Farmers Nominate Best & Worst Buys

The battery does not fit well into the charger. I contacted the company and they sent me a new charger, but it was just as bad as the

Loren Rasmussen, Kokomo, Ind.: Loren is happy with his Harbor Freight reciprocating saw and grinder. "I have bought these saws and grinders several times for myself and my sons. We don't use them often but have never had one fail.'

Harold Swick, Morral, Ohio: "My 1998 Chevy 2500 diesel 4-WD pickup is my best buy. It gets 16 to 17 mpg. Is low maintenance and has few problems. I would buy it again.

On the negative side, "My worst buy is my 2011 GMC Terrain with a 2.41 engine that went bad at 80,000 miles. No help from GM'

Edward Konen, Pierz, Minn.: "I am not a farmer, but as a retired blacksmith in a farming community I do occasional repair jobs. The 4 volumes of FARM SHOW's Encyclopedias Of Made It Myself Ideas help inspire 'outside the box' ways of getting jobs done.

Dave Emmenegger, Woodburn, Ore.: "I have a 2011 Dodge Ram pickup with 360,000 miles. I have had Dodge pickups since 1994 and have had great success with them. They're well made and the cost per mile is less than GM pickups I have owned. I drive 35,000 miles per year and the only expense I normally have is routine maintenance.

Gary Moffett, Connersville, Ind.: "My Work cordless 10-in chainsaw and pole extension with 4ah battery works good and has a long battery life. It's handy to carry in my UTV. I like that you can just grab it and cut limbs with the pull of the trigger.'

David Cammack, Owenton, Ky.: David's best buy is his 2020 Bad Boy Elite zero-turn mower. "It's very well made, easy to service, does a great job and is made in the USA.'

Paul Sniadajewksi, Junction City, Wis.: Paul likes his Milwaukee 18V hacksaw. "It's handy and fits in many spaces a sawzall or band saw won't. It's lightweight and

On the negative side, "I bought a Cub Cadet XLS-52 lawn tractor used at an estate sale. It was 4 mos. old and had not been used. On my first use I lost the electric clutch. The unit wasn't installed correctly when assembled. I was told it wasn't covered and that I must have ripped the wires out. It was never fastened correctly and spun when engaged. After installing a new clutch for \$300 it's been a good mower."

Richard Posey, Crossville, Tenn.: "My worst buy is the 3/8-in. Kobalt ratchet from Lowes. It goes into neutral which locks the ratchet. The lever spring is too weak. I've taken 3 back in the last 5 years. They need to use a heavier spring. It would be a great tool otherwise."

Dave Powles, Waxhaw, N.C.: "I bought a 1969 John Deere 4020D used in 1974 and nothing ever goes wrong with it. No major repairs in nearly 50 years. I use it every day, and have never overhauled it. I don't think new tractors will last this long.

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"However, my 2010 Ford F-250 got to 30,000 miles and the exhaust converters failed. Ford attempted to replace them but I ended up having the truck towed from their garage. The entire front end needs to come

off because something is wrong with the timing. I have purchased the shop manuals and special tools and will fix it myself. Disappointing as I have had Fords my whole

Walter H. Bickford, Jr., Lyndonville, Vt.: "My 1984 Deere 2150 was the worst tractor I ever owned. The brakes were designed to run in oil so I never knew when they were worn out. I had to install a new hydraulic pump, a new oil pump, and new brakes, and ended up flushing the entire brake system three times. I also had to buy about \$800 worth of hydraulic oil and twenty filters before I got the brakes fixed."



Charles Murphy, Piereeto, Ind.: "My sons and I clean out a lot of fence rows and also cut firewood, and for such jobs we use an 84-in. stone bucket with dual cylinder root grapple attachments that we bought from Skid Steer Attachment Depot in Huntsville. Alabama (www.skidsteerattachmentdepot. com; ph 256 975-8641). These grapples work great for cleaning out brush and holding up the logs we cut for firewood."

Ronald Carroll, Clearmont, Mo.: "In November 2019 I bought a Honda Ridgeline pickup, for several reasons. It's mostly 'American made', with the engine and other parts built and assembled in the U.S. It sits lower to the ground and is easier to get into, which is helpful since I'm 85 years old. It has lane keeping assist control, a collision mitigation braking system, and many other safety features.

"It also has a dual-action tailgate that can either fold down like a traditional tailgate, or open outward to the driver's side making it easy to load the bed with cargo. There's also a large storage space under the back of the bed that can hold a lot of tools. It's an all-around

Mark Antoncich, Anacortes, Wash.: "My 2018 Dodge Ram 1/2-ton pickup rides like a Cadillac or Lincoln Continental. My 1995 Eldorado might not even have a ride as good as the Ram.'

