

to hook up, easy to operate and a pleasure to work with," says Ralph.

George Knebel, Ft. Jennings, Ohio: "My best buy is my **Saylor-Beall** 5-hp. air compressor. I put it in my shop, hooked it up, and it has needed nothing but normal maintenance even though it's used every day."

Stephen Harris, Charlotte, N.C.: He's unhappy with the "**EZY Kow** lift for lifting down cows. If you tighten the lift tight enough to lift a cow, I believe you would crush the cow's hip bones. My opinion is that the grips are too narrow with too much curve in them."

Phil Brechbill, Auburn, Ind.: His "best buys" are his **Allis Chalmers** 6030 85 hp tractor with front wheel assist and his 14-ft. **Marliss** soybean drill. "The tractor has worked perfectly. The front assist makes a real difference. You can actually feel the difference when you pull into a field without it. I pull a 6-row **Deere** 7000 planter 1½ mph faster on slightly less fuel than I did with a 50-hp. **Allis Chalmers** D-17 diesel. In 450 hrs., I have changed oil per instructions but have not had to add a drop.

"The drill has 6 2/3-in. spacing with 4-in. by 16-in. press wheels and an S-tine harrow-carrier pulling it. It's built heavy enough to run at 6 to 7 mph. Seed emergence has been good and yields have been excellent. We used the drill on ground where there had been only one disking of chiseled cornstalks and we still got good stands."

Les Poliska, Davis Junction, Ill.: "We combined 900 acres with our **International 1460** combine this fall and got clean and excellent grain all the way through. Low field loss, and it's a smooth running machine with a quiet cab. It's easy to adjust and has an excellent monitor system."

Rudy Budin, Sterling, Colo.: "We bought our 1979 **Jeep** pickup new and have had it to the dealer numerous times to have the carburetor and intake manifold worked on. The Jeep worked great the first year but after that it has really been a headache. It won't idle and dies whenever you stop to open a gate or at a stop sign. I've talked to mechanics who said Jeep's 258 cu. in. in-line 6 cyl. engine has been a real problem."

On the "best buy" side, Rudy's pleased with a **Hauptner** 40cc. pistol grip syringe. "It works very accurately at any setting from 1 cc to 5 cc. It's made in Germany and is quality stuff. The American-made vaccine guns that I've had experience with are junk although the price is about the same."

David Branigan, Albin, Wyo.: David has four "best buys". "Our **Case** 2090 tractor has 900 trouble-free hours. Our 1086 **International** tractor was bought used and we've had no trouble with it. It's a pleasure to drive, very clean, and as quiet as the Case. Both our diesel vehicles — a 1983 **C10 Chevrolet** 4-WD pickup and our 1983 **Oldsmobile** Regency 98 diesel — have been best buys. We get 26 mph on the pickup and 30 mpg on the car. We had a 1978 **C10** diesel and a 1978 **Regency** diesel before that were also best buys. I'm sold on diesels."

Hughston Wooden, Shelbyville, Ind.: "It doesn't leave grass or brush in bunches or cut uneven swaths," says Hughston about his "best buy" **Deere** 609 brush mower.

Randy Renner, Stewardson, Ill.: "We nominate our 500-gal. **Century** tandem axle trailer sprayer with 47-ft. booms as worst buy. It was purchased with a dye marker that was supposed to cover 150 acres on a quart of dye. When we got it to the field, it would only do 30 acres. It did a poor job and, at \$17 a quart for the dye, is just too expensive to operate. It also has a chemical inductor designed to operate on the pressure side of the pump. This is a joke. We replumbed it to the suction side so it would work but it

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still works slow. The cables going to the electronic controls on the tractor are about 2 ft. short of reaching the control box if you mount it in front of the steering wheel where it is the handiest. We have also had trouble with some of the plastic elbows and valves going bad, resulting in costly downtime. The suction hose to the pump had to be replaced because it kept collapsing. The worst problem with the sprayer is the pto shaft and pump set-up. It works fine when you drive straight, but when you turn, the pump and all connecting hoses start jumping, causing the mounting bolts for the pump to work loose. It also vibrates through the entire rear end of the tractor. We have adjusted everything possible and even tried a different pto shaft and a different tractor with no results at all. It's just a very poor job of engineering. The dealer gives us the run-around. On the positive side, the tandem axles do a very good job of crossing ditches and keeping the 47-ft. booms from bouncing. When everything is working correctly, it does a good job spraying."

Aaron Coe, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa: "I own both a farm and a construction business. My little **Ford** 1900 4-WD diesel works great as a chore tractor, even hauling grain wagons in from the field. I can use it all day and only consume 3.6 gal. of diesel while plowing all the gardens in town with a 2-bottom plow. In construction, I have used it to grade the job site as well as seed the lot. It brings praises from customers and neighbors on every job site. The light weight combined with the low center of gravity has allowed me to use this tractor in many back saving ways."

Aaron's "worst buy" is a **Rockwell** ½-in. heavy duty hammer drill. "I use this drill primarily to drill concrete. I drilled three holes with it and the nylon gears simply wouldn't hold up. The company repaired the drill and I tried again. This time I drilled nine holes before it again broke down. To finish the job, I bought a **Makita** ½-in. hammer drill. The Makita is fantastic. It's such a pleasure to have a good and

reliable tool, that I never even repaired the **Rockwell** drill."

