

SHOW is also one of our 'best buys'. A friend gave us our first subscription and we've since taken it on our own. We've sent for several of the new products and ideas."

Herbert Condalary, Mt. Hermon, La.: "I've had this truck about one year. The drive train leaks, the engine has no power, the material in the body is flimsy and so is the workmanship. The only good thing is that it rides and drives good, and the dealer gives good service," says Herbert about his 1980 Ford F-250 4x4 3/4 ton pickup.

He's pleased, though, with his Vermeer model E hay baler. "This is my third Vermeer baler and, while they've all given great service, this model is the best Vermeer has produced. It's the best baler I've ever used in rye grass hay in our humid southern springs. I've run this baler all afternoon without a single clog-up. After nearly 10 months and 1,000 bales, I haven't had to replace a single part."

Roger Harrington, Richland, Iowa: "I installed these nipples in my finishing house and nursery. After just a few days use, many were leaking and needed repairs. After two weeks use, several had fallen apart. After six months, all were replaced by another brand," says Roger about his "worst buy" ILECO nipple hog waterers.

On the "best buy" side, he's happy with his Calumet 2250 gal. liquid manure vacuum tank. "Since we purchased it, we've had no major problems at all. The pump operates perfectly whether loading or unloading. It spreads on top of the ground with smooth, even application. It will also knife liquid into the ground quickly."

Robert Kennell, Roanoke, Ill.: "I'd rather operate this combine than sit in my big easy chair at home," states Robert, pleased with his Deere 7720 combine with 830 cornhead. "It re-

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places a 7700 for us. It has more capacity and a much quieter cab. The improvements I like are the unloading auger and control arrangement in the back. In 1,600 acres so far, we have had one minor breakdown but our local Deere dealer had us going in two hours. His service and the Deere warranty are the best."

Robert's disappointed, though, in Basagran herbicide for soybeans. "Basagran just did not do the job on one of my fields last year. We put on one quart per acre and it did not get button weeds. A lot of these weeds were only 2-in. high and it still didn't get them."

Keith Frakes, Carthage, Ill.: "One of my 'best buys' is our 12-row 30-in. air planter from Allis Chalmers. We had a few minor problems with it at the start, but doesn't everyone with a

new piece of machinery?"

"FARM SHOW is also a 'best buy'. I read it from front to back when it arrives — even if I have to stay up half the night to do it," says Keith.

Sonny Miller, Headrick, Okla.: He's had trouble with his 1980 Oldsmobile Cutless Calais. "When we first got the car we had trouble with the air conditioner. Had it in the shop three times for a vacuum leak. The car is advertised to get 27 mpg but is only getting 19 mpg. It's been in the shop two other times trying to tune it for better mileage. It has the new C4 computer emissions control and, as we write now, it's in the shop with the computer system out. By far, it's the most trouble I've ever had with an automobile."

Sonny's had good luck, though, with his Allis Chalmers 7080 tractor with Goodrich radial tires. "We're well pleased with the power of this tractor. It's rated at 181 hp and tested at 205 hp when I put it on the dyno. So far, in 500 hrs. of operation, no service calls or repairs or adjustments. I like the radial tires. Well worth the difference in price."

Clark Collins, Jesup, Iowa: "The TR 85 does an excellent job in both corn and beans. It's easy to set, causes virtually no grain damage, and has the cleanest samples possible, even in tough weedy conditions. Dealer service has been excellent either day or night," Clark told FARM SHOW about his "best buy" New Holland combine.

Roger Jackson, Parma, Mich.: Heading Roger's "best buy" list is a wood-burning Monarch Add-A-Furnace. "With the blower attachment, it's very efficient and, although our house is 2,000 sq. ft., we have used no fuel oil."

He's also pleased with his Stihl chainsaw, model 028 WB. "Starts good, runs smooth and has been trouble-free. I accomplish so much more and still feel good after hours of cutting."

Fred Carra, Niotaze, Kan.: Fred's unhappy with his Stihl chainsaw, model 020 AV. "When I bought it, the engine wouldn't keep running so I took it back to the dealer and it cost \$12.50 to get it to run. Then, when it wouldn't start, I took it back again. This time it needed a new part for the air intake to the carb. It took four months and \$40. After two hours of sawing, it quit. Took it to the dealer again. The saw cylinder was full of sawdust. The dealer said that for \$160 he would fix it. I threw it away with less than 10 hrs. use."

On the plus side, Fred likes his International 241 round baler. "I've baled over 600 bales of alfalfa fescue, prairie hay, milo stubble and straw without one cent of expense except twine."

Charles Flaming, Paxton, Neb.: "I'm a firm believer in having the best corn planter for the best yields and the Deere 7100 folding Max-Emerge planter does the job!" Charles told FARM SHOW. "We bought the planter four years ago. What a difference in stand over our old no-till planter. There's no end to bragging about the uniform depth and even distribution of seed planted. We had

the old Max-Emerge four years and just traded for a new model. You couldn't give me any other planter. One attachment that we added are the Acra Plant trash whippers. They allow us to plant in heavy trash conditions. We believe this planter has increased our yields by 20 to 30 bu. per acre."

