart. The shanks are about 4 in. tall with a V-shape bottom that easily digs into existing pasture or tilled ground. Seed is dropped behind the shank at the depth set by gauge wheels on each side of the unit.

"Another feature that's really great about this drill is the seed metering system, which is a soft foam wheel rather than small metal gears. This system is extremely accurate with small grass seeds, allowing rates as low as a few pounds an acre. The metering system runs off a ground-driven wheel that starts when the drill is in the ground and moving and stops as soon as it's lifted up. The frame on the drill is built very well and has held up without any bends or weld cracks all the time I've owned it. I move the drill from job to job on a trailer, loading and unloading it with my tractor loader. It weighs about 1,500 lbs. so even a low profile tractor and loader can lift it and handle it in the field. My acre meter says the drill has seeded more than 3,000 acres in the time I've owned it, and that's a huge amount of work without any problems."

Eric Petrevich, Glen Gardner, N.J.: A tire ballast that's made from beet juice rates as Eric's "best buy" (www.rimguard.com; ph 616 608-7745). **Rim Guard** is a byproduct of sugar beet processing and is non-toxic, biodegradable, water soluble, and freeze-resistant to 35 degrees below zero. It can be used in both tube and tubeless tires. The company says it's the heaviest non-corrosive liquid ballast on the market, and costs 75 percent less than conventional tractor wheel weights.

"I use Rim Guard on my Kiotti 25 hp., 4-WD loader tractor. It adds about 300 lbs. to the tractor and has made a huge difference in how the tractor performs. It's now stable on hills and bumpy ground so I can use the loader to its fullest capacity, without having to add a heavy attachment on back of the tractor. Also, Rim Guard is biodegradable so if a tire gets punctured and all the liquid leaks out, it's completely safe.

"I rarely need to use 4-wheel drive anymore, as the tractor's rear tires now have much more traction. Not having to use 4-WD is a good thing, because most tractors are more maneuverable in 2-wheel drive."

Jerome Webb, Harrold, S. Dak.: "It has amazing power and a battery that lasts a long time between charges," says Jerome about his **Milwaukee** 2767-20 M18 cordless 1/2-in. impact wrench. "It has as much power as many corded models. **Milwaukee** also makes a great cordless cartridge tube grease gun. We use ours almost every day on the farm."

On the negative side, "My 2016 **Ford** Edge SEL all-wheel-drive SUV had a great ride and was super fuel efficient, making it the perfect

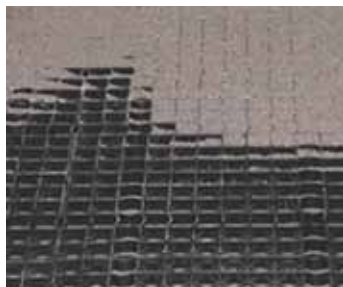
work car for my wife. All was good until mice started getting inside the vehicle. We traded

"All was good until mice started getting inside the vehicle."

for a 2018 Edge but soon mice got into it, too. Both SUVs were kept in a new country home with an attached garage. A cousin also had a mouse problem with his Edge."

Frederick Little, Chazy, N.Y.: He owns a 2018 **Mahindra** Max 255 compact tractor equipped with a cab and 48-in. front-mount snowblower. "This tractor is very reliable and has a heated cab that makes it comfortable to operate."

Jesse Stoltzfus, Newmanstown, Penn.: His "best buy" is **Hunt Club Stall Grid** rubber flooring for horses (<https://equineoutfitters.biz>; ph 866 972-8838).



It comes in 2-ft. square sections that lock together. "The interlocking grids produce a durable floor with good drainage and the rubber texture provides excellent traction for horses. It also has great wear resistance, so I think these grids would work well on driveways and in high traffic areas in lawns and pastures."

Dean H. Schutte, Kenyon, Minn.: "My **Kobalt** 40-volt cordless chainsaw limb trimmer comes with an extension that lets it reach high limbs. It's powered by a lithium-ion battery that always stays at full power until it goes dead. A single battery charge lasts about 50 min."

Michael Boeddeker, Waseca, Minn.: Michael likes his 2000 **Arctic Cat** ZR 600 snowmobile. "I'm 53 years old and enjoy the older-style snowmobiles. This one is fast, easy to start and handle, and rides great. Best of all, it's paid for."

On the "worst buy" side, he lists his 2011 **Ford** F-150 pickup equipped with a V-6 engine. "I previously owned an F-350 Lariat equipped with a diesel engine, but it got totaled out in an accident. Compared to the F-350, the F-150 is more like driving a car because you sit lower to the ground. Also, it has poor fuel economy for a V-6 at just 15.2 mpg. Now it's rusting bad, and taking care of that problem would cost about \$3,000. The transmission is acting up, too."

Michael Shields, Hillsboro, Wis.: "I own 6 **Milwaukee** cordless tools powered by M-18 RedLithium batteries that hold their charge for a long time. The company says RedLithium batteries deliver more run time, power, and speed than lithium-ion batteries."

