



Jim Garske, Fargo, N.D.: Secure Set foam is a best buy for Jim (www.secureset.net; ph 405-672-8885). "You can raise your concrete slab or sidewalk yourself and save a lot of money. They have great how-to videos."

Lafayette Smith, Arlington, Tenn.: "My 1967 Deere 4020 has been a best buy. Changing filters and overall service is easy."

Brian Briggs, Rusk, Texas: "My Greenworks 40-volt cordless chainsaw has a lot of torque and runs a long time on one charge. I used it to de-limb a downed tree. It starts every time and can be turned off while moving limbs out. It cuts through 6-in. branches easily. I wonder what the 60 volt could do?"

"My Husqvarna 450 Rancher idles poorly when cold. Once it's warmed up, it gets worse. The carb adjustments need a special tool. What happened to Husqvarna? It used to be a great chainsaw."



Ron Mason, Beaufort, N.C.: "I like generator voltage regulators from V Power Equipment (www.vpowerequipment.com; ph 508-273-7596). Everybody needs a spare voltage regulator module for their portable generator. When your generator runs out of fuel while it's running with a load, the surge will blow the diodes in the regulator. I learned to have two spares on hand. Delivery was quicker than I can lick a stamp, too."



Randall Russell, Paulden, Ariz.: "I have several best and worst buys. My 2021 Vortex Crossfire HD 1400 rangefinder is durable, has an easy-to-read display, and the warranty covers the LED display (www.vortexoptics.com; ph 800-486-7839). I use it for hunting and measuring fields and fence lines."

"I bought a used 2003 Lincoln 225/125 welder stick. It runs a smooth, even bead. It's 'old school,' but it works wonderfully for me."

"The Hankook Dynapro tires on my F-350 have good mud and snow traction and have 45,000 miles on them (www.hankooktire.com; ph 800-426-5665)."

"The LED display burned out on my 2018

Leopold rangefinder and wasn't covered by warranty."

"I have Michelin Defender all-season tires from Costco on my 2006 Cadillac. I've had two sets of four tires. I didn't get 32,000 miles on them. I'll go back to Cooper."

Heath Schaller, Tomah, Wis.: "The battery on my Stihl MSA 120 C chainsaw lasts a long time. It's nice to save on gas with prices so high."

Myron Albers, Alto Pass, Ill.: "My Woods 84-in. grading scraper is the best implement I've ever owned for driveway maintenance. It removes the washboard ripple very well."

Myron isn't happy with his Briggs & Stratton Storm Responder generator. "After about 20 hours of non-continuous operation, the motor seized up. I'm now looking at whole house generators and I won't consider Briggs."

Bill Offenburger, Chariton, Iowa: Bill likes his Danuser Intimidator tree puller. "It does what they say and you're able to clean trees before it takes major work."

"Gaucho high-tensile barbed wire won't stay tight and is always loose. The cows slide it on steel posts and break the tie clips."

William Spiller, Wells, Maine: "My Stihl 291 Chainsaw is very hard to start when cold. It should have compression release."

Troy Miller, Spring Valley, Sask.: Troy's pleased with his 2010 New Holland CR9070 combine. "I run it with a 40-ft. MacDon header approximately 300 hrs./year. I've had almost no downtime during harvest. I get a very clean sample with minimal losses. I'll be sticking with the NH twin rotor when it's time to upgrade."

"I haven't been happy with my Generac XG8000E generator. The battery was dead out of the box. It also kills batteries very quickly. It's almost impossible to start. Once it's running, it'll power the house but it's just a nightmare to get started."

Robert Peer, Woodstock, Va.: "My Milwaukee 18-volt battery-powered chainsaw has as much power as a gas-powered saw but with much less maintenance."

Jon Cole, Tuscaloosa, Ala.: "My best buy is a 2013 Dodge Caravan. It's a workhorse with over 300,000 miles with only brakes and oil changes needed."

"My worst buy is anything I bought from L.L.Bean. They used to have a lifetime guarantee on their products. This is why customers pay more for their goods. L.L.Bean changed their warranty and now demands a receipt for returns. Who keeps receipts for clothing they bought years ago? If you ask them to research the purchase, they claim they have no record of it."

Ricky Pliska, Dorintosh, Sask.: Ricky is the satisfied owner of a 1998 Dodge 2500 5-speed standard with 5.9 Cummins. "It's plain as can be - no power locks or windows, A/C, or tilt steering. Nine years ago, it had 185,353 km. It's likely over 400,000 km now. It's had common repairs like brakes and tires. I've replaced the clutch but have never touched the engine or transmission."

He hasn't been as happy with his McCormick Intl. MTX 110 MFW. "This tractor has a clumsy 5.9 Perkins diesel. It's not even close to a 5.9 Cummins for logging or recovery on the rpm."

Richard Eggen, Westby, Wis.: "My 18-volt Milwaukee impact has 1,400 lbs. of torque. It has four power levels. Caution is advised on level four. I now break impact sockets. I've accidentally tightened lug nuts and have had to find my 3/4 4-in. breaker bar to reverse the lug nuts."

