

John W., Alva, Okla.: "Having tried other electric grease guns, the Milwaukee M18 grease gun can't be beat. It's been flawlessly operated for several years now, and it's perfect for my farm operation. I liked it so much that I now have two. Highly recommend."

Doug Ameslin, Marshville, N.C.: "My wife likes her Harbor Freight battery blower and weed trimmer. They take the same battery, which lasts a long time."

David Peck, Perry, N.Y.: David is pleased with his Gordon folding knife. "I bought this at Harbor Freight on a whim. Honestly, I just needed a knife in my toolbox and discovered it was pretty good. It locks open or closed. When it gets dull, swap the blade ends or replace it with a new one. I'm semi-retired and took a job in a hardware store. I spend a lot of time cutting boxes open, twine, etc. This cheap tool works better than my old pocketknife."

David is unhappy with pocket t-shirts from Key. "The old ones were soft and made from long-lasting cotton. The new ones are made out of something poly. It's like wearing a plastic bag all day. They look ok, but they're not comfortable."

Ronny Davis, Minden, La.: "I use my Sharper Image wireless headphones to hook up to my television. I can't understand what's being said without them. Well worth the money."

Richard Larson, Ham Lake, Minn.: "My 2021 Ego CS1611 56V cordless chainsaw is a best buy. After using Stihl products for years, I was very leery about getting an electric chainsaw. But I decided to try it and have been very happy with my purchase. It has plenty of power, is easy to use, and is dependable. The battery lasts about an hour, and to be honest, at my age, after an hour of cutting branches, I need a break anyway. The battery recharges in about 90 min. This would be perfect if you need a chainsaw for trimming branches and other small work."

Frank Servino, Roy, Wash.: "My 2024 ABI Attachments TR3e arena groomer is a great product that makes the footing flat and level around the arena (www.abiattachments.com; ph 877-788-7253). It should help save some injuries from uneven footing."

Frank is unhappy he traded his 2005 Kubota 2901 for a 2023 Kubota L3901. "The first thing that went wrong was the fuel filter plugged up because it was rusted. The second thing is that the loader wouldn't lift much, so I had to add spacers to the hydraulics so I could lift a round bale. Then, the last and most disturbing thing is it's very tippy. I'm adding four inches to each side, costing over \$300. I hate the regen I have to do for the EPA. It wastes a bunch of fuel. I'm now looking for an older tractor."

Dave Lash, Mc Donald, Penn.: Dave's worst buy is his 2021 Coleman 400 UTV. "After buying it new from Tractor Supply, I started having trouble shifting. I contacted T.S., and they told me to contact Coleman directly. I told them I was still using it on the farm, and they said that was fine. Then I lost the reverse completely, and they found a repair shop near me where I should take it. This establishment was very good to work with. They found that the transmission needed to be replaced. It took three months to arrive. It worked for a while, but it's still not right."

John Schwarzkopf, Rincon, Ga.: "All of my Milwaukee M18 tools are best buys. Since buying my 1/2-in. drive impact, I haven't used either of my air impacts. I haven't found anything it can't break loose. The 6 1/2-in. circular saw is just as capable

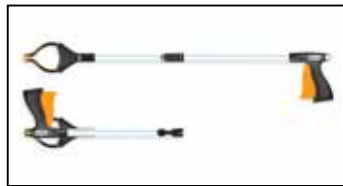
as my old Skil worm drive saw and is much lighter.

"My local Ace Hardware is a big Milwaukee dealer, so by watching the upcoming deals, I'll get a tool, and then a six or eight-amp battery is free. Those usually are \$200 each. I also get Ace Rewards coupons for \$10 or \$20 off, which reduces the cost even more. I recently bought a Milwaukee M18 pole saw for limbing trees in my pastures and yard. I'm very impressed with it. It's just as capable as a gas one without the noise."

"All of my Stihl products are also best buys. My 039 chainsaw was purchased in the 1990s and is still going strong. I recently bought a mid-size Stihl battery power saw for pruning trees and building fences, and it works well."

Gerry Hawkes, Woodstock, Vt.: "Several years ago, maybe 10, I bought a Snow Joe 21-in. 15-amp. corded electric snowblower online for a couple of hundred dollars. It's virtually all plastic and not very heavy. I didn't have great expectations, but it has done an admirable job blowing snow off a 20-ft. by 30-ft. patio in all conditions."

"It has plenty of power, yet it consumes only a few pennies worth of electricity per storm, and there are no batteries to run down. Its plastic construction has proven to be tough and doesn't have a single crack. I did store it under the provided cover, but mice found it so nice that they made a nest and chewed a small, inconsequential hole in the plastic."



Todd Hess, Mount Morris, Ill.: "I use my EZPIK grabber to retrieve small things nearby (www.ezpick.com). Since I'm disabled with MS, it's very valuable. It folds in half to carry on my walker."

Jay, Waterford, Penn.: "My Deere 750 compact tractor has very efficient diesel power. I plow some and disc, as well as pull logs for firewood. I have a dirt scoop for the rear. When the power goes out, my PTO generator is very handy."

