

chamber with short belts. It'll bale either tough or dry material with no trouble."

**L. Monette, Peace River, Alb.:** "I'm satisfied with the ride and body of my 1983 T-15 GMC Jimmy, but I'm dissatisfied with the power and fuel economy. It could use a more powerful engine."

**R. Halverson, Clermont, Iowa:** "My best buy has been a Massey Ferguson 3525 tractor. Has good power and is real easy on fuel. The electrically operated 3-pt. hitch is very accurate and easy to operate."

**Ray Stein, Taylor, No. Dak.:** "We're very pleased with our 605 H Vermeer baler. It really eats the hay. The new pressurized air bags help bales hold their shape well. We also think the bale ejection system is great. There were a few changes the company had to make but they were real good about replacing the things that were wrong."

"Another best buy is an Arts Way 425A grinder mixer. This is the most trouble-free machine on our farm. We grind about 4,500 bu. of corn, oats and barley a year. In the last 12 years, all we've done is replace the hammers."

**Mark Fahsoltz, Walcott, N.D.:** "I'm well-pleased with my International 5288 tractor and 1460 Axial Flow combine. The tractor has plenty of power and the transmission is very easy to shift. Its a pleasure to drive. The combine has easy to operate controls and does a good job of threshing grain, although I wish it had a variable speed feederhouse."

"Renting a Deutz DX 145 with MFWD was the biggest and worst mistake I ever made. The mechanic told me that this tractor would outpull any 2-WD up to 160 hp. I pulled a 7-bottom plow at 4.7 mph and burned 60 gal. of fuel every 8 hours. It had the most uncomfortable cab ever designed and only had one gear suitable for fieldwork. I wish they'd send these tractors back to Germany."

**Elmer Bradbury, Perry, Ill.:** "I bought my 1964 Deere 4020 ten years ago. Runs good and is easy to handle for a 95 hp. tractor."

**Norman Holub, Buckingham, Iowa:** He nominates his Demco 600-gal. field sprayer as "best buy". "I like the oscillating wheels and floating sprayer booms. The Dickey-john monitor works well but it's hard to set in figures."

**George Greenhough, Stony Plain, Alb.:** "My 1986 Nissan Multi is our third Nissan. I wouldn't even consider purchasing a new North American car. It gets good mileage and the 2 liter engine has lots of power. However, the radio is in a very inconvenient location and there are dust leaks which are hard to solve."

**Allan Rathje, Clinton, Iowa:** "My 1986 Deere 327 baler performs very well, is quiet and strongly-built. The only problem is that dirt and chaff build up under the shields."

**Ronald Perry, Havelock, Iowa:** Ronald's pleased with his "best buy" 1986 Grazer 1800-C lawn mower and 1978 1440 International Axial Flow combine. "It's a fine operating mower and very efficient to operate and care for. The 18-hp Briggs & Stratton engine has plenty of power. Maneuverability is fantastic with dual hydrostatic controls."

"The combine does an excellent job on both corn and soybeans. It's simple to operate and adjust and has needed few repairs. The extra long feeder throat makes header visibility very good. Could use a little more power, though."

**Fred Buerkle, Plevna, Mont.:** "We purchased a new 1974 Mercury

Monterey with a 460 engine. It's ended up to be the best car we've ever owned. Does fairly well on mpg and gets exceptionally good performance. In 172,000 miles, outside of tune-ups on the motor, we've only had to replace the timing chain, water pump, alternator, brakes and muffler. Haven't touched the transmission except for a seal. Uses very little oil and still runs and performs well."

**Ralph Hoffman, DeKalb, Ill.:** "My Menard 48 by 72-ft. tool shed is a good solid building. Door track guides prevent the doors from blowing. It's also competitively priced."

As "worst buy" he nominates his 1983 Pontiac 6000 car because of its faulty transmission. "Went out twice in 18,000 miles."

