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It's useful for many tasks. It has a 12-speed transmission and left hand reverse."

Bob Peter, Sedro-Woolley, Wash.: Bob is happy with his 2012 **New Holland** 163 Hay Tedder. "I have been using several different brands of hay tedders for over 40 years. This New Holland does a much better job than any of the others I have used."

Robert Becker, Emington, Ill.: Robert bought his 1968 **Deere** 4020D new. "It's been a really nice handling tractor for all those years. It's big enough to do a lot of heavy work but still easy to use for light work."

Edgar Lamb, Edgefield, S.C.: "I sold my 1961 **Deere** 3010 37 years ago and bought it back in 2019. It's still going strong with over 22,200 hrs."

Edwin Dabbs, Frankston, Texas: Edwin's best buys are a 1952 **Ford** 8N tractor he purchased used in 1990, and a 1962 **Chevy** pickup purchased used 42 years ago. "Both have been great buys and are still in use. No computers on either one. I do my own repairs and maintenance. I'm 82 years old and believe in regular maintenance including oil changes and grease jobs."

C.W. Anderson, Bemidji, Minn.: C.W. likes his **Deere** 4200 compact utility tractor with Yanmar 3-cyl. diesel with manual 4-WD and 3-pt. "The tractor has a Deere 420 quick-tach loader and 60-in. front-mount snowblower. It has an add-on Curtis cab with heater. This is a great tractor, easy to maintain, runs great, and I have had no trouble with it. I use it a lot."

Nancy Hendricks, Scio, Ohio: "I started using **Sea Foam** motor treatment in my Ford Ranger and it increased my mpg by about 3 miles. Now I use it in all of my engines. They start easier and run better."

Timothy Shrock, LaGrange, Ind.: "I bought a used 2009 **Claas** 355 Rollant roto cut round baler used about 2 years ago which had made about 14,000 bales. The dealer went through it for me. Since then I made 1,260 bales in 2018 and 1,400 in 2019 with very few problems. I've changed 2 bearings in the rollers and did regular maintenance. It handles very dry hay and any wet heavy hay with ease, as long as you have enough power to run it."

Jerry Driskel, Nevada, Mo.: "We operate a tree service and have had good luck with the **Husqvarna** 126 extend pole saw. Stihl makes a bigger model and motor but Husqvarna makes a smaller and better shaft and a smoother motor. We've had this model for 3 years and it's never been in the shop. A good saw."

"My **Stihl** HT 133 pole saw is built cheap and made 5 trips to the dealer with bad drive shafts. The motor was good but the drive-line would break in two. Previously, we had 4 Stihl 131 pole saws that were all good."

Randall Gay Jr., Garfield, Ga.: "My **Kubota** RTV 500 requires very little maintenance. I have owned it since 2009. It became my legs after I had both knees replaced. It replaced my pickup when feeding livestock and maintaining fences. I went to buy a 4-wheeler and at the suggestion of the dealer bought this instead, no regrets."

Fred Nelson, Rockwood, Tenn.: "I have a 2009 **Polaris** Ranger 700 XP side-by-side that I use on my farm and deer hunt with. Other than general maintenance and a few minor repairs, this machine has been a workhorse for me. It has been in some rough places but never lets me down."

"My 6-year-old 4025 **Mahindra** tractor has been one of the best tractors I have owned. No problems."

"I did have problems with a **ProFormance** 350 longblock Chevy engine I bought from Auto Zone. Shortly after the warranty expired it blew a head gasket and I had to have the heads shaved. I put it back together and shortly after that I had problems with cylinder compression. I replaced that engine with a Summit Racing stock engine and have had no further problems."

Daniel Chapinski, Cloquet, Minn.: Daniel likes his **Can-Am** Outlander 570. "It has power steering and a switch for going from 2-WD to 4-WD. It came with a handy winch. A great ride with plenty of power and you don't have to shift."

Lowell Berezky, Yellville, Ark.: "My 2017 **Poulan** Pro riding mower had trouble with the shift lever, but they fixed it and it works fine now."

George Beckmann, The Villages, Fla.: George has a 1948 **Farmall** Cub tractor. "It's been family-owned for 70 years, since 1949 in Salt Point, N.Y. A great tractor. It was always a big help on our small farm."

James Konechne, Kimball, S. Dak.: James likes his **Milwaukee** battery-powered tools, especially the new "fuel" tools. "They have a lot of power for such a small package and the warranty is 5 years on tools and 2 years on batteries. They once sent me a new tool because it would have cost too much to repair the old one. I had a battery go bad and they sent me a new one. Not many warranties are that good any more. We hardly use our corded or air tools any more. These are so convenient."

"I wouldn't necessarily call it a worst buy but my **Ford** F-250 Super Duty with 6.7l diesel gets poor mileage - 15 mpg has been the best with about a 12 mpg average. On the plus side it will pull anything you hook up to it, and the ride is wonderful for a 3/4-ton pickup. I would rather ride in it than our car."

"I have a lot more time to fish now. At 79, fishing is better than mowing."

Ray Carlisle, Fasco Wash.: Ray is happy with his **Cub Cadet** Z force 60-in. zero-turn mower. "It has cut my mowing time in half. I have a lot more time to fish now. At 79, fishing is better than mowing."

Donald Guritz, Hopkins Mich.: "I am very pleased with my 2017 **New Holland** 55 hp. compact tractor with loader, cab, heat, air conditioning, radio and 4-WD. It has good visibility, the heat is hot, the AC is cold, and it has a good lighting system. I did fabricate a 2 step entry system that bolts on over the step, as I am 74 years old."

