

I never got either one to work halfway right. They weren't helpful when I called. They implied I was just too dumb to follow instructions."

Bruce W. Siira, Altha, Fla.: Bruce is happy with his **Cub Cadet 54-in.** zero-turn mower. "I bought this 3 years ago at Tractor Supply Co. I installed a 2-stage industrial air filter on the Wisconsin engine. I've only replaced blades and the seat safety switch. It's fast and fuel efficient."

On the negative side is an order from **Burgess Nursery.** "My 200 Siberian Elms and other plants arrived dead and rotten. So did the replacements. Worst \$300 spent."

Bruce also had a negative experience with tire inner tubes from **Tractor Supply Co.** "Someone took a good tube out of the box and replaced it with an old one with a patch. Two more that were new wouldn't hold air out of the box."

Phil Gooch, Grants Pass, Ore.: "I've had no mechanical problems with my 2002 **Deere 4600.** The electrical, however, is terrible. There were issues with the starting circuit with three relays, a diode, and some other things. It's been very expensive to have them fixed."

Phil also has mixed feelings about his **Hitachi** battery-operated drill. "The drill was okay, the battery, not so much. Overall, it wasn't too bad for the cost."

Bob Patterson, Brimley, Mich.: "My best buy is my 50-in. **Exmark** zero-turn mower. It always starts and works. I did manage to break the only part not covered by the warranty – the side-discharge chute."

Joseph Bruggeman, Taberg, N.Y.: "I've been happy with my 2012 **Kubota** RTV 900. I put a Boss 6-ft. plow on it to plow my driveway, and they work together well. I use it to cut a 1/2 cord of firewood, and it hauls and dumps it well."

"About a year ago, it started to act up and won't start. I turn the key and nothing, and not even a click. I leave it, and the next morning, I turn the key and it starts like nothing ever happened."

"I talked to the Kubota dealer and was told the key switch was the problem, not the safety, relay, or starter switches. I spent \$350, and it still has problems. The Kubota specialist's response was, 'Huh. Beats me.'" Now what? If anyone has the answer to this problem, I sure would love to hear it."

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Jim Risley, Lubbock, Texas: Jim hasn't been happy with his experience with **Dodge** Ram Care. "I purchased a new 2022 Ram Longhorn 1500 truck. It was equipped with all the bells and whistles. Ten months later, a valve spring broke and consequently ruined the engine. I called a local dealer, and they came and picked the truck up and took it back to the dealership. The dealership took 4 weeks to determine that it needed a new engine."

"Ram Care contacted me and said they would pay for a rental until it was repaired. I rented a Jeep Gladiator for 2 weeks and returned it to the rental place. I then went on vacation for 2 weeks. Upon my return, I called the dealership, and they said it would take several weeks to get the repair parts in."

"I needed a truck to take care of business, so I had to trade with the dealership that had

my truck. I traded for another Ram truck of lesser value just to have something to drive. I then tried to submit my claim for the rental vehicle. They made it difficult to submit the information. I sent a copy of the lease that showed I paid for it, but then they said I also had to send a copy of my credit card payment. I sent that as well, but then they said it wasn't showing up. This went on for several weeks until I finally realized they didn't plan on paying. I then sent a bad review about my experience."

"I was contacted by Ram Care and given a different email address to send the information to. They finally acknowledged they received it but sent me a text that they were only going to pay around two-thirds of the amount. I called them back and talked to a different case manager, and he agreed they owed the full amount. I finally received my money."

"The point of this story is Ram Care will try to use the same denial and delay tactics that insurance companies use until the individual gives up. Buying a Ram truck has been my worst buy because of the poor warranty service."



Cindy Kietzman, Michigan City, Ind.: "In October 2022, we bought an **LG 30-in.** gas range with a convection oven and air fryer (Model LRGL5823S). This range works every time. It makes a musical tone when the oven gets up to temperature. The inside of the oven is a pretty blue color, which makes it easy to see spots, drips, and splashes. It's also super slick, so spots are easily cleaned up. I love my LG stove."

Cindy didn't have such a positive experience with her **Whirlpool** gas stove. "It was the worst ever. The oven/broiler never worked right from day one. Of course, it's always after service hours when you need them. To make the broiler work, you had to turn on the oven to let it heat up and then quickly turn it off, and then set it to broil. Even then, when broiling hot dogs on the second rack below the flame, it would take half an hour to cook. One of the front burners on the stovetop didn't work either. No more Whirlpool appliances for me."

Michael Elder, Plainview, Minn.: Michael is the satisfied owner of a 2022 **Polaris** Ranger UTV. "We use it on our rolling farm for fence repair, spraying small pastures, rock picking, any utility jobs, and just going from point A to B. It's inexpensive to operate and provides easy access for senior people."

