

# Best And Worst Buys

(Continued from preceding page)

range doesn't match up well with field work."

**Mark Anderson, Preston, Idaho:** Mark names his **Sears Craftsman** 10-in. table saw as "worst buy". "The pulleys, belts, rip fence and other parts constantly work out of adjustment. The 1-hp. motor also needs resetting on a regular basis. Poor engineering causes the belt and pulleys to almost always rub somewhere."

**Terry Aller, Hiawatha, Kan.:** "It only works about half the time so they should only charge half its regular price. We followed the directions but the company always seems to have an excuse," says Terry, displeased with **Basagran** herbicide by **BASF**.

His **Versatile 835** tractor is his "best buy". "It's reliable, easy to work on, has low upkeep costs and has good power at all engine speeds."

**Billie Joe Brandt, Concordia, Mo.:** "My worst buy is a **Hiniker** Auto Facts sprayer controller. Performance is erratic and application rates poor, resulting in poor performance from chemicals. Company response to my problems has been poor."

**Gary Wilcox, Correctionville, Iowa:** "It augers with a minimum of power at lower tractor rpm's than most other comparable size augers. It's easy to set up, has a cleaning screen close to the ground so fines don't blow all over, and it cranks easily into position. The wheels have high-speed bearings for road travel," says Gary, pleased with his **Peck 8-in., 56-ft.** grain auger made at **Herman, Neb.**

**Walt Stewart, Menahga, Minn.:** Walt's pleased with his **Rock-A-Matic 546** rock picker. "Does a very

**"Well-built for the job it has to do."**

good job picking rocks with no breakdowns. Well-built for the job it has to do."

**Gary L. Mullen, Steelville, Mo.:** He's pleased with his **Massey Ferguson 3-pt.** wheel rake. "We traded our old rake for this one and have really been pleased. On uneven ground it does a great job and has cut our raking time by a third. It's also great for turning hay when it gets wet."

On the "worst buy" side, Gary lists his 1982 **Chevrolet 3/4-ton.** 4-WD pickup. "The automatic hubs never did work properly. The dealer finally put manual lock-out hubs on and they work fine but you have to get out in the rain to lock them in. The engine is 350 cu. in. but, when pulling an 18-ft. gooseneck trailer, it's like driving a little red wagon. It has no pulling power whatsoever."

**Charles Poyser, Wolcottville, Ind.:** He's had trouble with a used **Big Jim**

silos built by **Jamesway** that had been completely rebuilt when he bought it. "It works well in corn silage but not haylage. When the loader lays flat it'll unload but when put at the proper angle, it won't. When filling silo, you have to stand inside to make it go around. The wall cleaner sometimes hits the wall or jumps up and down, damaging itself. The dealer I bought it from went out of business and the new dealer won't warranty any new parts or service."

On the positive side, Charles is pleased with his "Lac-Tracker dairy computer built by **Optek, Inc.** This computer has cut feed bills, increased milk and butterfat, and improved herd health. We've owned it three years and had no down time. It's easy to use — you simply put a cow on when she freshens and take her off when she's dry. The computer control tags have instant on-off control which eliminates "boss" cows at the feeders. Has made me more money than any other machine on the place."

**Jacob Blank, Gap, Penn.:** "They automatically hold the heifers as they reach in to eat," says Jacob, pleased with self-locking head locks made by **Paul Zimmerman, Ephrata, Penn.** "We like them because there's less hassle with heifers when breeding, worming, or performing pregnancy checks."

**Joe Bacon, Spring Valley, Wis.:** "Several pieces of machinery have proven to be very reliable on our 200 acre farm. We've had four **Honda ATC 3-wheelers** — a 90, two 110's and a 185. All have been incredibly durable and reliable. We've also been very pleased with our **Stihl** chainsaws. Finally, our 1982 **Datsun King** cab diesel pickup has run flawlessly for over 40,000 miles and averages 30 mpg around town and 44 mpg on the highway."

**Perry Black, Somers, Iowa:** "We bought an 8-row **Buffalo** cultivator and have been more than satisfied. We equipped it with shields and ridgers made by **Ernie Behn, Rt. 1, Boone, Iowa 50036.** We originally bought the cultivator because we banded **Dual** herbicide on all our fields and needed to clean up the middles. The herbicide did its job but the wet weather really got the middles growing. The cultivator cleaned the fields up so you'd never know they had been banded. The deep shields let us cultivate in very "slabby" conditions at 6 mph with no damage to 1-in. tall soybeans. I can't say enough about these shields."

**Larry Skolney, Holden, Alberta:** Larry's pleased with his "best buy" **Deere 40V** chain saw. "Excellent starting and running. It has a good chain oiler, is lightweight and vibrates very little."

