

# Reader Letters

could not do the job. My Schweiss came through with flying colors."

**Eugene P. Ziegler, Grainfield, Kan.:** "I'm disappointed in my 3100 Dual loader. It won't dump completely when it's raised high, if you're dumping anything thicker than water."

**D.M. Miller, Copley, Ohio:** His Century electric arc welder is his "best buy." "Because the welder is so versatile and has such fine adjustment of amps on either AC or DC with straight or reverse polarity, it makes repairing or building tools and equipment easier. It operates on 220-V, single phase power."

**James Autry, Fayetteville, N.C.:** "My new International 1420 Axial Flow combine has lots of capacity, plenty of power and is easy on fuel. I get excellent grain samples. Good dealer service."

On the negative side, he's had trouble with his New Holland 489 mower/conditioner. "It's never done a clean job cutting. Poor factory followup."

**Alfred Howie, Abilene, Kan.:** He's had trouble with his 1981 International 1086 tractor. "There's a lack of power, poor brakes, and poor hydraulics, just to name a few of the problems we've had. When we compared it to an IH 966 running a tub grinder, the 966 did a better job. We took the tractor back to the dealer but he said it had the correct horsepower. We were disappointed since we were hoping something was wrong. Although it doesn't have any lugging power it does have good fuel economy and the cab is very comfortable."

Alfred's pleased with his Deere 510 round baler. "We've baled two seasons with no mechanical breakdowns. A very simple-to-operate baler. The dealer gave us good service to get started."

**Allen Kern, Faribault, Minn.:** He's pleased with Udder Food, made by Duncan, Inc., Lake City, Minn., a mastitis treatment that's topdressed to feed rations. "It's a good alternative to using drugs which require you to throw out milk when treating mastitis. I wasn't totally convinced that Udder Food was doing the job but after experimenting for two years on many cows, I know it works," says Allen, who's become a distributor for the company.

**David L. Rohleder, Morland, Kan.:** His "best buy" is a Hydra Bed round bale hauler and unroller made by Triple C Manufacturing, Sabetha, Kan. "I like it because you can be feeding cattle round bales one minute and hooking onto a gooseneck trailer the next. It leaves the pickup bed clear, unlike other pickup bale haulers. I also like the flatbed that is a part of it because it's easier to get tools and other items on and off than a regular pickup box."

**Kenneth Lelm, Turtle Lake, N. Dak.:** Kenneth has three "best buys". "Our 1984 Chevrolet Silverado pickup gets 20 mpg, and gives a smooth quiet ride. It looks good, too. Our Makita 4-in. grinder is very handy and we've been able to depend on its good performance. FARM SHOW is also a best buy."

We've never answered so many calls and letters as we received after the article in your last issue (Vol. 8, No. 2) on lupines, a new low-cost alternative to soybeans. There are a couple clarifications we would like to make, however.

First, although we have conducted serious negotiations with the French government for large quantities of lupines, contract negotiations have not yet been finalized due to the strong dollar and dropping soybean prices. However, because of the attractive price of lupines and their high feed value, we have been able to develop strong markets for this exciting new crop here in the U.S.

Secondly, contrary to what was stated in the article, we have not guaranteed a price of \$7 per bushel to growers. Growers can contract for 85% of the price of soybean meal, which has worked out to a price of about \$5.50 to \$6.00 per bushel for lupine growers this year. However, most lupine growers are livestock producers who plan to feed all the beans they can produce.

Ken Haman  
General Manager  
Good Earth Agra Products, Inc.  
P.O. Box 158  
Perham, Minn. 56573

I read your report in the last issue (Vol. 8, No. 2), about wheels for Deere headers. I think FARM SHOW readers would also be interested in my Roto Shoes that fit on Deere 50 and 50A series row crop heads. Unlike the conventional skids, the Roto Shoes are 12 in. dia. discs that lay on the ground and rotate upon contacting the ground, instead of skidding, thus ending dirt buildup and plugging — even in wet soil.

They bolt on in place of the skids and sell for \$79 a row.

Harold Rink  
HR Mfg. Co.  
Rt. 1, Box 71,  
Pender, Neb. 68047  
(ph 402 385-3220)

We've had excellent response from FARM SHOW readers on our tractor tire retreading service. Unfortunately, the phone number in your report was incorrect so many readers had trouble contacting us. The correct number is 517 773-7978.

Since FARM SHOW's report, we've begun to retread 20.8 by 38 tires — in addition to the 18.4 by 38 tires that we started with.

