

pull 2 pins and 2 hoses and drive away. No wrenches are necessary. It's also easy to re-attach because I don't have to remove the tractor's 3-pt. hitch. The loader is also easy to remove and re-attach. I'm well satisfied with this tractor."

Russell Hackman, Yorktown, Texas: Russell's had good luck with his air-powered **Man Saver** post driver (Rohrer Mfg., www.fencepostdriver.com; ph 800 980-7599).



The basic model runs off any small air compressor that delivers at least 2 1/2 cfm at 90 psi. It weighs 26 lbs. Delivers 80 to 85 strokes per min. Sells for \$450 plus S&H.

Reuben H. Plank, Lovington, Ill.: "We bought our 2012 **Case IH Farmall A55 2-WD** tractor used with about 40 hrs. on it. It runs nice and is easy to handle. Being a 2-WD model it turns short, which works great for our poultry operation. It may not be as heavy duty as the older Farmalls, but it sure is operator friendly."

He's disappointed with a "no name" generator he bought from **AuctionTime.com**. "This generator was listed as a Honda generator. However, after I bought it I discovered it was really a 'no name' generator that can be bought at farm stores locally for \$89.99 to \$159.99. Including the shipping cost, I spent more than \$400 on this piece of junk."

"I complained strongly to both CTM Auctions and AuctionTime.com about the deception. But about 8 months later I saw the same deceptive listing again on AuctionTime.com."

Dave Williams, Currituck, N.C.: "I like my **Toro Personal Pace** self-propelled push mower. It starts every time on the second pull, if not the first. This is the second Toro mower I've owned. It's an excellent product with good dealer service behind it."

Doug Czerkies, Holland, Mich.: "I'm disappointed in my **Cabela's** commercial grade 10-in. meat slicer. The motor is underpowered so it stops whenever I'm shaving ham or beef. The machine is also hard to clean, and the blade sharpener doesn't work well."

Denny Olson, Albert Lea, Minn.: Denny nominates his 2010 **Walker** riding mower equipped with a 26 hp. EFI engine and 48-in. front-mount deck as his "best buy". "It leaves my lawn looking clean, green and gorgeous, with beautiful striping. The deck partially chops the grass and leaves, which are blown into the mower's 10-bu. grass catcher. I've been using Walker mowers since 1994 and find them safe and comfortable to use."

Ron Allvin, Lemoore, Calif.: Ron's unhappy with the **Quadra-Fire** Mount **Vernon** pellet stove he bought from **Hearth and Home Technologies**. "The stove's so-called lifetime warranty is worthless. I've had to pay for technician calls to deal with remaining unresolved problems. The company's factory technical support people refuse to discuss anything whenever I try to call for help."

"I paid \$4,000 plus for this stove because it was supposed to burn several types of fuel and had 12-volt backup power. However, I was advised not to use the 12-volt option. I thought I was buying a top-of-the-line stove from a reputable dealer, but I'm very

disappointed. Our local dealer has tried to intervene, without success."

Jon Williams, Pueblo West, Colo.: Jon's the satisfied owner of a 2001 **Dodge** pickup equipped with a 5.9-liter **Cummins** diesel engine which he bought used with about 242,000 miles on it. "I've put close to 15,000 miles on it and it has performed flawlessly. It has plenty of power and is fuel efficient. The fuel injection pump on this model has a reputation of burning up if starved for fuel, but fortunately **BD Diesel Performance** makes a low fuel pressure warning light to help prevent this from happening. It's also a best buy (www.dieselpowerproducts.com; ph 888 993-4373).

"The first time I tried to use my **K-D** stud remover, the knurled part of the tool 'stripped' and damaged the stud. After that incident, I figured out how to use the 'jam nut' method of stud removal and have had almost 100 percent success with it. Instead of wasting money on stud removers, just use 2 nuts on the stud. Put one nut part way onto

"I use the 'jam nut' method of stud removal and have had almost 100 percent success."

the stud, then thread the other nut on. Back the first nut up tight against the second nut and then use your wrench on the first nut to remove the stud."

Jayson Williams, Mulvane, Kan.: "My **DeWalt** 18-volt cordless impact driver is small and easy to handle, yet has adequate power for most smaller jobs."

Jerry Brandt, LaGrange, Mo.: "My **Sears** 17-in. rear-tine rototiller never fails to start."

"My **Homelite** HTC12 rototiller outperforms my Earthquake model and is also a best buy."

He's disappointed with his **Dutch Housing** modular home. "We shopped in 3 states to find what we thought was the perfect modular home. It was the company's biggest model at 32 by 80 ft., with 3 baths and 4 bedrooms. It also has a large kitchen with a living room, family room and a den."

"What we didn't know is that the electrical wiring is the worst sold anywhere. All the wire connections on the outlets and switches were loose. The furnace didn't work from the start. There were holes in the walls around the windows that let cold air in, and the roof started leaking from the start and continues to this day. The heat doesn't make it back to the bathroom or bedroom, and the hot water takes 5 min. to reach the shower."

Wayne Eltiste, Tecumseh, Neb.: "I've used my 2012 **Vermeer** 605 Super M round baler to make more than 3,000 bales, yet the pickup has only plugged up once, and that was probably due to 'pilot error'. The net wrap has pulled off just one bale. This machine really speeds up baling."