**Dwight Lewis, Bloomingdale, Ohio:** "A day seldom goes by that I don't use it for some repair," says Dwight, happy with his **Lincoln 180C**

welder bought in 1952. "In 32 years, I've replaced just one set of traveling contact points and one rectifier at a total cost of \$29. Original purchase price was \$180."

**Daniel H. Neurohr, Dodge, N. Dak.:** "My 2640 **Deere** tractor with a 146 **Deere** loader had 1050 hours on it when I bought it. It's very agile, easy to operate, and practically maintenance-free. The tractor has plenty of power and is economical on fuel, especially when pulling our round baler. It bales all day on 20 gal. of fuel."

**Jim Burgess, Strathclair, Man.:** "My **Poulan Micro XXV** deluxe chain saw is a best buy. I've had it for four or five years and it's given exceptionally good service. It never fails to start easily and cuts so well I no longer use my tractor-driven circular saw. I think the use of clean, properly mixed fuel has a lot to do with its good performance."

**Wilbert Kostenko, Butte, N. Dak.:** "I've owned my **Model 1300 Aaladin Industries** pressure washer for five months and it does a great job of cleaning, especially when using soap and hot water. The water can be heated up to 200°. Has a shut-off hand gun and many other automatic mechanisms. Hasn't given me a bit of trouble."

**J.B. Pinkston, Melrose, New Mexico:** He's pleased with his **International 1440 Axial Flow** combine. "We've cut almost 6,000 acres with this machine and have had very little down time or repair costs."

He's unhappy, however, with his **International 1086** tractor. "When the tractor had about 1,100 hours, the drive train came apart at a cost of about \$2,400. At 1,300 hours, the same thing happened — with me standing the cost again. The company said the tractor was out of warranty."

**Kenneth Alleman, Sardis, Ohio:** Kenneth lists his **Husqvarna Model 61** chain saw as his "best buy". "We used it to cut all our wood last winter. It did an excellent job. It's light weight and has plenty of power."

**George Eastlick, Molt, Mont.:** "I've owned four **Deere 44** series tractors and they've all been very good. I've never had any trouble with any of them, but my 4450 with 4-WD has more power and is more fuel efficient than the others."

**Greg Vaughan, Stanbridge East, Que.:** Greg nominates his **Ford 5600** tractor as a "best buy". "I've had the tractor for 4 years and 3,000 hours. It hasn't needed any mechanical repairs whatsoever — just greasing, and oil and filter changes."

## REQUIRES 75% LESS HORSEPOWER THAN KNIVES

# Liquid Fertilizer Blade Is First-Of-Its-Kind

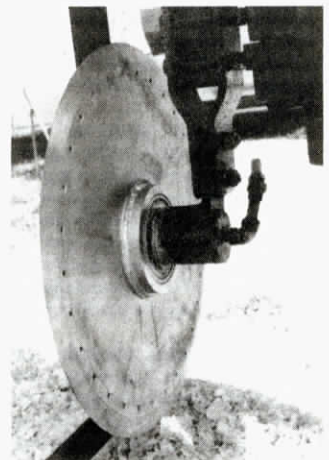
"Liquid Blade" is the innovative new way to inject liquid fertilizer using a blade rather than a knife for placement.

The 20-in. blade, introduced by **Davson, Inc., Springfield, Ohio,** requires 75% less horsepower to pull than equipment with knives, according to **Dave Long, designer.** The new-style blades can be mounted on the toolbar of whatever implement you now use to inject liquid fertilizer, says Long, adding that the blade also acts as a trash cutting coultter in minimum till conditions.

The blade has 30 small holes on each side, 1 in. from the outer edge and spaced 2 in. apart. As the ground-driven blade turns through the soil, fertilizer travels from the feed-in hose, through the inlet on the blade axle to the exit holes via 3/8 in. dia tubes. Each tube serves 2 holes — pushing fertilizer out both the left and right sides of the blade.

Long explains that the blade leaves fertilizer in a continuous curtain — from the surface to 5 in. deep — rather than in a single stream or ribbon. Consequently, the roots have a constant supply of fertilizer as they grow, he notes.

Fertilizer can't shoot out holes not in the ground since the feed-in on the axle only drops fertilizer into tubes when the respective holes they serve are in the ground.



**Thirty small holes feed fertilizer into the soil.**

The holes are notched into the blade at an angle to prevent soil from plugging them. Long says it takes a 6 psi pump to inject fertilizer without plugging and that you can use the same pump, application rates and travelling speed.

Liquid Blade will be available next spring and will sell for \$375.

For more information, contact: **FARM SHOW Followup, Davson, Inc., 33 S. Belmont, Springfield, Ohio 45505** (ph 513 322-1591).