

## BUYING TIPS YOU CAN USE

Randomly selected farmers "tell it like it is" in nominating their "best" and "worst" buys.

by Harold Johnson  
Editor

Mark Newhall  
Managing Editor

Dick A. Hufford, Morris, Minn.: "I wish just once the people who designed this box would have to fork out a whole load of silage from it when the apron breaks. Maybe then they would build them right," says Dick, disappointed with his **Forage King** silage box. "It's built too light for its size and the way the box is designed, there is almost no clearance from the end of the side conveyor to the edge of the wagon tire, making it almost impossible to line up to the blower."

He likes his **Deere** 2950 tractor with mechanical front wheel drive. "It's the first Deere tractor I ever owned and I'm impressed. We use it mainly as a chore tractor but still put on over 800 hours in one year. It's unbelievable what you can do with the mechanical front wheel drive and a loader. I had a problem with the clutch, but the company fixed that."

**Dale Stumpf, Rockwell City, Iowa:** He names the Tiger Jaws combine sickle manufactured by **Herschel Corp** as "best buy". "It does a much cleaner cutting job on soybeans and you can travel faster. You don't have

"We've had good experiences with Allis Chalmers tractors over the years and we're pleased with the power, performance and economy of this model, too. We've had a few minor problems but our dealer has been great," says Jerry about his "best buy" **Allis Chalmers** 7580 tractor.

**George Massie, Jr., Louisa, Virg.:** "We have two **Pioneer** chain saws. One is a 1976 P-40 and the other a 1983 Farm Saw. The only thing we don't like about the P-40 is that it doesn't have a compression release to make it easier to start. The Farm Saw has a release which works when you pull the rope. Both saws run good and have plenty of power. Other than fuel line and carburetor trouble, we haven't had any trouble with the P-40 in seven years."

**Ray Heilman, Toppenish, Wash.:** "It's fast, easy to adjust and simple to operate. It makes the best bales I've ever seen and has a hydraulic cylinder that swings the hitch from road to field position. I recommend this baler over all others on the market," says Ray about his **Deere** 467 baler.

**Jerry Harvey, Durban, Manitoba:** He likes his **Massey Ferguson** 24-ft. pull-type swather. "Lays a very good swath. Cuts grain down well and is easy to maintain. Adjustments are fairly easy to make."

"My worst buys are Roundup by **Monsanto** and my **Versatile** 150 tractor. Roundup works fairly well but the price is out of line. The Versatile is a great little tractor but servicing it is a real pain."

**Duane E. Davis, Leaf River, Ill.:** Duane is pleased with his **Tri-Steel** Double Eagle steel frame home that he first read about in FARM SHOW "I like the low cost, ease of construction, the fact that it's super-insulated, and the no-maintenance exterior."

**Jim Brixey, Casa, Ariz.:** He likes his **Vermeer** 605 round baler. "It's American-made and produces a tight uniform bale. Also like the fact that it has standard-size bolts. It's been trouble-free."

**Tim Crawford, Garden Prairie, Ill.:** "Owning so much foreign equipment may sound unpatriotic but the craftsmanship we want is there," says Tim, nominating his **Deutz** tractors and **Volkswagen** Rabbit diesel car as "best buys". "I've had Deutz tractors for 9 years and my total breakdown time has been minimal. I now have four of them ranging from the largest 4-WD model to the smallest 2-WD. VW has a fantastic engine in their Rabbit. Ours has 43,000 miles and has needed nothing but oil and filters."

**Gene Miller, Catawissa, Penn.:** "I bought a used **Massey Ferguson** 2805 tractor with 398 hours on it two years ago. Since I bought it I have only been able to put about 100 hrs. on it. For the past three months it's been in pieces at a Massey dealer because a nut came off a shaft in the transmission, so that the shaft came out of place, tearing up gears and ruining the shaft. Upon tearing it down we discovered the clutch plates were too tight, studs broke off in the rear end because they were too light, and the multipower clutches had to be re-

# Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

## OPINION

to cover many acres to pay for it."

**Richard Begolka, Atlanta, Ill.:** "This drill does an excellent job of metering, depth control, and covering. It's easy to fill with its single-latch, wide hopper lid, low height, and it has no sharp edges that tear bags," says Richard about his "best buy" **International** 5100 soybean special grain drill.

**Richard Byma, Grant, Mich.:** "My worst buy is a 7040 **Allis Chalmers** tractor. It has poor power, poor traction and has had several breakdowns. It also drinks 9 gal. of diesel fuel an hour."

"My best buy is a 4230 **Deere**. We've worked the tractor very hard and it runs great. We've put 6,000 hours on it and have never had to make any major repairs. It still puts out its original 103 hp."

**Bill Gladstone, Jr., Worth, Mo.:** "I've purchased several products that I first saw in FARM SHOW and consider a couple of them to be best buys. The first is a 3-pt. Rapid Hitch from **K & M Manufacturing**. It's a time and labor saver during haylage and silage chopping season. Also, I'm getting ready to repower our gas-powered pickup to diesel using guidelines and methods developed by Doug Fraser, Canby, Oregon."

**Jerry Poindexter, Miller, S. Dak.:**