Gerald Ripps, San Antonio, Texas.: "The **Dare-O-Matic** stock tank float valve I bought turned out to be a huge disappointment. The plastic housing on it broke at the attachment holes within 2 months of installation. I always keep spare float valves in my barn, so this valve may have been old when I installed it. We have very little freezing weather here but do get a lot of sunshine, so I assume the plastic housing wasn't resistant to ultraviolet

Power Egg Washer Ideal For Mid-Size Producers

"We produce between 300 to 400 dozen eggs a week and I recently purchased the Power Scrub II Washer. Overall we are very happy with the washer and believe that it will pay for itself in a couple of years," says Linda Quella, who operates Q Farms in Sharon, Conn., with her husband, James. With the help of their team, they raise a variety of livestock on pasture for direct sales, and sell eggs from 600 to 750 laying hens.

"We previously had a separate candler and washer that were very inefficient," Quella says. She discovered the Power Scrub at an APPPA (American Pastured Poultry Producers Association) Conference, and she hasn't been disappointed.

"It's one of the first times a manufacturer built something targeted to this scale," she says. "I would invest in it at 500 chickens or less. It's easy to set up and isn't too big, so it can fit in a variety of places. The machine is ready to use and clean up is easy so I can wash when I have the time - sometimes in 2 or 3-hour sessions and over the course of the week, I get all my eggs washed in 6 to 8 hours per week."

With the time she saves, she estimates the \$7,500 machine will pay for itself in less than 2 years. Generally she washes by herself and her procedure is to candle 10 dozen eggs at a time, then wash her hands to package the clean eggs that come back to her on the turntable. It's even more efficient if you have 2 people washing.

She made a few observations about how the Power Scrub works.

- "While it says it can wash 3,500 eggs per hour, we do not find that we have enough scale to become that good at catching cracked eggs or packing that fast," she says. A variable setting allows her to adjust the speed according to how much cleaning the eggs require and if she is working alone or with a helper.

light.

"I went back to the **Little Giant** plastic float valves I had been using for years (available on Amazon and other stores), but these valves suffer from occasional float failure. The **Dare-O-Matic** design comes with a foam-filled float and a replaceable orifice, which I thought would work better."

Warren Black, Owosso, Mich.: "I like my **Corentium** Home digital radon detector (www.airthings.com). This battery-operated radon detector is highly accurate and easy to use and understand. It's also easy to move to other rooms or buildings. I can observe real-time radon levels just by waving my hands in front of the unit. It also shows the hourly levels of radon over time. Home Depot sells it for under \$200."

Neil Greiling, Maribel, Wis.: Neil likes his 2015 **King Kutter** 3-pt. mounted, 6-ft. gear-driven rotary tiller (www.northerntool.com). "We have a lot of rocks on our farm, but this tiller handles them with no problems."

Clyde Kinkowsky, Ashburn, Ga.: "No problems with my 2016 **Cub Cadet** Z-Force zero-turn riding mower equipped with a steering wheel and 48-in. deck. I use it to cut about one acre of grass 2 or 3 times per month. I haven't had to replace a single belt.

"My 2016 **Cub Cadet** Challenger 500 utility vehicle works great.

"My worst buy is my 2018 **Generac** Synergy 7040 22kw, home stand-by generator equipped with a 200-amp SE rated automatic transfer switch. I've spent more than \$10,000



With the time she saves, Linda Quella says her Power Scrub II Washer will pay for itself in less than 2 years.

- Overall the eggs are clean; cracked eggs through the machine are minimal, and it has a great packing station.

- "We've had some mechanical issues. For example, the gears that run the conveyor broke and they shipped us out replacement parts immediately, but we were down for a couple of days," she says.

- "I like to really clean our egg wash machine, and this one isn't the easiest to get to all the nooks and crannies," she says, adding, "I am probably too particular!"

Overall, she recommends the Power Scrub to other egg producers for small to mid-scale farmers.

"I haven't seen a comparable small scale machine available in the U.S.," Quella notes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Linda Quella, www.qfarms.net. Power Scrub, www.powerscrubeggwasher.com.

on this generator but it hasn't produced even one minute of power for us during a power outage, and we've had several of them. It came with a 5-year warranty.

"We had to buy a 250-gal. propane tank. Two months after installation, our power went out and the generator wouldn't run, showing an alarm code. I contacted the company and they told me how to reset the unit. They said if the problem happened again it would probably be due to a bad controller, and that I should have a qualified dealer fix it.

"The power went out again and the same alarm code came on, so I called a dealer. It took 4 weeks for someone to come out and check the unit, and all they did was refer me to another dealer who couldn't fix it.

"Finally I called an electrician but they wouldn't work on it because they've had problems in the past getting Generac to pay them.

"My wife and I are elderly and live alone on a small farm. Generac sends us emails explaining how much they care about their customers, but we can't get them to repair our generator even though it's still under warranty."

Dan Dolence, Grey Eagle, Minn.: "My 2015 **GM** Terrain SUV rides and drives nice, but I've had problems with mice. They get into the car's ventilation system through a flimsy air filter that's supposed to keep the air clean, then find their way to the blower fan and get mangled by the fan blades. The