

Continued from previous page

checked the injectors and replaced one, and checked and re-torqued the intake manifold. These repairs didn't help but cost us over \$800. Plus, the money spent on the parts and labor I performed when I replaced the coolant sensor, fuel-metering valve, and air-flow sensor. None of these repairs helped.

"Shortly after all the Lucas product was used up, the car started running a little better. I called the Lucas company, and they told me their upper cylinder lubricant is thin, and the lower cylinder lubricant is thick like honey. The product in the bottle I had used was not thin like it should've been but was thick like honey, which made me question if they had the wrong product in the bottle I purchased. I called them again and explained everything to the representative. He asked me to send in a picture of the bottle, and the batch number from the bottle. He said they would check on it and get back to me. They didn't.

"I have called once a month since April, and each time he said they would get back to me. They have still not contacted me.

"Our mechanic and I both think that the sticky product is making the check valve in the fuel pump stay open and letting the fuel drain back into the tank overnight. So, after about a minute or so, the fuel gets pumped up to the engine, and it runs fine. It looks like the only remedy now is to change the fuel pump at a cost of several hundred dollars."

Steve Tomson, Jackson Center, Penn.: "I enjoy running my 2008 Caterpillar 305C CR diesel mini excavator with full cab, heat, and A/C. After 1,700 hrs., it still starts well and has plenty of power. It's the right size for a small farm; there are so many jobs it can be used for."

"It's the right size for a small farm; there are so many jobs it can be used for."

William Goffnett, Shepherd, Mich.: "My 2021 TYM tractor has met and surpassed my expectations. It was fairly priced, and my neighbor said it's greatly superior to the Kubota he owns. Extra implements are somewhat affordable."

Glen J. Mebruer, Lebanon, Mo.: "My 2014 Fernald 95C does all I need and could do more."

Jesse Barley, Tyrone, Penn.: "I'm happy with the used Kioti tractor I bought with 1,006 hrs. on it. It's run flawlessly for the 2 years I've had it, and it now has 1,252 hrs. The tractor is well-designed with screens in front of the radiator to make it easy to keep it running cool when mowing in weeds like thistles. The controls are easy to reach, and the flip-up hood makes it nice to get to the battery and radiator. It has a differential lock for the front and rear axles, which helps keep me moving on really steep hills."

Steve Salemink, Nichols, Iowa: Steve isn't happy with Deere's replacement radios. "I'm on my second replacement radio for my Deere 6410. It was whistling 3 mos. ago, and I can already hear whistling and humming in the background like the one before. The original radio couldn't be repaired as they couldn't get a new chip. I had the same experience with my Deere 4250 replacement radio. It went bad in about 10 mos."

William Sanford, Roxboro, N.C.: "I don't have many hours on my 2023 Deere HPX-815E Gator, but so far, I'm pleased

with my purchase. It did take over 6 mos. to get it. The best features are the Yanmar diesel engine and the electric bed lift. Deere doesn't include many features that other companies do. With them, everything is an add-on."

Douglas J. Hart, Bethel, Vt.: Douglas is the satisfied owner of a 1997 Toyota truck. "Toyota has a really good reputation. I love this truck. It's very dependable and good on gas. I changed to a bigger engine at 305,000 miles. The bigger engine gives me more power to haul and pull a trailer.

"The only bad side has been rust. Here in Vermont, the salt on the road kills the body and frame. Fluid Film helps out a lot."

Carl L. Hillsinger, Tyaskin, Md.: "In 1982, I purchased an Ingersoll Rand 115V AC/DC model B 1-in. impact wrench at an equipment auction. In all the years I've used it, there have only been two times it failed to remove a nut and those were 4-in. nuts. There must be more around, but mine is the only one I've ever come across.

"My worst buy is a Gotham steel no-stick fry pan. After about four or five uses, just about everything would stick, even scrapple, and that's made with lard. Don't waste your money. Stick with seasoned cast iron."

Randy Bunger, Humboldt, Iowa: "I like my Milwaukee 1/2-in. corded drill I bought in 2019. It has great torque and power. The construction is rugged."

Tim Hollinger, Mount Joy, Penn.: "The 14-in. Kobalt 40V battery chainsaw I bought in the fall of 2022 is the best purchase I've made in some time. It has lots of power, and the battery lasts longer than an 82-year-old can last. I got so tired with all the pulling to start a gas-powered saw. This one has been a blessing for me."

David Crum, Sellersburg, Ind.: "My 2009 Kawasaki Mule 610 paid for itself the first year because we had an ice storm that winter followed by a wind storm the next year. I kept busy cleaning up trees and limbs with the Mule with no problems. I traded it in this year for a 2023 model with fuel injectors."

Leighton Carow, Edgeley, N.D.: "My Stihl battery-powered trimmer is my best buy. It doesn't vibrate in your hand.

"All these new machines with all the electronics and computers can't compare to the old tractors like my Deere 4020. "They run every day and don't quit running."