**Herman Funk, Lisbon, No. Dak.:** "My Black & Decker drill bit sharpener (1/8 to 3/8-in.) was a waste of \$50. It doesn't sharpen bits like it's advertised to do. I could at least cut wood with my metal bits until I sharpened them with the sharpener. Then, they wouldn't cut at all."

As "best buy" Herman nominates his 1480 International combine. Has large capacity. Crop in the tank is clean with no cracked grain to add to dockage. However, the grain loss monitor could be in a better place."

**Wilfred Bruckerhoff, Herman, Mo.:** "I like the wet brake system and live pto on my 1983 6080 Allis Chalmers tractor. Also like the easy shifting transmission."

**Dean Herbst, Dimock, South Dak.:** "I have mixed feelings about my best buy Glencoe 4-row High Trash cultivator. I think the design's the best on the market. However, the tiller disks leave something to be desired. I've used it for 2 years and had to replace all the bearings every year up until now. I don't like having to check the bearings every time I go into the field. What I really like about the cultivator is that I haven't used any pre-emergence chemicals for weed control and have fields that are just as clean."

**Bradley Vaagene, Hatton, No. Dak.:** A 1975 800 Versatile 4-WD is his "best buy". "I pull a 34-ft. field cultivator at 6 mph with it. You can hardly tell that there's anything behind you. The cab's clean and quiet and the tractor's

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easy to maintain. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to fix something."

**Randy Lackender, Iowa City, Iowa:** He nominates a 1980 Ford TW-20 tractor, a Fairfield hydraulic trailer and a 1983 Kinze 8-row 30-in. planter with Kelderman fold as "best buys". The Ford has outstanding performance and reliability. The trailer is the only way to move hogs and works great for moving bales, equipment and other loads. The planter is well-built with plenty of iron and the Kelderman fold can fold the planter in less than 1-minute. A very dependable outfit."

**Alan and David Libbesmeier, Richmond, Minn.:** "We baled 14,000 bales with our 1986 New Holland 316 baler equipped with electric controls. We're very satisfied with the capacity and the super sweep pickup. Would like to see larger tires on it for wet fields."

"Another best buy are 3 Polydome calf hutches bought in November. We were so satisfied we bought 3 more in December. They're unbelievable. The calves are easy to feed and start drinking and eating out of pails early. The sun also really benefits calves in the winter. But when the weather hit 70° last spring the hutches got pretty warm. So, we plan to put them in a pole shed during the summer."

**Larry Livingston, Gower, Mo.:** "I only used my Homelite 410 chain saw twice before the clutch went out. The dealer promptly fixed it. Next, the fuel tank cracked. After getting that fixed, I traded it in on a Stihl 032. Although the Stihl is more expensive, it's been well worth it. A real quality product."

"My 1978 International 1440 Axial Flow combine bought used is easy to adjust and comfortable to operate. Very pleased with the job it does."

**Alan Sloan, New Boston, Ill.:** He names his 1985 Chrysler Fifth Ave. as "best buy". "Gets 23 to 24 mpg. and I've had few problems with it. I would like to see them put electronic fuel injection on their cars instead of carburetors."

**Kent Butler, Paragould, Ark.:** "I'd like to nominate two machines as worst buys. As a 'proud' owner of both a 3588 International 2 + 2 and a 1980 GMC diesel pickup, it's no wonder that IH and GM both faced and are facing

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troubles. They should find the engineers that designed these products and make them try to keep them running two days in a row."

"As best buy, I'm proud of my 3594 Case-International. Sure am glad Case designs won out in the merger."

**Sieg Weiss, Decorah, Iowa:** "I'm convinced that the Deere 530 round baler will outbale both the 5580 Hesston and the 605F Vermeer that we traded in. It makes a perfect, solid bale every time. We stack bales 3 high in poles sheds and the stacks don't settle, sag or tip over."

"On the other hand, the converging wheels we put on weren't worth the bother. They run directly behind the tractor wheels but the rubber saw-type teeth won't pick up much of what the tractor's driven over. After a few hours of operation, the teeth stayed pointed backwards, making them even less effective."