Ron Schmitt, Inver Grove Heights, Minn.: Ron's impressed with his **Worx** 16-in. electric chainsaw (www.worx.com; ph 866 354-9679). "I use a chainsaw frequently around my house, often while burning a fire in the evening. Since I have some nearby neighbors I decided to try an electric saw. The Worx saw cuts just as fast as my Stihl gas saw, but is quieter. I am limited to where I can use it by the cord length. The best part is that it only cost about \$100."



Over the years, Tony and Nicole Niemann-Carr have used their 1972 Ford to haul everything from hay to cattle.

"Best Buy" 1972 Ford F-350 Truck

Nicole Niemann-Carr, Vaughn, Wash.: "My husband Tony and I love our 1972 **Ford** Custom F-350 2-ton truck equipped with a 360 hp. gas engine and 4-speed manual transmission. My grandfather bought this truck new equipped with a 12-ft. long dump bed, and now it has more than 110,000 miles on it. The engine wore out 8 years ago and was replaced. The dump bed floor was also replaced, using lumber milled by my dad."

"We operate about 50 acres where we grow grass hay and have a few cattle, pigs and chickens. Our family has used the truck to haul hay, cattle, firewood, and much more over the years."

"I grew up with this truck as a little

girl and have a lot of fond memories of it. I remember one summer, when rain threatened to ruin our hay, I was working so hard that as I was stacking a bale I lost my balance and fell right off the bed."

"The truck still runs although not that well, but it doesn't owe us anything. It makes a rumbling noise that can be heard a half mile away, but I love that sound. The truck originally had a blue cab and red side panels, which was a very patriotic look, but these days Big Blue is so faded that it's nearly white. Its seats are ripped, its floorboards are covered with tools and baling twine, and it doesn't always start. But this truck will always have a place on our farm."



John Myers, Swanton, Ohio: "We put about 3,500 acres through our combines each year and have one grainhead with fingers and one with **Grain Grabbers**."

"Grain Grabbers work better than a full-fingered auger for feeding the head more evenly. They reach out and pull the grain or soybeans in without wrapping. If I were buying another head, I would save money and get the Grain Grabbers instead of the full-fingered auger."

"Grain Grabber kits are available for 20, 25 or 30-ft. grain heads. They are priced at less than \$200 for a set of grain grabbers for a 20-ft. head versus \$4,000 for a head with a full-fingered auger."

"When I first got them, I figured they would fall off or be torn off when weeds wrapped around them. We're on our fourth crop with them and have yet to lose one. They really work great (www.graingrabbers.com; ph 419 272-2680).

"Concaves from **Kuchar** are another great product. I was told their concaves would gain me 15 to 20 percent capacity and as much in fuel savings. They were wrong. Both fuel savings and capacity increased more than the company promised. I like their concaves as much as I like my Grain Grabbers" (www.combinehighperformanceparts.com; ph 217 854-9838).

Tim Gasser, Prairie du Sac, Wis.: "**Bish's Tear Mender** allows me to easily and quickly repair just about any fabric (www.tearmender.com; ph 773 927-9442). I can glue patches on a pair of blue jeans and they'll be ready to wear in only 3 min."

Mark Jacob, Sedgwick, Kan.: "My 2012 **DeWalt** impact driver, which runs on

a 20-volt MAX Lithium Ion battery pack, is convenient to use in the shop or in the field. It has plenty of power and eliminates the need to drag air hoses around."

David Matejovsky, Wolf Point, Mont.: "My **Deere** 6140 D wasn't a good loader tractor because I could never shift the transmission into a workable gear. I used this tractor for only one year before trading it in for a **Deere** 6150 M, which has a great transmission and is a good all-around loader tractor."

Neil V. Stamper, New Castle, Va.: A 2011 **Kubota** L2800 4-WD tractor equipped with a 30 hp. diesel engine and front-end loader rates as Neil's "best buy". "This tractor has performed flawlessly. I use it with a **Bush Hog**, box blade, scraper blade, and equipment trailer. It has a lot of power for its size and is easy on fuel. It's a dependable workhorse."

"I'm disappointed with my 2006 **Dixie** LT2500 chopper mower. It has only about 400 hrs. on it but has had a lot of hydraulic and electrical problems, including the electric clutch which had to be replaced. This machine was definitely not worth what I paid for it."

Chuck Hoover, Marion, Ky.: "I ordered a **Femco** ROPS-mounted umbrella online from www.ruralking.com. The umbrella is well designed and is 54 in. sq. so it provides good coverage. I can remove it by pulling just one pin. The mount is solid and is built to last, and the canvas fabric is thick and feels sturdy. I paid \$80 for the umbrella, which was money well spent."

Ernie Tweedy, Oxford, Ark.: "I like my **Bad Boy** ZT 60-in. riding mower powered by a Kohler engine (www.badboymowers.com; ph 866 622-3269). It replaced a troublesome **Sears Craftsman** model that was powered by a Briggs & Stratton engine. The Bad Boy has about 150 hrs. on it and has required only routine maintenance. It starts easily and has lots of power."

Doug Bormann, Parkston, S. Dak.: Doug's happy with his 2009 **Hustler** lawn tractor equipped with a 72-in. mower deck

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