

stable cleaners, even with lots of straw in the manure."

Ted Criblez, Bluffton, Ohio: "It's solid from the frame on up. Has big heavy bearings and is well-balanced. No troubles at all in 1,000 acres of combining. Precision enough to do a good job on clover seed," reports Ted about his "best buy", a **White** 7300 combine with 15-ft. kwik-cut table and 4-row corn head.

"My **Sears** 12-volt spot sprayer is worst buy. The rubber parts weren't made for chemicals. They all swelled and distorted to where there was almost no pressure and the tank bracket welds broke. The idea is great, just poor quality. When it works, it's really handy."

D.C. Graham, Vulcan, Alb.: "I've bought over 20 **General Motors** trucks since 1955 and only one gave me any trouble. My latest, a 1983 GMC ½-ton diesel truck gets 32 mpg and I only had a slight problem with the changeover switch for the fuel tanks. The automatic transmission with overdrive does a lot of shifting when going up hills or into a strong wind because it's underpowered. But I still like it because of its economy."

"I'm also happy with my **Deere** 4400 tractor. I've had no trouble whatsoever. It burns plenty of fuel but it sure gets the job done. The cab is really something. If I was buying 10 new tractors, they'd all be John Deere."

Leonard Robinson, Whittemore, Mich.: "You can travel at a good speed and it doesn't plug. It also makes good windrows," reports Leonard about his "best buy" **New Holland** 489 Haybine.

Ray Huggins, Challis, Idaho: Ray's had trouble with his "worst buy" 1983 **GMC** 6.2 L diesel 4-WD pickup. "At less than 29,000 miles, the transmission exhibited a pronounced jerkiness, power was substantially diminished, the transfer case refused to disengage from 4-WD, it emitted excessive white smoke, and developed an engine oil leak. I returned it to the dealer and was told that some of the 'gasket-in-a-tube' with which the transfer case had been assembled had found its way into the shifting mechanism, causing it to stick in 4-WD. In addition, the rear main seal was found to be inoperative and both the flywheel and starter were damaged or defective, necessitating the replacement of those parts."

"When I returned a week later it had developed an oil leak in the transfer case together with the engine oil leak. We found out that the white smoke and low power condition of the engine was caused by the fact that one cylinder had approximately 100 lbs. less compression than the others because the one cylinder lacks a pre-chamber. The other cylinders are also low on compression and need a complete ring job and installment of the missing pre-chamber. Finally, we discovered that a burr on the crankshaft is destroying the rear main seals and must also be replaced."

Reader Letters

I have been a farmer for 26 years and am now gradually retiring. I've always been known as the inventing fool because I usually make changes in new equipment or build things to fit my particular needs. I never patented anything but many local people have used my ideas for themselves. One of my most unusual inventions was a trailer I made from the rear axle of a car. I fitted it with a power take off shaft, put it behind my tractor, and used it to get quickly from one place to another because the tractor didn't have a fast enough road gear.

Reinhardt Preheim
Box 565
Mountain Lake, Minn. 56159

Do any of your readers know where we could purchase a pair of Emus and a female llama? We have lots of foxes in this part of the country and need the Emus to protect our sheep and geese. Unfortunately, the Emu breeder featured in **FARM SHOW** last year did not have any to sell this year. As for the llama, we've been looking for a female llama for two years. We already own a male.

Clifton Clevenger
P.O. Box 109
Glenwood, Md. 21738
(ph 301 489-5284).

Editor's Note: Please contact FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044, if you have Emus or llamas for sale, or if you know where they're currently available. We'll pass the information on to Clifton and other readers with similar inquiries.

I was given your **FARM SHOW** magazine by a neighbor and that one issue kept me busy for at least two months. I'll probably go nuts with a subscription but what a nice way to go.

John Snyder
Okemos, Mich.

Thank you for your article in Vol. 8, No. 6, on my whirlwind terrace plow that uses vertically mounted augers and a stripped-down moldboard plow to dig ditches and build terraces. Response has been tremendous but, unfortunately, I don't have literature to send since this was a made-it-myself project. If anyone is seriously interested in buying a plow, however, I will custom build one.

John R. Moellering
Rt. 1, Box 40
Grinnell, Ks. 67738

Do you, or any of your readers, know where I could find a small farm-size oat huller?