**Ray Zettler, Walkerton, Ont.:** "My 1986 Frey front-end loader was poorly manufactured. From day one the boom hit the frame and the control lever fell apart in less than a year. Dealer service was good. They replaced it with an International 2255 which works well."

"An International 684 loader tractor is my best buy. It's handy even with the loader off. I like the 'fast reverser' and 8 forward and reverse gears."

**Leonard Orr, Hamilton, Mo.:** "I bought my 500 bu. United Farm Tools auger wagon because it was cheaper than others and we needed it for harvest. During the muddy conditions of the past two years, we've used it to haul as far as 3 miles."

"A surprising best buy is a 1984 Ford F-250 4-WD diesel pickup bought used with 70,000 miles. We've driven it more than 15,000 miles under some terrible conditions last winter and it seems to be thriving on the hard use. Started nearly every day last winter without preheat."

**Henry Reimers, Courtenay, No. Dak.:** "My 1977 Buick Estate station wagon now has 196,000 miles. The engine, transmission and differential haven't been touched and it's only needed one fuel pump, one starter and one heater motor. We still drive it every day."

Henry nominates his Versatile 700 tractor as "worst buy". "The engine went out the first year. Plus, anti-freeze leaked out of the heater and into the cab."

**Bernhard Neuman, Athens, Ill.:** "Several years ago, I bought a used Ford 3000 tractor. I mounted a mower on it. The derrick I made and added helps lift a lot of things I can't handle anymore. The best part is that it's so easy to get on and off."

**Eddie Lefebvre, Elk River, Minn.:** "Hasn't cost me a dime in 65,000 miles. Gets 20 mpg, has good power and doesn't use oil," says Eddie about his "best buy" 1983 Ford F-250 with 6.9 diesel engine.

"Other best buys are a used 1972 1066 International tractor that I've had for 6 years and a 1986 Chevrolet Monte Carlo with a 4.3 V-6 engine. "Gets 28 mpg, drives and rides nice and doesn't use oil. It's just a nice all-around car."

**Herb St. Germain, Unity, Sask.:** "I bought this 1985 GMC 2500 4-WD diesel pickup used. It's economical, gets 28 mpg and runs like a clock. Has good power and runs like a clock. I'd certainly buy another."

**Doug Husted, Gladwin, Mich.:** He names his 1983 Honda Big Red 3-wheeler, 1986 Jonsered 920 chain saw and Ruger 44 magnum pistol as "best buys". "The 3-wheeler is a good cow chaser and errand runner while the chainsaw is fast and trouble-free. The pistol is accurate and packs lots of power."

**William Braun, Waseca, Minn.:** "My 1986 Schweiss Magnum-I lawn mower's drive belt always came off until it finally broke. I couldn't adjust the mower deck level and the joy stick control didn't work right. I returned it to the factory for service. They drilled new holes for the deck but it still didn't mow level. I didn't use it enough to know if the drive belt would work or stay on the pulleys as I got rid of the machine."

He's happier with his 1986 1822 Grass Hopper mower. "Like the ease of handling, having a full view of the deck, easy deck height adjustment and good traction. It's not as long and awkward as some competitive models."

**W.S. Powers, Grainfield, Kan.:** "I'm satisfied with my 1982 Isuzu pickup. It has low upkeep and has only been in the shop once and that was for fuel filter replacement. I find imports to be better built in general and have more useful extras as standard equipment."

**Calvin R. Wilson, Campbellsburg, Ky.:** "My next tractor most definitely will be a Deutz. I purchased a used 1975 5206 1-1/2 yrs. ago. It's never had any problems. I'm pleased with the performance, handling and fuel economy and amazed at the power it has for a 52-hp. tractor. I'm sold on the air-cooled engine. American tractor companies could learn a lot from these machines."

**John Cernius, Climax, Mich.:** "I'm very well satisfied with my 1986 1/2-ton Chevrolet pickup. It's proven to be dependable, economical and per-

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