Gerard Laevens, Chatham, Ont.: "This plow performs very well. The dealer was helpful in setting up properly," says Gerard, pleased with his "best buy" 151 **Ford** moldboard plow.

Melvin Reed, Cedar, Iowa: "Last year we installed an add-on wood burning furnace on our gas furnace. After one year of splitting wood with a maul, wedges and an axe, we decided to purchase a **Stotz** Monster Maul from **Stotz Mfg.**, Columbia Station, Ohio. Now we have no more flying wedges. The maul works as advertised and we sure like it," says Melvin.

Tony Farlow, Bahama, N.C.: "**FARM SHOW** is my best buy. It has no bugs to be worked out. We look forward to each issue," says Tony.

He says his "worst buy" is his "**Green Machine** weed eater. It's hard to start and the string doesn't come out of the head when needed. You have to stop the engine and pull the string out by hand. The dealer wouldn't help. We purchased another from **Echo**, which is outstanding in every way."

John R. Osnes, Burke, S. Dak.: "This mower cuts lawn in half the time of any other mower," says John, pleased with his "best buy" **Dixon** 30-in. mower with an 8-hp. **Briggs** engine. "It has plenty of power and gets around real quick. My wife likes the electric start and the way it handles."

"I haven't had any real worst buys but have had trouble with the electronic ignition on two different ¾-ton **Dodge** pickups with 360 cu. in. engines. Have had good luck with **Dodge** cars so, it's hard to figure out."

Larry Breer, Salina, Kan.: Larry's been pleased with his 30-ft. full press **Great Plains** grain drill. "I bought it new in September of 1982 and used it to seed 720 acres of wheat that fall. It produced a very even stand of wheat. I like the flexibility of this machine as it has three 10-ft. sections. The drill folds nicely for transport — all hydraulic. Very good workmanship and excellent service from the company."

He's also had good luck with his 11-shank **Glencoe** Soil Saver. "It pulls very easily for a heavy-duty chisel. Does an excellent job of mixing trash and is practically plug proof. It's built heavy enough to penetrate hard dry ground."

John Garnett, Callao, Mo.: "I've used this **Yanmar** tractor three years and have not spent a penny on it. Very economical on fuel," says John, pleased with his 2-cyl. **Yanmar** diesel.

Lynn Whittlesey, Atwater, Ohio: "This drill works fine but it was not ready to go when delivered," says Lynn about his **Lilliston** 9680 no-till drill.

Ivo Vogt, Carterville, Ill.: "I would like to nominate as worst buy a 1974 **White** 1355D tractor. I bought this tractor at an auction with 510 hours of use in 1979. In 1982, at 1275 hrs., a gear on the crankshaft worked loose on the motor. This gear times the valves to the pistons and in working

loose, retarded the valves enough for the pistons to hit the valves. This cost me a complete major on the motor including injectors and motor blocks rebored to the tune of about \$3,500. **White Corp.** would do nothing about the problem even though it is a manufacturing flaw because of the age of the machine. Now, 300 hours later, the same problem has occurred again, knocking out the injectors and the injector pumps as well. I haven't received a bill as yet but it will be higher than the last one unless **White Corp.** has realized it has a problem. In addition, the machine has hydraulic leaks that the dealer doesn't seem able to resolve. The last time I got it back from the dealer for this problem, it lost over a gallon of hydraulic oil in six hours of use. This machine isn't painted yellow for nothing."

Bob Wegener, Lindsay, Neb.: "Our **Almaco** Bean Machine manufactured by **Almaco** in Nevada, Iowa, is our best buy. Our only problem when we bought it was that it had 2-WD so we had trouble getting through ditches on our hilly ground. The company took it back and changed it to all-wheel drive and now it goes anywhere. The 18-hp. **Briggs** motor is plenty big and it does 160 acres on 10 gal. of gas. We take eight 36-in. rows with three people and cover from 60 to 100 acres a day."

Craig Wegner, Hawarden, Iowa: "It has had no breakdowns in 1,200 hrs. I like the cab and it's a big enough tractor for most equipment," says Craig about his "best buy" **Deere** 4440 tractor.

Larry Donham, Gardner, Kan.: He's happy with his **More Store** outside breather bag for his 32-ft. **Harvestore** silo, made by **Thompson Enterprises**, Courtland, Kan. "It allowed me to remove the breather bags from my silo so I could get an extra 1,000 bu. of storage in my silo. It cost less than ½ the cost of adding five extra feet to the silo."

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Dale D. Grovek Troy, Ohio: "I've been happy with how well the machine is made and the fact that it's never been down a full day in five years use. It's not the largest machine by far but it gives you a good day's work," says Dale about his "best buy" 7300 **White** combine.

Glen Hassebroek, Bancroft, S. Dak.: Heading his list of "best buys" is his **International** 1460 **Axial Flow** combine. "Puts a nice grain sample in the tank and has good capacity. I had a lot of trouble with the rotor drive belt but the dealer and **International** really took care of the problem."

"I also have a 3788 **International** 2 + 2 tractor that performs well. I pull a 20-ft. vibrashank with a 20-ft. press

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