

with his 1987 Ford 3/4-ton 4 by 4 pickup. "We've had problems with the brakes and have broken plastic components such as the clutch master cylinder. Important parts should be made from metal."

On the positive side, Stan's happy with his 1988 New Idea round baler. "It's a super machine that's simple to operate. It makes excellent soft core bales which allows me to bale at higher moisture levels to reduce leaf loss. I also use it behind my rotary combine to make straw bales."

Mike Reichart, Tallula, Ill.: "It does a tremendous job in solving compaction problems," says Mike, happy with his Eye Paratill plow. "It loosens more soil and leaves more residue intact, so it's ideal for no-till"

Richard Kelley, Tracy, Minn.: Richard says his 1987 Ficklin Weber Weeder allows him to kill weeds in beans by himself without hiring other help. "All controls are feet-operated, leaving my hands free to operate the spray gun."

Dean Koehler, Nevada, Ohio: "We saved enough on anhydrous ammonia to pay for it the first year," says Dean, pleased with his 1988 Hiniker anhydrous ammonia monitor. "We used it last year as we sidressed anhydrous ammonia in our corn. We applied lower rates on our poorer soils."

Fred Miller, Justin, Texas: "It broke every time we took it to the field," says Fred, disappointed with his 1988 Unverferth bale

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Ross Lodge, Jane Lew, W. Va.: Ross's "worst buy" is his 1987 Hesston 5510 round baler. "If the hay isn't perfect, the baler won't roll right. If the hay is a little wet, the baler will clog. If the hay is too dry, the baler won't roll at all."

John Hlubik, New Egypt, N.J.: A Deere 347 wire baler ranks as John's "worst buy". "The first day it wouldn't tie the wires right. After working with it for a while we found that the chamber was bent. We did some research and found that the chamber had been shipped wrong from the factory. However, Deere wouldn't do anything about it."

Randy Borchert, Ellendale, Minn.: Randy's happy with his 1988 Hanson ring drive silo unloader. "Our 19-year-old unloader would hardly run and on cold days we had to pitch silage down by hand. This unloader has never quit, not even in -50° weather."

Dave Faulkner, West Liberty, Ohio: "They told us it would work for no-till. No way," says Dave, unhappy with his Aera-Plant openers and liquid fertilizer application system. "It just plain fell apart. The shafts bent and the whipper blades broke. It wouldn't place fertilizer where we wanted it. Trash kept building up on the press wheels and this was in black dirt with no rocks. I wouldn't recommend this system to anyone."

Richard Neal, Fillmore, N.Y.: "I'll never buy another tractor from Case-IH," says Richard, disappointed with his 1984 International 784 4-WD tractor. "It has only 1,800 hours but we had to rebuild the engine twice and install a new, shorter 2X

injector pump. We also had to rebuild the rear end and it's a hard starter below -30°."

Bobby Skipper, Cochran, Ga.: Bobby's happy with his 1988 Case-IH Magnum 7110 tractor. "It has much more power than I expected and the fuel economy is unbelievably good for a tractor with this much

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power. It handles well and cost somewhat less than a comparable size tractor of another well known brand."

Sonny Smyth, Rogers, Ark.: "Having 4-WD on a 52 hp tractor is like having two tractors in one," says Sonny, pleased with his 1986 Kubota 5030 DT. "The Kubota doesn't have as much pto horsepower as my 75 hp Deere 2750 tractor, but it has almost as much traction and costs less to operate. It's also lighter and easier to haul from job to job."

Glen Kesteloot, Marshall, Minn.: Glen's pleased with his 1988 Case-IH 9170 4-WD tractor. "The cab is comfortable and offers a good view on all sides, and the lights are as bright as daylight. It has a Cummins engine with powershift transmission and a decelerator pedal which lets me slow down as I turn on the ends of fields."

George Cheng, Fremont, Calif.: "My best buy is my 1985 Oldsmobile 4-door Cutlass Sedan Brougham. It's got 85,000 miles with no expenses or tune-ups. All I've done is change a set of sparkplugs at 56,000 miles."