On the negative side, he lists his 2012 Lexus RX350. "It rides like a heavy military truck and shakes my 80-year-old bones too much. Nothing is wrong with the suspension. I don't think I'm the only Lexus owner with this problem."

Ralph J. Clark, New Concord, Ohio:. "I bought a new 2011 Ford F-250 pickup equipped with a 6.7-liter Power Stroke diesel engine, but by 55,000 miles the bed already had rust holes in it. The dealer said that since the pickup's 50,000-mile warranty had expired he couldn't help - even though I've bought seven new Fords during my lifetime."

Laurel T. Swan, Whitewater, Wis.: "My Snow Joe cordless single stage snowblower does a great job blowing snow off my deck, throwing it out 15 to 20 ft. (www.snowjoe. com; ph 866 766-9563). It's lightweight, easy to handle, and works well in both wet snow and dry powder."

The Snow Joe weighs only 32 lbs. and is operated by a 40-volt lithium-ion battery that



Slime Sealant Gets The Job Done

Denny Skaro, Dennison, Minn: "One of the tires on my small utility yard cart was always leaking air. So last summer I decided to use Slime 2-in-1 Tire Sealant rather than taking the tire to a repair shop. I set the cart on a block to take the weight off the tire and it was easy to put the recommended amount of Slime into the tire tube and fill it with air. I left the cart on the block for an hour, then took the block out, set the cart down, and the tire didn't leak a bit. I used the cart for several hours and checked the air pressure. which was fine. Over the next few weeks I checked the air pressure several times, and it was perfect. I didn't use the cart for 5 months over the winter and the tire is still fully inflated. I used the remainder of the Slime on the two front tires of my riding lawn mower and they have stayed fully inflated over the winter, too. Slime has a special product for highway vehicles like cars and trucks, and another product for off-highway tires with or without tubes. I think it's a wise investment to always have a couple containers of Slime on hand for small repairs, because using it is a lot more convenient and faster than going to a tire shop. It probably won't work on large cuts, tears or punctures, and the only downside I see is that the manufacturer says Slime only seals a tire for two years."

with Mo-Deck non-stick aerosol spray for mowers (www.mo-deck.com; ph 413 433-3663). It creates a slick, non-stick surface on the underside of the deck to reduce the buildup of grass and make scraping

Mo-Deck Keeps His

Mower Deck Clean

Al Cavasin, Concord, Mich., is pleased

"I can't recommend this product enough," says Cavasin, who mows 3 1/2 acres a week. "I found this product about 8 years ago. It has made my life easier by eliminating the need to grind away all the gunk that sticks to the deck, a chore that sometimes took hours



and usually involved several cuts and bashed

"I bought Mo-Deck on clearance from Tractor Supply Company for \$3 a can, figuring I had nothing to lose. It worked so well that I now buy 6 cans at a time online. I spray the deck and the blades at the beginning of the season, and by the end of the year the deck is just as clean as the day I started mowing. I make sure the deck is thoroughly clean to start, and then spray on 2 coats (the company recommends one) and let it dry overnight.

"I have no idea how this product works, but nothing sticks to it. I can't believe how clean my mower deck was at the end of last season.'

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Al Cavasin, 13997 Cornell Rd., Concord, Mich. 49237 (ph 517 524-6228; alcavasin@gmail.



delivers up to 45 min. of run time. Equipped with a heavy-duty steel auger with 2 rubber blades, it clears a path 18 in. wide by 8 in. deep. Sells for \$299.

Don Braswell, Laurens, S.C.: "We like our 2002 Chevrolet Tahoe LX SUV equipped with a 5.3-liter engine and tow package. It has about 174,000 miles on it, but has never been in the shop for repairs. We have no plans to replace it.

Ricky Tarazon, Roswell, N. Mex.: "I've read about SealLube seal expander in FARM SHOW and decided to try it out in my 1992 Geo Storm (www.seallube.com; ph 800 434-9192). This is a great little car, but I didn't drive it for a year because the power steering leaked so bad that power steering fluid ran onto the floorboard. I had to keep kitty litter on the floorboard to soak up all the fluid, and it would have cost about \$900 to fix the problem.

"Instead, I poured an 8-oz. bottle into the power steering pump and drove the car for several days. No more leaks, and the steering now feels tighter, too. A great repair for less than \$15.





Larry G. Lane, Madrid, N.Y.: "I like my 55-in. Wicked Root rake grapple designed for subcompact and compact loader tractors (www.everythingattachments.com; ph 828 464-1200). It's made of quality steel and works great. The company offers free shipping within 1,000 miles.'