Lonnie Ray, Killen, Ala.: "I purchased my Bad Boy 60-in. zero-turn mower in 2012. I've done routine maintenance, such as oil and air filter changes and blade sharpening. In 11 years, the only repairs I've had to make are an idler pulley, a belt pulley, and two belts. I mow about 4 acres. This machine is great."

Walter Krohn, Angola, Ind.: "I purchased my Stihl 026 new in the 70's. I cut a lot of wood for my fireplace, about 2 or 3 cords a year. This chainsaw still has plenty of power and is good on gas. Great machine."

Tom Talley, Mechanicsville, Va.: "My Milwaukee M-18 high torque impact wrench has plenty of power, and the battery lasts a good while."

On the negative side is GE LED light bulbs. "They don't last but a couple of months. Not worth the money."

Don Burt, Anchor Point, Alaska: "Eastside Trains does excellent work repairing electric model trains (www.eastsidetrains.com; ph 877-857-7246). They're a good group of people to do business with.

"I rebuild antique cars and trucks. The people at Steele Rubber Products can provide almost any rubber products you could want (www.steelrubber.com; ph 800-447-0849)."



Little Egg Scrubber II is a good option for smaller egg producers who don't want to spend more on a larger unit.

Best Buy Egg Washers

Finding the best egg washers produced a series of recent posts on the members' group forum of the American Pastured Poultry Producers Association (APPPA). Recommendations included several mechanical egg washers covered in previous FARM SHOW issues. In some cases, the comments were "Best & Worst Buys" material.

Member Susan Young started the discussion by asking for recommendations, as she had about 10 dozen duck and chicken eggs to wash each day.

Tim Spann had purchased a Gibson Ridge egg washer (Vol. 37, No. 5) and said he would "definitely NOT recommend it." Reasons included poor quality, parts that didn't fit, and excessive egg breakage. He referred to it as a "\$2,000 paperweight."

Jerica Cadman owns a Power Scrub egg washer. She described it as a "fantastic machine, but a hefty investment." The base unit is priced at \$4,695. The Power Scrub was featured in Vol. 41, No. 3 of FARM SHOW. She used it to process her 45-dozen daily egg production.

Both Spann and Cadman were disappointed with the lack of egg washers for small producers. Cadman suggested small producers avoid egg washers and invest

instead in rollaway-style nest boxes for hens if not ducks. One is described in Vol. 40, No. 2.

Charles Warnky had purchased the Sani-Touch tabletop egg washer for \$2,000 a year earlier. While it was rated for 1,000 eggs per hour, he found a person operating it alone, taking time to dry and package the eggs, had a top output of about 600 eggs per hour. He endorsed it as "very good" for his 30+ dozen per day operation.

Demetrius Maendel uses the Little Egg Scrubber II (S369) for his 20 dozen eggs per day farm. He said it takes about 40 min. to wash "pretty clean" eggs, but more if they are dirty. He said he was upgrading to a used Power Scrub II. Like Spann and Cadman, he would like to see something in the \$1,500 to \$2,000 range.

Young wrapped up the posts with a thank you for the recommendations. Once again, the forum came through. Membership in the APPPA for egg producers really is a best buy.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, American Pastured Poultry Producers Association, P.O. Box 85, Hughesville, Penn. 17737 (ph 888-662-7772; grit@apppa.org; www.apppa.org).

Elton Wylie, Hamilton, Texas: "I like my 2020 Harbor Freight Predator 9,000W generator. It runs my stick welder very well. I have it on a platform that fits the tractor forks. It's much easier to move around than a weld trailer.

"I'm disappointed in my Stihl MS 170 that I bought in 2022. It ran for about 50 hours. I put it away dry. Now it won't start. I've been through decarbonizing the muffler, cleaning plugs, and changing to high-test gas. Nothing worked. I'm about to rebuild the carburetor."



Roger Podoll, Wautoma, Wis.: "My Mantis tiller (Model 7940) with a Honda engine is great."

Roger has been happy with the service he's received from Guaranteed Carburetors (https://guaranteedcarburetors.com/; ph 800-250-8746). "They did three carbs in the last year for me (70's Dodge, Ford, and GM).

They came back looking like new and had perfect performance right out of the box. When you call, you can talk to a competent person."

Jim Evans, Gales Creek, Ore.: "In 2009, I bought a 2007 Dixie Chopper Silver Eagle 2500 with a 44-in. deck. This mower has to be the toughest mower ever built. I'm now in the process of replacing a deck spindle. This is the first thing I've had to replace in 14 years. I have three new belts hanging on the shop well because I've never had to replace one.

"It's probably not my worst buy, but I haven't been happy with my DR leaf and lawn vacuum. It works pretty well if you have enough bungee cords. The worst part is the 8-in., 6-ft. long feed tube. It's pretty fragile. If you turn too sharp, it'll split. Instead of buying a third new one, I just bought more duct tape."

"Instead of buying a third new one, I just bought more duct tape."

Jeff Wyman, Crivitz, Wis.: "I'm impressed with my Makita battery pole saw.