Keith Jenkins, Freedom, Wyo.: "It's built heavy," says Keith, pleased with his 1984 Hesston 6450 swather. "It's easy to drive and has plenty of power and stability for our hills."

Brian Fulmer, Pen Argyl, Penn.: Brian has had good luck with his 1986 Pequea 966 windrow inverter which was first featured in FARM SHOW. "It had some new-product weak spots which we reinforced. This machine can't be beat for turning windrows of grass or alfalfa hay on level ground or on hillsides at almost any speed with minor leaf damage." (Pequea Machine, 3230 East Gordonville Rd., Gordonville, Pa. 17529).

Benson Simpson, Franklin, Ky.: Benson's Belarus 420A 4-WD tractor heads his "best buy" list. "The air cooled engine starts easy in cold weather without the aid of starting fluid. It's easy on fuel and has good power for a 52 hp tractor. However, it shifts hard."

Roy Lee Adams, Delaware, Okla.: "It gets only 13.8 mpg and uses a quart of oil every 1,500 miles just like clockwork," says Roy Lee, unhappy with his 1988 Ford XLT 1/2-ton pickup. "I took the truck back to the dealer and he told me it's normal for this truck to use that much oil. But when I buy a new truck I don't want to buy oil for it all the time."

Greg Blythe, La Harpe, Ill.: Greg nominates his new 1988 Chevrolet Silverado 1/2-ton pickup as his "worst buy". "It's supposed to have the best seat in Chevrolet's lineup, but it's the worst. Chevrolet won't do anything. It's too bad when you spend \$15,000 on a truck that you still have to buy a seat cushion."

James Faber, Havre, Mont.: "I've suffered from hay fever for more than 40 years but the first time I wore this helmet I didn't sneeze once all day," says James, who uses his "best buy" Raca/Airstream "dust helmet", model AGH-1, while swathing hay. He was so impressed he became a dealer. (Airstream Dust Helmets, P.O. Box 975, Elbow Lake, Minn. 56531, ph 800 328-1792 or 218 685-4457).

Patrick Bidegaray, Brockton, Mont.: "We spent more than \$30,000 repairing it in the first 1,600 hours," says Patrick, unhappy with his "worst buy" 1980 International 3788 2 plus 2 tractor. "We repaired the engine and hydraulics twice and the transmission four times. International says most people like this tractor. Then why does it have no resale value?"

D.R. Bates, Odessa, Wash.: A Dammer Dyker, made by Ag Engineering, Tri-Cities, Washington, heads D.R.'s "best buy" list. "It's a well-built hole punching tool which we use in tight soils to save winter moisture and irrigation runoff as well as to stop erosion. No structural problems and the factory representatives offer good follow-up service."

Robert Webb, Ashmore, Ill.: "We couldn't get our Red Ball monitor to work at all. It leaked and we couldn't get it to seal."

Lawrence Peterson, Dickey, N. Dak.: "Our Vesco automatic header height control is super sensitive to varying ground conditions and works like a charm."

Lyle Wittrock, Holstein, Iowa: "Our 1987 Wilrich field cultivator works great. We use it on old soybean ground. It does a good job with just one pass, leaving a field with no ridges or clods that's ready to plant."

Hurschel Reese, Jr., Downs, Ill.: "It was junk from the word go," says Hurschel, unhappy with his "worst buy" 1987 Stihl 090 chain saw. "It's impossible to start cold or hot. I kept mine only a month, then traded it."

Hurschel says his "best buy" is his 1987 Homelite Super XL-AO chain saw. "It's the best saw in its class. Starts great, hot or cold, and has taken real hard use and long hours. It has plenty of power, too."

Ronald Gramenz, Hazleton, Iowa: "It handles great for a big tractor, but it could turn shorter," says Ronald, who's otherwise pleased with his 1988 Deere 4850 tractor equipped with MFWD. "Its 15 gears offer plenty of speeds and it's easy on fuel. A real pleasure to drive."