Herbert Gossler, Fifty Six, Ark.: "I'm very pleased with my 2020 **Chevy** pickup. I've had no problems. It has plenty of power with a V-6 engine. The gas mileage is good at 16.8 mpg around these hills."

Roger Elmore, Denison, Texas: "I've had very good performance and reliability with **Ryobi** 18-volt equipment (pole saw, blowers, drill, impact, radial saw, and lights)."

"My 1964 **Ford 640** tractor is still a daily worker. My dad bought it new."

Jim Bishop, East Prairie, Mo.: "My 2021 **Honda** Pioneer 1000-5 drives like a car and has a good ride. In 4-WD, it has lots of pulling



Purple Majesty (top), German Butter Ball (lower left), and Raspberry (lower right).

Garden Potato Best Buy

Jim Ruen, La Crescent, Minn.: "Last spring, I wrote an article for FARM SHOW about **Grand Teton Organics** (Vol. 47, No. 3) and its 50 varieties of potatoes (www.grandtetonorganics.com, ph 208-313-7303). I was so impressed with owner John Hoggan and his potatoes that I ordered eight varieties. They ranged from old standbys like Norkotah Russets and German Butter Ball to new varieties like Raspberry with deep red flesh and dark red skin."

"My wife and I ended up with those three, as well as Baby Red, another bright red tuber inside and out, and the size of golf balls. We also grew Purple Majesty and Purple Viking, the former a dark purple throughout and the latter with reddish-purple skin and white flesh."

"Baby Lou was a new, first-time variety from Hoggan. It was described as setting up to 40 1 to 2-in. tubers per hill. While we didn't max out on the number, ours were larger and very tasty. Grand Duke was another new offering. It produced good-sized, yellow flesh

tubers that looked and tasted great."

"Hoggan described Purple Viking as the earliest maturing of any available variety and great for short seasons or early markets. Although I was a little late getting them planted, I was picking them by July 1st. We'll definitely be planting them again."

"While most of the others were mid to late-season maturing, I couldn't wait to try them. It was too tempting to slip into the soil and pull out a few of each. As a result, we had a patriotic potato salad on July 4th with a mix of Raspberry, Grand Duke, and Purple Majesty tubers."

"Hoggan is a great resource and quick to respond to emails with any information requested. His potatoes were in good shape when they arrived and, aside from Purple Majesty, disease-free throughout the season. It seemed to have a little scab, making peeling desirable. I highly recommend Grand Teton Organics as a source for 2024 potatoes. Our only problem will be limiting the number of varieties."

power and will go anywhere you want to go on the road. It'll run with the traffic on state and county roads."

Michael Krultz, Greenwood, Wis.: "My 2-year-old **Kubota 1100C** with fully enclosed cab and heat and A/C works great. I use it every day."

Joe and Anne Hooker, Maidens, Va.: "Our best and most satisfying purchase continues to be FARM SHOW."



Roy Miller Jr., Patriot, Ohio: "My **Milbertech** luxury headlamp has a good headband (www.milbertechenergy.com; ph 855-629-5484). It's bright and has different settings good for work, reading, and hunting. Best of all, it's rechargeable. You can have a backup battery in your pocket when hunting."

Kent Spader, York, Neb.: "My 2020 **Dodge** Ram 1500 pickup with Hemi motor is surprisingly economical. It drives perfectly and with extreme power."

Darrel C. Wetzel, Bismarck, N.D.: Darrel nominates his **Worx** 40-volt cordless trimmer/edger as a best buy. "This is the first battery trimmer I've owned. It's lightweight, efficient, and has plenty of power. With the double guide wheels, it works great for edging along the walks and driveway. The 40-volt battery runs 3 hrs. or more. This trimmer is ideal for smaller residential yards."

Dick Grobner, Lake Elmo, Minn.: "In January 2023, I purchased a **Milwaukee** hatchet pruning saw (Model 3004-20). It's lightweight and will cut for hours with a fully charged battery. I feel safe climbing ladders with this saw to prune tree limbs. It'll easily cut through 5-in. dia. limbs. Great purchase."

Gary Jensen, Ironton, Minn.: "My 2000 Suburban with a 5.3 engine was using oil, so I purchased **Lucas** Upper Cylinder Lubricant to see if that would help. I put the Lucas lubricant in each gas tank fill as directed on the bottle, using it until the bottle was empty. I purchased and started using this product in January 2023. Unbeknownst to me, it had lower cylinder lubricant in the bottle."

"After I started using it, the motor would miss and cut out for about a minute when I started the engine each morning. Then it would even out and run OK the rest of the day. Every morning, it was the same story."

"I started trying to remedy the situation. Our mechanic changed the spark plugs,

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