

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

by Harold Johnson
Editor

Mark Newhall
Managing Editor

Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

Nathan Strahm, Monticello, Wis.: Nathan says his "worst buy" is "a 24 by 80 Madison Nutri-Matic silo. The silo is nine years old and the roof leaks so bad they couldn't pressure check the barrel, which is cracked all the way around. The company wants me to pay \$9,000 to help them pay for their mistake. At the time the silo was built, I had a herd average of 15,000 lbs. but in 5 years we dropped under 10,000 lbs. The company representatives tried to tell me I didn't fill fast enough or put enough feed in the silo in a day. This year we filled a 20 by 90 in 3 days. Is this slow filling? They also claimed I put feed in too wet so that acid ate the sealer but now they tell me acid has no effect on that type of coating. The silo was replaced with a Harvestore."

Heading his "best buy" list is his K.E.W. 1500 power washer. "This is a terrific washer. It doesn't really need any cleaning solution to peel off heavy grease. If you're not careful you will peel decals off equipment, even with cold water. I've even used it to

914 combines are good machines and a pleasure to operate."

Mark R. Dour, Slippery Rock, Penn.: He's well pleased with his New Holland 791 manure spreader. I travel over some fairly rough ground to get to the field and this spreader takes the punishment with ease. I've had only one problem, a flat tire, which the dealer took care of the same day. Very pleased with this product."

Mark's second "best buy" is his International 510 grain drill. "We've had absolutely no problems with it. The only thing that we would change would be to have double disc openers instead of single openers. We are especially pleased with the uniformity of the depth."

On the negative side, Mark's disappointed with his Allis Chalmers 185 tractor. "The motor has excellent response and it does have ample horsepower for its size but the fuel economy and gear selection are terrible."

Brian Duyck, Banks, Oregon: "It has the capacity of two 915's and does an unbelievable job of cleaning the grain or seed," says Brian about his "best buy" International 1480 combine. "Like the quiet cab. It burns very little diesel for 210 hp — about 7 gal. per hour."

"We're not as pleased with our Brillion 14-ft. Cultipack," he adds. "After the first 20 acres, the bearing on one of the rollers wore out. Then, after another 200 acres, another bearing was ruined. Our old Brillion Cultipack lasted 16 years on the original bearings."

Gary Ashburn, Blue Mound, Ill.: He's pleased with his IH 183 hydraulic folding cultivator with Danish tines, and the IH 3388 2 + 2 tractor he pulls it with. "The cultivator does an outstanding job and is easy to set. You can drive considerably faster than with a conventional cultivator. The 3388 is super on fuel and has plenty of power to pull the 26½ ft. field cultivator at 6½ miles per hour. Great to plant, cultivate, rotary hoe and plow with."

David Cumings, Indianola, Iowa: "Last spring was the first year I tried Modown herbicide. The reason I used Modown is because the label read it was for the kill of Jimson weed and velvetleaf. It was tank mixed with Treflan at the full rate of four pints per acre and incorporated with a disc as the label read. This herbicide did a poor job of control but the Treflan did its job. I have talked to my dealer who remarked that no one in our area has had good results incorporating with a disk or field cultivator, as the company says can be done. I was very displeased with the weed control and will never apply this herbicide again."

"On the plus side, I purchased my Kubota B7100 4-wheel drive diesel tractor and loader three years ago and it's trouble free. More economical for light chore work, such as operating augers and elevators during the fall work, than bigger horsepower tractors. With the 4-wheel drive, the tractor-type tires and its clearance, it'll handle most ground conditions year around."

water-blast wood surfaces prior to painting. Does a beautiful job on everything.

"I'm also pleased with my Deutz 110 tractor. Very economical, using just 2½ gal. of fuel per hour on the average, and 3 gal. at the most. Easy to operate and has good power. It's heavy built and has lots of pulling capability."

Nathan adds that "I thoroughly enjoy FARM SHOW magazine."

Stanley M. Bonache, Cedar Hill, Mo.: "I think our chemical companies are doing a great job of producing new and improved herbicides," comments Stanley, especially pleased with Basagran, Blazer and Vistar.

He's had problems with his Massey Ferguson 540 combine. "The hood over the separating unit in the back was too weak and had to be reinforced. The dealer fixed it but it cost us pickup and delivery to get the work done. I would think that they would correct problems on new machines. They've also gone back to some of the things they had on their 1953 machines and improved in later years."

Kenneth Lehm, Turtle Lake, N. Dak.: "I've had very good results with Hoelon on wild oats and pigeon grass in wheat," says Kenneth about one of his "best buy" purchases. "Have also found that my IH 1586 tractor and IH