

cently. It will adapt to just about any job you can think of. On the negative side, it could use more heft all around. A tractor with that much horsepower needs more built-in weight for traction and for proper draft control operation during 3 pt. hitch operations."

Laurence faults his recently-purchased International No. 10 Subsoiler for "not being tough enough for our conditions. We broke two shanks, which are supposed to trip so they don't break."

**Wildon Terrell, Terrell Bros., Woodford, Virg.:** Heading his "best buy" list is a Mercedes-Benz L1116 truck with turbocharged diesel engine: "We have about 35,000 miles on it and have been very pleased with the fuel mileage, averaging between 10 and 11 mpg. At first we thought the oil consumption was rather high but this cut down to a very moderate amount after about 20,000 miles. Its top highway speed is about 55. It has a 55 gal. fuel tank and can go over 500 miles between fillings."

On the negative side, Wildon faults a Deere model 200 Stack Wagon for having "more downtime than it should. We like its ability to pick up stubble behind the combine. However, we had to replace the floor chain, rear door, rear door unloading chain drive, shaft in the main gearbox, driveline shaft, main unloading drive mechanism and more. While most of these problems were taken care of by the dealer during the warranty period, we lost some crop because of excessive downtime, and repair costs continue high considering the amount of time the machine is operated. Service rendered by the dealer has been excellent."

**Dale Hansen, Burlington, Colo.:** "If it weren't for the two-year warranty on the drive train, this tractor would have cost a small fortune to own. I think the transmission lacks testing in our area under severe conditions," says Dale of his Allis Chalmers Model 7060 tractor with power shift transmission. "The motor and cab on this \$30,000 tractor have been excellent. The transmission and hydraulic pump have caused excess trouble. This is the third transmission and the fourth hydraulic pump that has been installed in 1,500 hours. The transmission either spins the wheels in high range, or pulls the front end of the tractor off the ground about one foot in low range when the transmission is shifted between 1st and 2nd. The dealer has tried to fix these prob-

lems. But, when he calls for help from the service representative, or the Kansas City branch, he gets nothing and I get madder. I have even tried calling the West Allis offices, but all I get is apologies."

Dale is well pleased with an 18 ft. offset Wilbeck disk: "It has 24 in. blades and 9 in. spacing on the front and rear gangs. Does an excellent job of penetrating hard ground, chopping stalks in heavy corn trash and leaves the field level."

**William Fullerton, Enon Valley, Pa.:** "My worst buy is a Deere 1440 No-Till corn planter equipped with No. 80 plateless planting units. I traded in an Allis Chalmers because of some features on it I didn't like but

## "The stirring device from SPI does a fantastic job."

got a whole new set of problems. The planter was delivered with the wrong hydraulic system for my tractor and it took a week to get the needed parts from Columbus, Ohio — a 3 hr. drive from home. Deere's area representative assured me that the large shoe on the No. 80 planting unit was no problem for no-til. It is a problem. It is impossible to control the depth of planting. One of the fluted coulters would not stay adjusted. Also, many other small problems."

Here's how William sizes up his Butler Stor-N-Dry bin dryer: "The complete system, with Wyatt augers and a Stirall stirring device from Specialized Products Inc. works beautifully. Service has been excellent. The stirring device from SPI does a fantastic job and I wouldn't be without it."

**James Adkisson, Thompsonville, Ill.:** "This planter is a total lemon," he says of his Bridger No-Til planter with sod openers and model 30 planter units. "Our first day in the field, we discovered it required 10 to 20 min. to adjust the depth on all 8 units and that it had a ravenous appetite for disk opener hubs. One good thing about this planter, or rather its side openers, is that it would go into the ground when no other no-til

would. However, these same side openers made a groove 3/4 in. wide under the ground, allowing the seed to roll to one side of the original seed opening. Then, when the seed sprouted, the sprout couldn't find its way through the ground. It wound around underground and died. We went to our Ford dealer and complained, whereupon he said no one else had any problems with this type of unit. We later found out that he hadn't sold any units of this type that had been used prior to that time. We then bought new stubble openers to replace the sod openers (which we couldn't return because they were used) and replanted. If anyone is interested in buying an almost new planter, we're more than willing to sell."

On the plus side, James is happy with his 1977 Deere 4430 tractor. "The first pleasant surprise with this tractor was that it was priced less than comparable size tractors of other brands. We really like the comfort and convenience it offers — especially the Quad-Range transmission. And, its cab is much quieter than our older International and our neighbor's new International."

**Samuel Justice, Springfield, Tenn.:** "It does a very good job of leveling the ground, incorporating chemicals and penetrating trash," he says of his Deere 230 disk harrow. "It was amazing the amount of corn stalks it would cut through in preparing wheat ground following corn harvest." Samuel offered the following design improvements which he feels would improve his Hart-Carter floating cutter bar: "The rubber bushings in the stabilizer bar are totally inadequate. The Pitman drive should be a wobble box on this length (16 ft.) cutter bar. There is too much vibration."

**Mark Germann, Morganville, Kan.:** He's excited about the high quality hay and stalk residue he's been able to put up, thanks to his 605 Vermeer baler and an attachment for applying liquid hay preservative. "I've been custom baling for a year and a half with this baler and have had only one minor problem with it. It had some bearings go out but was more my fault than the bearings. I over greased them," he told FARM SHOW.

He purchased an acid applicator from Oelwein Chemical Company, Oelwein, Iowa, for applying Kemiflo. "The preservative has worked and lived up to my expectations in all

ways. It saved hay that would have been lost because of rain and high moisture. I am also doing some experimental work with molasses and preservative on milo stalk bales. I did not get a moisture tester so I don't know how wet I have baled, but it was wetter than would have kept without the preservative."

**Richard Warnshuis, Sherman, N.Y.:** "The metal detector alone saved us thousands of dollars in repair bills and lost cows. This should be standard equipment on every make chopper. This is a great machine," he says of his New Holland 880 forage harvester. He is pleased with his Case 1070, noting that "the motor is very economical. The cab is excellent and the drawbar is visible from the cab. A good buy," he notes, adding that he'd like to see the following design changes: "The power shift, pto and power brakes leave much to be desired. When the tractor clutch is disengaged while the pto is in operation, there is a heavy surge of power diverted to the power shaft which vibrates the whole drive train. This is hard on drive belts and chains. The brakes are too sensitive."

**James Drick, Paynesville, Minn.:** He's well pleased with a new Husovarna chain saw ("it's light, quiet and doesn't vibrate, yet is more powerful than my previous saw") and a White 2-105 tractor ("Cab is very quiet. One strong selling point over former models is having the hydraulic pumps on the outside. It can be repaired without tearing the whole tractor apart").

James is disappointed with an International 601 weed chopper electric fencer, noting that "it threw an impressive spark in the store. After installation, every time humidity was high, or if there was fog or a sprinkle, the fencer shorted out. Pigs had no respect for it. I have two other International fences which work wonderful."

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