Donald K. Olsen, Snowmass, Colo.: "I've had a Toyota pickup for 10 years. It

Best Buy Backup Camera

Dan Tucker, Wasilla, Alaska: "After seeing the article in Vol. 46, No. 6 about a backup camera on a skid steer, I decided to share my experience. I put a much less expensive camera on my skid steer several months earlier, and it works great."

"The camera in the article attached to the skid steer with magnets. Mine doesn't, but it was easy to install."

"I bought a Veclesus VM1 wired backup camera kit. I paid less than \$75 for it. The kit had everything I needed. It has a 4.3-in. monitor screen and a waterproof, high-definition backup camera with night vision and continuous or reverse-only viewing options."

"It took me about an hour and a half to install and wire it. I used duct tape to secure the wires to the camera and power. The kit comes with a fuse box power cable and a car charger to plug into the cigarette lighter. However, the wiring harness in the cab is in the roof molding and is very accessible. I just tapped off a circuit for the bucket controls."

"I used silicone seal to mount the screen above the inside front window and centered on the window. I figured the silicone seal would handle the vibration, and it has for more than 50 hrs. of work with the skid steer. Using silicone seal also meant I didn't need to drill and tap the cab."

"I wanted to mount the camera so it would be out of the way. Anything mounted to the rear door would be wiped off if you brushed a wall or tree. Instead, I screwed a short length of fairly thin, 1/2-in. angle iron to the cab, just above the curvature of the door. Then I mounted the lens attachment to the angle iron."

"The camera has a 150-degree wide-angle view. To get an accurate picture of the width



Tucker used a low cost camera kit on his skid steer that only took an hour and a half to install.

of the skid steer on the screen, I laid two straight edges alongside the tires of the skid steer and to its rear. When I got back in the cab, I used a Sharpie to draw lines on the screen over the straight edges. This gave me an accurate picture/location of the width of the machine."

"I also measured the near-edge line that the camera shows. Knowing what that distance is, I can back up to within 2 in. of something as low and out of the line of sight as a curb."

"We've had record snowfalls this winter, and the backup camera has been awesome. I was so impressed with it that I bought several more. I installed one on my truck and am going to install one on my wife's car."

has 92,000 miles. The dealer is very good at keeping it up even though it's old. I have another Toyota pickup (1988 model) with 185,000 miles, and I love it."

Edward Vogt, Springboro, Penn.: "My 2019 Suzuki KingQuad 400 is very dependable. I use it for spraying and raking hay."

Neil Thompson, Lutz, Fla.: "Two months ago, I bought a 3-year-old Yamaha golf cart. I've had nothing but trouble with it and have spent over \$3,000 on it. I've put in new batteries and a switch and bought a new battery charger. I would not recommend a Yamaha golf cart to anyone."

Steve Engelhardt, Battle Ground, Wash.: "One of my best buys is the Fiskars EZ Reach Pruner. I used mine approximately two times per week last summer to keep blackberries off the fencing on my 7+ acres. This tool was used for about 4 hrs. each time, and I only broke one tool by using it to fork the cut vines onto a pile."

"Another best buy is a Ryobi kit that I bought used. I like the chainsaw but also find the circular saw very handy. I've now added a leaf blower, string trimmer, and radio, and they all use the same 18-volt battery."

"I've also found FARM SHOW to be a best buy. My wife and I both enjoy it a lot. My only problem is I haven't gotten rid of my old copies."

Steve Millberg, Milltown, Wis.: "I had a 1995 Ford Powerstroke F-250. I sold it to a neighbor with 556,000 miles on it. It now has over 600,000 and still runs fine. 7.3 Powerstrokes are indestructible."

"I have three Poulan chainsaws, and none start easily."

Daniel Sloan, Black Rock, Ark.: "I discovered a real time and money saver

when I needed bearings for my Kuhn forage harvester."

"My dealer said there were delays with the supply chain. I searched the internet and found a Kuhn dealer in France with the parts. He shipped them to me in less than a month at half the cost my local dealer would've charged."

"I'll be ordering a cutting bar housing, and it looks like I'll be saving more than \$1,200, even with shipping, and I'll get it sooner than my dealer could get it. My dealer told me it would take months, and the French dealer said about a month."

"I need front glass for the cab and might try the same thing again. I'll definitely be looking at foreign sources for parts in the future."

Joyce Eikenberry, Union Furnace Ohio: "I have a hilly farm, and when I needed a tractor, I told the dealer that I needed one with four-speed hi-low, 4-WD, a diesel engine, a bale spear, and a front loader. It also needed to run standard attachments such as a brush hog. The Kubota L2501 met my demands. The only thing it won't run is a posthole auger; it's a bit light for that. All in all, I'm very pleased with my 'Kubeastie'."

Brian Armstrong, Ethel, Ontario: "I made a great purchase when I bought a used 2013 GMC Yukon with 4-WD when it was a year old. It now has 265,000 km. So far, I've only put brakes, tires, and two wheel bearings on it. I've changed the oil every 15,000 km. While it's a little hard on fuel, it's very dependable and safe. I oil the body and frame two times a year to minimize rust and corrosion."

Richard Settle, Newark Valley, N.Y.: "My Milwaukee battery-powered impact wrench has plenty of power, and the battery lasts a long time."