

problems except for an emission sensor.”

**Randy Wolf, Silver Lake, Kan.:** “My **DeWalt** 60-volt chainsaw, string trimmer, and leaf blower all work great. It’s somewhat difficult to remove the battery from these tools, but I would buy them again.

“I’ve bought several sets of **Cooper** tires, but none of them have lasted even half as long as the dealer said they would.”



**Matthew N. Hoover, Curtiss, Wis.:** “After using a 45 cu. ft. single screw mixer cart in my barn to feed our cows, I decided to save time and switched to a bigger **I.H. Rissler** V975 mixer (www.zartmanfarms.com; ph 717 733-1050). This twin screw cart holds about 82 cu. ft. As a result I can go from feeding 6 or 7 loads a day to just 3, with a cart that’s not much longer or wider than the 45 cu. ft. model. No problems after 1,100 hrs.”

**Dana Spencer, Fort Jones, Calif.:** “Last year I received an **EGO** cordless string trimmer and leaf blower combo kit as a Christmas present, and both tools are awesome. They have a lot of power and long battery life, and they’re easy to use. I like these tools so much that I bought my friend a combo kit for her birthday. My daughter kept borrowing my tools so in self defense, I also bought her a set.”

**Jimmie Heimer, Whitefish, Mont.:** “I ordered some plants from the **Burgess** Seed and Plant Co. last May but didn’t get them until July 4, which is a little late for Montana’s short growing season. The ‘plants’ actually looked like dried sticks, so I followed the company procedure for reimbursement. They wouldn’t accept my claim. I’m not impressed with their products, service, or warranty.”

**Ken Goeldner, Delmar, N.Y.:** “By now, most folks with small gas engines - lawn mowers, snowblowers, chainsaws, and so forth - are familiar with the benefits of using non-ethanol gas. However, if you routinely only fill a one-gallon container at the pump, remember that you’re getting what was already in the rubber gas pump hose. For that reason, I routinely pump one or two gallons of gas into my truck before filling my container.”

**Carlos Bahler, Fairbury, Ill.:** “My 2020 **Milwaukee** Fuel M12 brushless 1/4-in. impact driver is well balanced, and it has four settings and great torque for its size. The battery has a long run time.

“My 2004 **Honda** Pilot SUV has about 290,000 miles on it. I’ve replaced the timing chain, tires and brakes, but this vehicle still

**Marvin M. Smith, Hooper, Neb.:** “We love how our 2019 **Ford** Edge rides, looks and handles, and also like the automatic dimming door locks and automatic wipers. “Our 2011 **Ford** Ranger handles great and is a nice size for hauling and towing jobs. We’ve driven Rangers since their introduction back in the 1980’s.”

**Roger Meihak, Forest Lake, Minn.:** “I bought an 8-ft. **Hiniker** 3-pt. grader blade about 15 years ago, and over the years the cutting edge finally wore down to almost

nothing. I thought it was a long shot, but I called the Hiniker factory anyway to see if a replacement cutting edge was still available. They referred me to Werner Implement in Vermillion, Minn. The dealer there said yes, it was available. I asked if I was to pay for the blade, could I go to the Hiniker factory in Mankato, Minn. to pick it up and he said that I could. The company even gave me new mounting bolts.

“The new cutting edge has made my old grader blade work like new. I’m really pleased to have bought something from a company that stands behind its products for such a long time.”

**Jerry Berg, Pine Island, Minn.:** A **Parmak** Solar-Pak 12 electric fence charger with a 30-mile range rates is Jerry’s “best buy” (www.parmakusa.com; ph 800 662-1038). “It has never let me down. Rain or shine, it always stays charged and our cattle have never gotten out since we installed it.”

On the “worst buy” side, he lists his 2018 **Husqvarna** lawn tractor. “The mower deck won’t stay level, no matter what I do.”



**Allen Hogan, Osceola, Wis.:** “I love my **Hobart** Handler 190, 230-volt wire feed welder which I bought with a spool gun kit. Works great for gas welding, gasless, and welding aluminum. It’s very easy to adjust for each type of welding. I should get a cut from the company because many people have tried mine out and then bought one.”

**William Nelson, Glasgow, Ky.:** “My 2005 **Hyundai** Elantra GT has 171,596 miles on it but has required only routine maintenance. It gets 36 mpg on the highway.”

**Lloyd McConnell, Ft. Sumner, N. Mex.:** “I’m well-pleased with my 2018 **Mahindra** 5570 70 hp. 4-WD tractor. I can take a heaping bucket full of gravel and drive up a steep hill of sand without ever spinning a tire. I use this tractor a lot with a bale spear and pallet forks. It’s a very good value for the price.”

