

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

by Harold M. Johnson
Editor

Farmers Nominate Best, Worst Buys

"Something wrong somewhere," says Leslie Goeke, Newton, Wis. who bought a replacement General Electric tractor headlight from his local International Harvester dealer for \$7.88. Unfortunately, he broke it while installing it. "I was at a local John Deere dealer and purchased the same number GE product in a Deere box for \$4.35."

On the plus side, Leslie nominates a Deutz 6206 tractor as one of the best buys he's made. "I am very pleased. It's a nice handling and easy shifting tractor. The 62 hp. makes sufficient power for a 4-row planter and a 12 ft. drill, as well as on a blower," Leslie, who also owns an 8006 Deutz tractor, says he likes the air cooled engine and the fuel savings.

Leslie is one of about 40 randomly selected FARM SHOW readers who nominated "best" and "worst" buys for this issue.

Jim Hoeft, Delavan, Ill.: "I can't understand why a \$60,000 combine has a \$60 cab," says Jim, who notes that his Deere 7700 combine "didn't

meet our expectations. Had numerous small breakdowns — chains flying off, pins coming out, etc. There were numerous holes in the cab, making it dusty and dirty. Worked good after spending 3 days filling the dirt leaks."

On the plus side, Jim is well pleased with his Deere 7700 Max Emerge corn planter: "I've always had Deere planters but never one like it. It works better than I ever imagined."

Dennis Faber, LaMoille, Ill.: He's well pleased with his Automatic Equipment roller mill (Model ASA600). "I decided on this brand of mill because of the excellent results from a previous mill which rolled several hundred thousand bushels of high moisture corn with very little downtime. The new mill is of the same type and design as the old, but does have an improved lateral discharge auger. I am also impressed with the uniform cracking of corn with a minimum of fines. It's a dependable machine with simple maintenance."

Dennis adds that he's "completely satisfied" with his Deere 4430 tractor, thanks to the dealer who Dennis commends for "promptly and courteously righting all wrongs at no charge. None of my problems were the tractor's fault. It was all due to incompetent help in manufacturing. First of all, the draft control was

never installed properly, the main hydraulic pump in the rear end which supplies the front pump was never tightened, allowing the oil to heat up. Also, the wrong rear engine seal was installed, allowing the high pressure oil in the clutch to get into the engine crankcase."

John Brushaber, Beaverton, Mich.: "We are more than satisfied with the machine in all respects, except we are disappointed that it does not have a

"We learned a lesson from this experience."

fuel gauge," says John of his International 715 combine.

He adds that "we purchased chisel plow teeth from our local ITCO dealer and one broke while being installed. One more broke after only two hours of use, while still another one bent completely backwards. We returned them to the dealer who refunded our money but, in the meantime, we had lost valuable time. However, we do feel we learned a lesson from this experience."

John adds that "one of my sons purchased a 1977 Chevrolet Scottsdale pickup series K-20. He is well satisfied with all aspects of the truck. It performs up to all expectations. Has a roomy interior, handles with ease and provides a nice comfortable ride."

Arthur Lumpkin, Anderson, Ind.: "Our Farm Fans grain drier and Model 95 Mix Mill grain leg ran like they were supposed to from the start and required only minor adjustments this first season. Also, a Mix-Mill stationary grinder-blender and pneumatic feed delivery system really saves labor time over our old portable grinder-mixer."

Jim Mitchell, Jr., Eaton, Ohio: On the plus side, Jim notes that his 10 ft. Miller disc "did everything the dealer said, plus more. Made an established hay field look ready for planting after one pass in the fall. It really mixes trash with the soil. We can easily cover 40 acres in a 10 hr. day. One caution though — the dealer said 10 drawbar hp per ft. This is minimum — 12 to 15 would be better. Speed is the key — 5 to 6 mph . . . I had 120 hp. on the 10 ft. and it was all it wanted."

On the negative side, Jim is disappointed with performance of a "Superior Centrifugal 10 hp. fan. The fan was shipped with the impeller out of balance, a bent motor mount, and a bent fan shaft. Tried to get a new one but was told none was available . . . The motor went out due to vibration and, after much pressure, we got some new parts but no new fan."

Harley Franklin, Daleville, Ind.: He applauds the dealer who sold him a 9600 Ford diesel tractor. "The third day I went to work with it, it died in the middle of the road. I came back home and called the dealer. Within