"I purchased a used Massey-Harris Pony tractor with a center-mounted sickle mower. It was advertised as perfect, and the pictures looked good. I paid to get it home, and it ran for a couple of minutes with a loud engine noise that ended up being the fan mount that bolted to the front of the engine. Someone had filled it with graphite to quiet it, but the fan was wobbling and almost hitting the radiator. It's impossible to find new or used parts. The tractor wiring was a mess, the air cleaner tube was missing, and the carb leaked. The mower had a broken cast part. I had to sell it at a big loss. No more antique tractors for me."

Mark Nutley, Oregonia, Ohio: "My Milwaukee M18 1/2-in. impact is, hands down, just as good as anything air-powered I've used, and it's way more convenient and quieter. Battery power has come a long way."

On the negative side is Mark's Deere 1025R. "The machine runs but doesn't do anything great. It's louder than it needs to be. At 189 hrs., the implement hydraulic pump failed, and Deere doesn't consider this part of the powertrain even though you don't have steering when running. There are multiple hydraulic leaks around the machine. I should've bought something different or older."

Ronald Grzywacz, Royersford, Penn.: "My DR Pilot 22-in. walk-behind trimmer

Change Light Bulbs Without A Ladder

Scott Geyer, Lakeville, Minn.: "I got tired of moving a vehicle or two out of the garage to pull out my tall ladder to change burned-out bulbs. So, I purchased a light bulb changing kit from my local Menards store for about \$20. These are available from most home store retailers and online."

"My kit came with an aluminum pole that extends to 11 ft. and included several bulb size ends and a broken bulb end."

"The bulb end has a spring style end with soft rubber that allows the tool to fit over the bulb without breaking but still offers enough grip to screw/unscrew from the socket."

"I haven't used the broken bulb end yet, but it has a rubber end that fits into the broken bulb end to remove it from the socket."

"This has been a best buy for me as it saves time and avoids dragging out a ladder to change a simple bulb. I now find myself using this tool to change all overhead light bulbs inside and out. It's one of those purchases I didn't know I needed until I had it."



Extended pole with attachment that "grabs" bulbs for easy replacement overhead.

starts easily and works great for trimming around trees and fence posts. It's light, easy to maneuver, and handles tall weeds with no problems. It works better than handheld trimmers."



Dale McDowell, Alberta: Dale's impressed with his Hypertherm Powermax 45 XP Plasma system (model 088112; www.hypertherm.com/en-US). "It works awesome with clean cuts, leaving little need for grinding. It also gouges well to remove old welds. It has an extended reach attachment that can get into difficult spots. I built a mobile stand to accommodate it and my Millermatic 215 combination welder around my shop."

Don Stark, Rochester, Wash.: "I'm happy I bought a six-way blade for my tractor. Yard and road maintenance are so easy now."



Dale G. Forbes, Spring Creek, Penn.: "My best purchase was a seal for my propane tank from ProDomeSeal (www.prodome Seal.com; ph 814-403-0727). It keeps the birds from making a nest under the tank's hood. Now, when I check the propane level of my tank, I don't get a surprise when I lift the tank hood."

Lester Rydeen, Marine on St. Croix, Minn.: "I've been using Milwaukee tools for quite some time. They feel good to use, and I feel safer using their batteries and chargers. My most recent Milwaukee purchases were a pole saw, a 14-in. chainsaw, a weed whip with

brush blade and hedge trimmer, and a heated vest. The vest quit in less than a year, and Milwaukee gave me a new, updated vest. It works great. The pole saw and chainsaw work even better than the popular brands friends have purchased. The brush cutter and hedge trimmer work great under fences. Worth the extra money."

David Moretz, Boone, N.C.: David is frustrated with the FlyCamPro company and its Mini Spy cameras. "I ordered three cameras at a good price. However, I can't connect them to my phone via Bluetooth. I thought I could watch my property from three angles, but I spent over \$100 on trash."

"I've spent over an hour trying to connect to my Wi-Fi and phone with this dud. I tried every way the instructions said to do it. There was no connecting at all, even after rebooting everything. I've contacted customer service four times, but they don't answer other than to say they're sorry it didn't work out. Evidently, they don't take returns either. They got my money, and I have their junk. I'll be careful what I order from now on."

Leon Ray Newswanger, Shiloh, Ohio: "My Deutz-Fahr 5080D is a super handy 80-hp tractor with 4-WD and cab. I can plant corn all day with a six-row Kinze. It has plenty of get-up-and-go with its common-rail fuel system. The three sets of hydraulic remotes have mechanical spools. I think having no electronics is better."

Harry Lehman, Corvallis, Ore.: "I've had a Woodmaxx WM-8H chipper for nine years (www.woodmaxx.com; ph 855-966-3629). This well-built machine has operated flawlessly with minimal maintenance. I've recommended this chipper countless times to friends and people I don't know. We chip trimmings from our 25 fruit and landscape trees. We clean up storm damage, too. It's absolutely one of the very best purchases I've made in 75 years. Get one!

"The worst stuff I've ever bought are cheap, throw-away tarps that permeate the globe. Give me a real canvas or heavy-duty truck tarp. Imported tarps are junk."

Travis Weber, Arthur, Ontario: "I got a DeWalt 5-in. cordless bandsaw for a metal stabling project, and it's worth the price. The blades and batteries last well. There are no sparks like a grinder, so it's safe for use in barns and sheds with combustible material. It's also faster in heavy-wall steel and very comparable in thinner-wall steel. It has some limitations in cutting capacity and angles but has a very important place in my collection of tools."