**Bernard Taylor, Westminster, Md.:** “Pat’s Easy Change 3-pt. quick hitch system is manufactured by **Greenwell** Mfg. and distributed through various companies. I purchased a Cat. I Easy Change kit and found the main pin is too large for the hitch attachment itself, as was the swiveling ball in the lift arm which rendered the entire apparatus useless. I wasted a lot of money since the system is not cheap.”

**Craig Hubbard, Bonners Ferry, Idaho:** “My **DeWalt** 20-volt chainsaw always starts right up. I like that I don’t have to mix gas anymore.”

**Daryle Reynolds, Oneonta, N.Y.:** “I bought a **Ferguson** TO-20 tractor 36 years ago and it still works great.

“My 1998 **Club Car** golf cart equipped with a hydraulic dump bed is a best buy. I like it better than a UTV because it can haul more cargo and has a lower loading height.”



Clean water is one output from the Varcor system.

## Manure “Cooker” Eliminated Lagoons

The owners of a 35,000-cow dairy operation say a manure-processing system they’ve been using on their farm is the ultimate “odorless” solution to handling huge quantities of manure.

“The Varcor system we’re using will revolutionize animal agriculture for the better,” says Donald De Jong, Natural Prairie Dairy.

The odor-suppressing Varcor Technology captures nitrogen that would normally be released into the air, sterilizes weed seeds, reduces manure handling, and eliminates run-off from spreading raw manure.

The system converts manure into clean water and rich organic fertilizer in both a powder form of NPK and as liquid nitrogen.

De Jong with his wife Cheri produce organic milk and other dairy products at their farms in Texas and Indiana. Varcor Technology is in use at both locations.

Before installing the Varcor system, the De Jongs stored dairy waste in open lagoons, with an estimated nitrogen loss of 80 to 90 percent through volatilization. Today the manure is vacuumed up daily and processed. The process separates sand from the slurry and brings the waste components to near boiling. Liquid fractions are evaporated off. Remaining solids are spread on a large disk to dry, then scraped off and collected. The result is a highly concentrated NPK fertilizer.

Water and ammonia are evaporated off with the vapors sent to a compressor. The compressed vapor is used as a heat source for the evaporation process. Low boiling point components such as ammonia are concentrated, while clean water is distilled



The Varcor manure processor is housed in this building. Ammonia vapors are siphoned off and used as a heat source for the evaporation process.

off at higher temperatures.

“The clean water can be used for irrigation, while the NPK can be applied to fields as needed or packaged and sold to others,” says De Jong. “In addition, the captured aqueous ammonia can be injected into the soil as needed.”

The Varcor process was developed in a joint venture with Sedron Agriculture, which works with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to solve human sanitation challenges in the developing world.

When De Jong learned about the process, he approached the company about applying the technology to agriculture.

“The results of the 2 Varcors operational on our Indiana and Texas dairies are very encouraging,” says De Jong. “Eventually, we believe the Varcor system could eliminate the need for manure lagoons, effectively creating a closed loop farm system.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sedron Technologies, P.O. Box 31, Sedro-Wooley, Wash. 98284 (ph 360 399-6193; info@sedron.com; www.sedron.com).

**Phil Barr, Clinton, Mich.:** Phil’s impressed with his 2018 **Deere** Z540R zero-turn riding mower. “It starts easy, has a comfortable ride, and turns easy. It also has high speed blades for a clean cut.”

**Roy Philpot, Scott, Ohio:** “My wife has allergies and is very sensitive to mold, so when we found some black mold in our basement underneath a mat, we went looking for a solution. We can’t use bleach, so we tried many different over-the-counter mold killers.

“We learned that ultraviolet light (UV) kills mold and much more. We bought a UV light for the ductwork in our forced air furnace and a portable unit that we can use anywhere. The mold also got into the concrete floor, but the UV light killed it with one treatment. Warning - you or your pets can’t be in the room when the light is working, and you can’t look at it, either. Many hospitals use UV light to disinfect their rooms. I bought ours over the internet, and don’t feel qualified to advise which one works best.”



**Floyd Plank, Clayton, Wis.:** “We use a **DS Stoves** XV16 coal stove to heat our house and it uses less than \$800 of coal per winter (ph 717 768-3853). This is a basement mold with a glass door so we can watch it burn. It’s to keep it going as long as we follow the directions that come with the stove.

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