Marvin Jantzi, Wellesley, Ontario: "It's a hard starter and you have to wait and wait to get parts," says Marvin about his "worst buy" 1978 Belarus 820 4-WD tractor. "It's difficult to handle, is noisy and hard to drive for many hours, and has no trade-in value."

On the "plus" side, Marvin likes his 1987 Deutz Allis 7085 4-WD tractor. "No prob-

"It's a hard starter and you have to wait and wait to get parts."

lems after 800 hours. It's a good winter starter and offers excellent fuel economy, easy handling, and a good view of the drawbar from the cab."

Alfred Bjorneskaret, St. Paul, Alberta: Alfred is pleased with his two Deutz tractors, a 1975 model 100-06 and a 1977 model 72-06. "These tractors have good power, are easy to drive and economical to operate.

Neither one has needed major repairs."

Alfred also likes his 1984 New Idea 484 baler. "It makes good, firm bales that are easy to handle. We've had no trouble starting the 5-ft. wide, 4-ft. high bales. We did replace a bearing."

Lynn Lavy, Covington, Ohio: Lynn has had trouble with his 1987 Demco 500 spray caddy. "The axles broke going down the road and the company representative did nothing to correct the problem. Our dealer replaced one axle but he had to pay for it."

On the positive side, Lynn likes his 1987 White 273 disk. "We've used this disk on over 2,500 acres and have had few problems. It just bounces over rocks."

Robert Kallenbach, Bolivar, Mo.: Robert's "best buy" is his 1988 Delmhorst DHM-1 baler-mounted hay moisture tester. "It provides accurate moisture readings on-the-go so I don't have to get off the tractor and probe each bale."

Howard Churchill, Harrietsville, Ontario: "The fuel economy is incredible and the powershift transmission makes it a pleasure to drive," says Howard, pleased with his 1988 Case-IH 7120 Magnum FWD tractor. "It has plenty of power and great operator comfort and visibility. The five-year, 5,000 hour warranty is a big comfort, too."

Roy Milne, Cutknife, Sask.: Roy is disappointed with his 1988 Case-IH 5600 39-ft. cultivator. "It wouldn't stay level so the company changed the main pivot arm and lift cylinders. It plugs fairly easily and pulls crooked when the outside wings catch grass on the edge of the field. Also, it had six flat tires on the first 500 acres."

Alain Chabot, Clarence Creek, Ontario: Alain is pleased with his 1987 Kuhn rotary rake. "It paid for itself in the first year, boosting hay quality by 15% and reducing drying time by 30%. It hitches up fast and is gentle on legumes."

William Sawchuk, Perdue, Sask.: William is disappointed with his 1982 Versatile 555 4-WD tractor. "It's difficult to shift, the transmission slips out of gear, and the planetary gears are built too light. They fail without warning and cost \$5,000 to replace. The company knows about these problems but says no improvements are available."

Bartt Chute, Moose Jaw, Sask.: "This seeder works as good or better than any other type of seeding equipment," says Bartt, happy owner of a 1987 Floicoil 1600 air seeder and model 400 floating hitch cultivator. "It's trouble-free, easy to set and easy to clean out."

Eugene Patenaude, Perigord, Sask.: Eugene's "worst buy" is his 1988 Case-IH 5000 Vibra chisel. "The main frame wasn't completely welded and one axle was ruined after two weeks. It sidetracks and doesn't penetrate properly. Another problem is that it was equipped with three different makes and sizes of tires."

George Stevens, Brookside, N.C.: "I'm a Ford man but I love my Dodge. It's one tough truck," says George, pleased with his 1989 Dodge W-250 4-WD pickup equipped with a Cummins turbo diesel engine. "The diesel engine is more powerful than gas engines and gets about 17 mpg."

George nominates his 1988 Deere 600 AMT 5-wheeler as another "best buy". "It has paid for itself in 12 months through savings in labor. We use it to pick up dead

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