Jim Lucas, Pima, Arizona: Jim's best buy is his **Magnatrac** MH 8000 crawler (www.struckcorp.com). I purchased this machine in 2014. It has had no problems. The company has been good to work with on parts or information, always getting back in a timely manner."

Charlie Anderson, Sunburg, Minn.: "My **Deere** 445 lawn tractor is 16 years old. It was the last model before the change to power steering. It has wide tires and a liquid-cooled 22-hp. engine. I also have a 60-in. deck, cab and snow blower. It has 1,800 hrs. on it and has been in for one service call, to replace a hydraulic seal. It has been through 3 batteries. Very dependable."



Gary Swensen's custom-built 12-ft. trailer has a rear hitch, steps on the side, tandem axles, brakes, and extra rear lights, along with a heavy-duty ramp and rear bumper.

Custom Trailer Built-To-Order

Gary Swensen of Yankton, S.Dak., looked all over the country for a mid-size trailer that would fit his needs. However, none of the pre-built trailers he found had exactly what he was looking for so he decided to have one custom built.

"I wanted a trailer with a rear hitch, steps on the side, tandem axles, brakes, and extra rear lights, with a heavy-duty ramp and rear bumper. Everything in the size I was looking for had a single axle with no brakes. It was my wife who suggested having one built to my specifications."

Swensen had worked with Road King of Yankton, S.Dak., before, installing 5th wheel hitches and purchasing parts for his older trailers. "They have a huge workshop with welders, hoists and equipment to

professionally build a trailer to exact specifications," says Swensen.

His custom trailer is 6-ft. by 12-ft. The fenders on the trailer were built 2 to 3 in. higher than needed so that bigger tires could be put on. With larger tires it can tow up to 5,000 lbs.

According to Swensen, "It was exactly what I wanted, and only cost me a couple hundred dollars more than the pre-built trailers I found. I also know that if I have any problems, I can go back to Road King with their no-hassle guarantee."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Road King Custom Trailers, 30093 U.S. Hwy. 81, Yankton, S.Dak. 57078 (ph 605 665-5281; www.roadkingtrailercorp.com).



Alan Walker, Houston, Texas: "My **MTW** 10-ft. wide pto-driven soil conditioner power rake (www.mtwpowerboxrakes.com; ph 715 536-9916) does a fabulous job leveling ground, knocking out gopher mounds, pulling roots, and general landscape leveling. It is a bit pricey, though."

"My 2018 **Ford** F-150 6-cyl. EcoBoost has great power and fuel economy, an easy-to-use touch screen, comfortable seats, and a smooth ride. I have 40,000 miles with no repairs."

John Fleissner, East Aurora, N.Y.: "My 2 **Stihl** chainsaws, weed wacker, and backpack blower are my best buys. Being a 76-year-old truck and trailer mechanic, I've learned it saves me time and money if I take Stihl equipment to the dealer for repairs. My dealer is quick, reasonably priced, and technically way ahead of me."

A. Earl Cheal, Eilerslie, Ga.: "I downsized from larger **Deere** tractors to a 2016 Deere 1025R. I like the quick-disconnect belly mower, quick-disconnect loader, and 3-pt. hitch. I use the tractor almost every day. It has sufficient power for my small farm and the 4-WD ensures I don't get stuck."

"However, the original fender lights pointed into the back of the bucket so the light bounced back, making the lights useless. I consulted our local dealer, who did not know how the wiring could be re-routed. I contacted Deere and they just wanted to sell me a manual for it. I finally cut the wires and

now have LED lights mounted on magnets high on the ROP, which gives me good light. "My 2016 **Kubota** RTV 500 goes everywhere. I bought it used but it has performed like new. It is like a mini pickup truck."

Bruce Warren, Wellsboro, Penn.: "I'm most impressed with the carburetor kit I bought from **V.E. Petersen Co.** (www.vepetersen.com; ph 800 537-6212). I needed to find a carb kit for an obsolete carburetor. Al at Petersen's, using only photos of my rare, antique carb (with no carb #'s to help), located the correct kit."

Fritz Groszkruger, Dumont, Iowa: Fritz likes his 2-post lift he got from **APlusLift** (www.apluslift.com; ph 206 289-0814). "It lifts our Ram 2500 6-ft. high with ease. We were surprised at the \$1,800 delivered price and Frank is always ready to help with a phone call."

Richard Mountcastle, Rockville, Ind.: "I have a **Central Boiler** 500 outside wood boiler (www.centralboiler.com; ph 800 248-4681). I heat a 3-bedroom home that has a full walkout basement and a 2 1/2 stall garage. I also heat our hot water with this as well as radiant heat in my garage floor. I keep my garage at 65 degrees all winter."

"My electric bill runs \$97 to \$107 per month. I also built an open-front wood shed around the stove, with the stove sticking out the back. The shed is 10 ft. deep and 13 ft. wide. I designed it to store 24-in. long wood. The shed keeps wood dry. It also has a motion light that comes on if it's dark when you go out to feed the boiler."

Roger Odorizzi, Manson, Wash.: Roger's 2007 **Honda** Ridgeline has about 390,000 miles on it and is still going strong. "The Ridgeline has a reputation for somewhat poor fuel economy. I drive my vehicle daily under various conditions and overall it averages 19 mpg."

"This is a dependable vehicle that's easy