

Farmers Nominate Best & Worst Buys

He said to keep driving it and the rings would seat. But they never did.

"I wrote to the company complaining about the truck and one day the truck salesman called and said he wanted to see me. I thought 'Oh boy, they're going to fix my truck', but I was in for a surprise. The service manager and the salesman got me in a little room and cursed me out for everything they could think of because I had written the company complaining about the truck. They also didn't like the 'lemon' sign in bright red letters that I had placed on the rear tailgate.

"I continued to have nothing but trouble with the truck and finally traded it off for a Dodge. I've owned Dodges ever since."

John L. Nissley, Millersburg, Ind.: "My two **Rubbermaid** 100-gal. water tanks are my best buys. I bought them more than four years ago and they're still in great shape, whereas metal tanks would barely last two years.

"My 1993 **Emglo** portable air compressor still works fine and is a best buy. It has an 8 hp Honda engine with a 17-gal. air tank.

"My **J & J** Mister Squeeze cattle chute is a best buy (J & J Equipment Sales, Haviland, Ohio ph 419 587-3200)."

James A. Arndt, Chilhowee, Mo.: "Our three **David Brown** tractors are best buys. Two are 1965 990 models and one a 1968 1200 model. We've used them continuously ever since we got them. The only repairs we've ever had were to a fuel injector pump on one 990 and a pair of replacement tires on the other 990. These tractors are fuel efficient and operate well."

Lloyd Rupp, Jr., Thompsettown, Penn.: "My 2003 **Deere** L110A garden tractor is my worst buy. It's powered by a 17 1/2 hp Kohler engine that vibrates excessively. The tractor rides on turf tires that slip on hilly ground and work well only on level ground. Another

problem is that the seat is uncomfortable. I used 3/4-in. blocks to raise the seat in order to get the pressure off the lumbar part of my back. I found that a bumper is a necessity because the plastic hood extends too far in front of the axle."

James L. Felton, Neola, Iowa: "My 1983 **Black & Decker** 14-in. metal chop saw is my best buy. It has gone through 80 blades but is still on its first set of brushes. I design and build all the grain handling equipment we use on our 600-acre farm, and this saw is a big help.

"My 2003 **Honda** Accord EX equipped with a 4-cyl. 2.4-liter engine is a best buy. It rides quieter and is made better than any other car I've ever owned. It gets fantastic gas mileage."

Wayne McCartney, Locust Grove, Okla.: "It has a comfortable ride, plenty of power and isn't too hard on fuel," says Wayne about his 2001 **GM** 2500 pickup equipped with a 6-liter engine.

"My **Deere** 265 disc mower is balanced well with the tractor, and its blades are easy to change. I can cut in the field as fast as I care to drive. I use a 50 hp **Deere** 2240 tractor to pull it."

James Brooks, Siler City, N.C.: "I like my 2000 **New Holland** 1411 discbine. This machine will mow anything. I've cut a lot of acres with no problems."

Bob Andrews, Haines, Alaska: A 2001 **Kubota** 2710 tractor equipped with a front-end loader rates as Bob's "best buy". "It's a high quality, well designed tractor. I use it with a mower, bucket, and snowblower. I haven't had the slightest hint of a problem with it. It's easy to use and comfortable to drive, and has amazing power for its size.

"My **Maytag** kitchen stove is my worst buy. It's a top-of-the-line model that cost more than \$1,000. Right from the start, prob-

lems developed with the computer controls, and the door fell off several times due to a poor hinge design. All the computer controls depend on the door working, and it didn't work. I couldn't get any repairs made under warranty since I live out in the country. It's a real piece of junk."

John Burris, Port Jefferson, Ohio: "My 2002 **Gerber** 'Legend' multi-tool is my worst buy. I've had to replace the carbide wire cutters twice. They're supposed to be turned whenever they get dull, but they shatter after only a few uses and it costs \$25 to replace them. The tool fell completely apart last week. I'm returning it and going back to my old Leatherman."

Gary Keplinger, Winchester, Va.: "My 1991 **Dodge** 250 4-WD pickup equipped with a 318 cu. in. engine has more than 116,000 miles on it. It's my best buy. I've used it to haul everything from firewood to dirt and to pull all sorts of trailers. I've also used it to plow snow. I wanted to trade this pickup but my wife wouldn't let me. She says this is the most reliable vehicle we've ever owned."

Larry Rodgers, Murrayville, Ga.: "In

"I wanted to trade this pickup but my wife wouldn't let me."

1996 I bought a used **Kubota** L-275 tractor with less than 100 hours on it. Now it has about 700 trouble-free hours on it and is still providing great service."

David R. Strickler, Kingsport, Tenn.: "It's one of the most useful tools on our farm," says David about his 2002 **Honda** Rancher 4-WD ATV. "It saves a lot of walking and goes anywhere I need it to. It also

works great when used with a blade for scraping snow."

Gord Jopling, Lakefield, Ontario: Gord's happy with his 1990 **Deere** AMT 600 5-wheeler. "It has worked harder than most wheeled machines twice its age. We've used it every year to pick up rocks on at least 200 acres. We also use it every year to haul 30 cords of sugar shack wood and 15 cords of wood for our house. And we put a lot of miles on it hunting raccoons and deer. It also gets wear and tear from our five kids driving it around our farm. It still has the original engine and has gone through three spindle bearings, one drive belt, and two sets of tires. It's a well built, tough machine."

Jack Rudolph, Grafton, Ill.: "My 2003 **Swisher** trail mower equipped with a 60-in. deck pulls easy and cuts evenly."

Chuck Thornton, Bismarck, Ark.: Chuck's happy with his 1997 **Dodge** Ram 1500 pickup equipped with a 318 cu. in. engine and automatic transmission. "It has more than 115,000 miles on it but just had its first tune-up. I use it to pull a 20-ft., tri-axle equipment and hay trailer and also a 16-ft. livestock trailer. No problems."

Lawrence Wolfe, Chaptico, Md.: "I bought two combine belts from **Shoup Mfg.** and they're my worst buys. The belts separated and failed in less than three hours."

William H. Moran, Delanson, N.Y.: "My 2001 **Woods** 7500 backhoe is my best buy. It has a pto-driven hydraulic pump which gives it enough power for any digging job on our farm. I've used it to dig drainage ditches and foundations for our barns, etc."

Charles W. Rainforth, Hastings, Neb.: "I like my 1999 **Chevrolet** Silverado 1/2-ton pickup which is equipped with a 4.8-liter, V-8 engine. It has about 175,000 miles on it but still doesn't use any oil. It runs great and is also fuel efficient."

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