Tom Cassan
Rt. 5,
Dundalk, Ont. N0C 1B0
519 923-6691

Do you know of anyone who sells a good power steering unit complete with engine-drive pump for a 1952 Massey Ferguson TO-35 gasoline engine tractor?

John C. Pescio
Box 1016
McGill, Neb. 689318

We have contacted Dave Ackerman, New Lisbon, Wis. His comments about his Liquid Brush high pressure washer, manufactured by Britt Tech Corporation, were recently in **Farm Show's** "Best, Worst Buys" column. As a manufacturer, we are always interested in receiving comments, both good and bad, from our customers. Without this kind of information we are unable to know how to improve our products. This is why we appreciate the "Best, Worst Buys" feature in your magazine.

Sandy Gruhn
Customer Service Manager
Britt Tech Corporation
P.O. Box 216
Britt, Iowa 50423

Response has been tremendous to your article in the last issue of **FARM SHOW** (Vol. 9, No. 1) on our new down corn snout that replaces conventional snouts on corn heads to pick up down corn stalks in the field. We would like to point out, however, that Larry Young, Rensselaer, Ind., is co-inventor of the snout along with myself. Both of us developed it and we're now partners in manufacturing it.

Randy Mak
Mak-Young
Rt. 1, Box 138A
Fair Oaks, Ind. 47943

I worked for two years on patents and ideas with the man who invented power steering and many other inventions. He also experimented with carburetors and, while racing once in Florida, ran against a team that had a Fish carburetor on their car. It went like blazes and sounded even better but that was the last I heard of it until I read the article in **FARM SHOW** about the recently remanufactured version of it. I was surprised because I receive practically every car, motorcycle and mechanical magazine available and wasn't aware it was back on the market.

I have just finished a book called "How To Lease Your Coal" for farmers who have coal on their property and are considering leasing mineral rights to mining companies. Interested **FARM SHOW** readers can order direct from me. It sells for \$20.00.

Max Cumberland
Box 5

After reading your article in **Farm Show** entitled "Farmer Finds First Rural Dating Service", I just had to write!

I've read so much recently about the single farmers who can't find a suitable mate, and I wanted to ask if "city girls" were excluded from your listings?

I grew up in Iselin, New Jersey, moved to Virginia at the age of 15 and married my "farmer" at 18. When we first met in March of '75, my husband told me he had to "feed" in the morning

and it took a few hours (a 350-400 cow-calf beef operation). I was so dumb, I asked him, "Can't you just put out the buckets and let your cows eat by themselves?" I had no idea what it involved!!

Nine years, three children and lots of "feedings" later, we're as happy as any family has the right to be! We now have over 1,000 acres in apples and crops, lots of cattle, and I keep the books and cater to my family. I'm still no ace at farming, but my husband didn't want to marry a farmhand!

So, although a "city girl" may not know a thing about farming to begin with, I'm sure there are many more like me who'd learn anything for the right man!

Thank you for hearing out a "reformed" city girl!

Charlotte "Charlee" Messick
Long Creek Farm, Inc.
Rt. 3, Box 154
Winchester, Va. 22601

In 1981 **FARM SHOW** published a story about a mud oven built in Saskatchewan, Canada. I wrote to the builder for more information, thinking it would be a great addition to the 1876 farmyard at our county fairground. He sent plans, recipes, and pictures. It took a couple years to find a mason willing to donate his time but we finally located Richard Zimmerman. The inside dimensions of our finished double-walled oven measure 4 ft. wide and 5½ ft. in length. It weighs 10,000 lbs. The inside wall is made with fire brick that's covered with a layer of ceramic insulation. The outside is brick and mortar and that's insulated in between. The oven door was fabricated by an Amish craftsman. The name plate is made from marble.

When filled to capacity, the oven holds approximately 60 loaves and will retain heat long enough to bake three times without reheating. Wood is burned in a steel trough to heat up the oven and then removed before the bread is put in. The oven is mounted on an old army trailer which was modified into a two axle trailer by local resident Lynn Ott, expert metal designer and builder. Estimated cost of the oven is in excess of \$3,000 but since our labor was all furnished, our cost was considerably less.

Rita Bishop
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Monroeville, Ohio 44847