On the negative side, Charles says, "My advice to farmers with late 70's model pickups is to keep them. Don't buy the 81's. They aren't worth it. Our new Ford 250 has a smooth ride for a 4-wheel drive but that's all. After 1500 miles, it started to use a lot of oil. The body is terribly tinny, it has a thin, poor paint job and we are experiencing small motor problems."

Averill DeMers, Dunseith, N. Dak.: "We applied Hoelon on durum to control wild oats and foxtail. Had virtually no control except where it was applied twice with a 3-day interval between applications," says Averill. "Compared to other herbicides,

"Had virtually no control except where it was applied twice."

it seems to be very expensive and has little effect unless you double the rate. That only makes it that much more expensive to use to get any control."

On the positive side, he likes National Band and Tag Company's steel ear tags for cattle. "Have used this tag on young and old stock. Like the product because it is easy to use. For almost permanent individual identification, it's the best tag we've ever used. They don't pull out of the ear easily since they're clinched together and the tag is fairly easy to read, although we do use the Temple anchor tag for field observation."

David A. Williams, Currituck, N.C.: "I'd like to nominate FARM SHOW as one of my 'best buys'. It's the best publication I've ever read. Another good buy is Haines Potato Equipment from New York. We've had very few problems and great factory service."

"My worst buys include a 475 International disk and a Motorola two-way radio system. The disk will not cut deep or leave the ground level. Bolts are always coming loose. Has not given good service at all. The radios are always skipping and need service. They don't have near the range or clearness that we were sold on."

Loy Kern, Morton, Tex.: He likes his Case 2390 tractor. "It's been almost trouble-free in two crop years. Fuel consumption is minimal, employees love to drive it and it has the best draft control system I've ever had. Dealer is good, too."

Loy's 1979 Ford LTD is his "worst buy". "It's made mostly of plastic and is hard to start. I've had nothing but trouble with the auto-temp control and transmission went out at 48,000 miles. Also, the electric door lock on

the passenger side gives trouble constantly."

Walter Bushfield, Balzac, Alberta: "My best buys are my German Deutz tractors. I have a 1972 10006 and a 1977 13006. At 4,000 hours, nothing has been done with the 10006. Only problem with the 13006 has been the air conditioner and that's made in the U.S. We have a pull-type combine and can go for two days on 52 Imperial gal. of fuel, averaging 10 hours or more per day," says Walter.

George Steele, Lawrence, Kan.: "My 'best buy' and my 'worst buy' happen to be the same item. An electronic bug killer from Sears Roebuck," says George. "It worked wonderful but, when it played out, it took them two months to replace the transformer at a cost of \$60. When I plugged it in after the repair, it made a loud humming noise which wasn't normal. I took it back to their service station. Another two months went by before they called to say it was ready. When we picked it up, they said nothing was wrong with it."

"I wrote Sears in Kansas City about it. I have their card dated Nov. 20, 1980 saying I would get additional word shortly, but haven't heard from them. Am tempted to sue them to take 'satisfaction or your money back' off their catalogs. No more Sears for me."

"One of my 'best buys' was a little 3-pt. backhoe made in Claremore, Okla.," adds George. "I believe Hesston owns the factory now."

Lyle Heimbigner, Ritzville, Wash.: "My best purchase in 1980 was John Deere's soft black paint. When thinned 50% with paint thinner it applies fast and easy to disk blades and header platforms to prevent rusting. The real beauty is that it's self-scouring and the price is right," Lyle told FARM SHOW.

R. Hill, Sweetwater, Tex.: "The worst purchase I ever made is, without a doubt, an Ashley wood heater. Its poor construction, lack of performance and insatiable appetite for more wood are reasons why I would not have another one." Hill concludes.

Bradley Pattington, Scipio Center, N.Y.: "I'd like to nominate Calkart from Raytec Manufacturing in Ephrata, Penn., as a best buy," says Bradley. "It makes moving even the most stubborn calf, from newborn to 300 lbs. or over, a one man or woman job, anywhere you can roll a two-wheel cart."

Elmer Hastect, Holgate, Ohio: He's happy with "a small hand-held 12-V battery-operated chain saw sharpener called the Grind-N-Joint from Grandberg Industries, Richmond, Cal. A real nice little time-saving tool. Better than a file any day. Runs off the pickup battery."

Louis Price, Lakota, Iowa: "My worst buy for many years was two 820 International bean platforms. They have been designed without wear plates behind the sickles. I used one for three days and the other for a week and had to rebuild both cutterbars before I could finish my soybeans. The IH rotary combine itself is good but the cutterbars are complete disaster," says Louis.

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