Olsen's Tire Service  
704 E. Pickard  
Mt. Pleasant, Mich 48848

I am writing to protest the manner in which comments were expressed in your recent issue about one of this company's products. On page 12 of your No. 1, 1984 issue, under "Farmer's Nominate Best, Worst Buys," you report Indiana farmer David Rietveld saying that the Howard Roto-Spike (please note the correct spelling is Rotaspikes) was both his

"best" and "worst" buy.

You report Mr. Rietveld as saying that he was disappointed with the Company's warranty on the bedshaping components of the Rotaspikes, some of which wore out in 100 acres. You also say that we, the Company, deemed this "normal" and would not stand behind the product.

It should interest you and your readers to know that we have never received from Mr. Rietveld, his dealer, or his wholesale supplier, any warranty claim for his machine. Nor have we ever suggested that it was "normal" to wear out a product component in 100 acres.

To be perfectly certain of these facts, I telephoned Mr. Rietveld personally, who confirmed that he had never been in touch with our Company about these matters, though of course he had discussed them with his dealer and wholesaler.

On the other hand, we had been made aware, by our wholesaler, that Mr. Rietveld had had problems with his bedshaper which, incidentally, is not made by Howard. As a consequence of not being under our direct control, it has taken us rather longer to correct Mr. Rietveld's problems than we would wish, but the matter was in hand before the appearance of your article.

Despite Mr. Rietveld's comments that the machine does an excellent job of incorporation and bedshaping, and that it is a basically well-built and durable machine, I venture to suggest that your emphasis upon the negative aspects, some of which are clearly untrue, reinforced by your negative editorialization, will serve to do us considerably more harm than good.

Farmers, dealers, wholesalers and manufacturers — not to mention industry publishers — have been through some very difficult times in recent years. It is most distressing to us that on top of all the other problems we face, we now have to add that of irresponsible reporting.

Martin W. Ford  
President  
Howard Rotavator Co.  
Muscodia, Wis.

Several people have sent me your feature "Savory Grazing System Challenged". I regret that this was published under such a title as it is extremely misleading. Not one piece of the article applies to the Savory Grazing Method in any way.

My system — Holistic Resource Management, or SGM — is very different indeed from what is described and quite rightly criticized by the New Zealanders interviewed. What is being criticized here is the plagiarization of my work which has been done by various universities in America, and which is totally contrary to everything that I advise. It should in no way be linked to me.

We are experiencing a considerable problem due to the amount of plagiarization taking place by American universities and the publications that are being put out on the so-called "Savory System". I do not wish to be held responsible in any way for their work as

they are frequently warned that it will not function correctly in the manner being applied and, as I said, it bears no relationship to the Holistic Resource Management, including the manner of using radial fence layouts that I advise. In contrast to the failures which are increasingly going to be reported concerning these wagon wheel rotational grazing systems, we continue to experience success in applying Holistic Resource Management properly with trained personnel. In fact, we are right now in the process of forming a non-profit foundation to provide one center, national and international, for the future development and application of Holistic Resource Management because the demand for training is so great.

I am not endeavoring to stifle criticism in any way, as we constantly seek criticism. At all of the training schools, which some 300 professionals and 400 ranchers have attended, we invite criticism of any aspect of Holistic Resource Management. Only two criticisms have emerged to date and both of these are valid. The first is that Holistic Resource Management cannot be implemented without training; and second is that it does require a level of management, either by the operator or the extension service supporting that operator.

Allan Savory  
SGM Range Consultants  
P.O. Box 7128  
Albuquerque, N.M. 87194  
(ph 505 242-9272)

We have had a tremendous response to your article (Vol. 8, No. 1) on tire siping and our Saf-Tee siping machine. We have had calls from throughout the U.S. and Canada, both from people interested in having their tires siped and from those who are interested in purchasing a machine to go into business for themselves.

I am amazed at the response we have had from your magazine in comparison to the many other magazines and newspapers where our product has been featured. FARM SHOW's response is far and away the greatest we have had to any publicity ever given to our product.

Wes Sprunk  
Marcy, Inc.  
8935 Old Cedar Ave., Suite 314  
Bloomington, Minn. 55420

Please tell your readers to modify the loader fork feature on p. 8 of your last issue (Vol. 8, No. 2), to include a spear for the center of the bale. A center spear reduces the possibility of a bale falling on the tractor operator. Two of my neighbors have been crushed while using a similar fork without a center spear. Although they both survived, they are badly crippled for life. One has a crushed chest and the other a broken neck and damaged spinal column.

We find these bale moving forks to be very handy. However, they are just as handy when built with a center spear.

Dan Surprise  
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Eldorado Springs, Mo. 64744