

4010 4x4 with power steering. "We bought this a couple of years ago, and it's the perfect fit for our small hobby farm. It's a beast of a machine, whether we're using it for the garden, pulling equipment up the barn bank, and everything in between. We've done nothing to it except for routine maintenance. Highly recommend."

Floyd Plank, Whitewater, Wis.: A **DeWalt** impact rates as Floyd's best buy. "It has lots of power, and the batteries don't take long to recharge."

Don Studhalter, Cinebar, Wash.: "My AT&T Kyocera E4830 flip phone has good features and a rugged, military-grade protection cover. It gets the best reception for AT&T and fits in a shirt pocket."

"I bought my 2022 **Landmark L-5 Quad** because it's U.S.A. made. I'm 80 and have owned many road bikes to tote goats. This Landmark is the worst of all. If this is the best the U.S.A. can make, we'll buy Chinese forever. Basically, they took a lawn mower and built a frame to fit. The gas gauge is under the seat, seats fill with water when raining, and the belt drive equals poor acceleration."

Elias Wolf, Mancelona, Mich.: "My **Stanley** 15-in. short cut saw cuts all kinds of wood (hard or soft) with ease. It cuts so easily; it almost made the power saw jealous. The best thing about it is it can go where there's no outlet for a cord. There's no power source other than my arm."

Elias isn't happy with **AAA** roadside assistance. "You only get four tows of only 5 miles. Anything over that, you pay out of pocket. It's getting more and more difficult to talk with them on the phone when we're stranded somewhere, yet each year, the price gets higher. One time, we kept waiting and finally had to leave our vehicle and get a ride with the neighbors."

Joe Wasson, Middletown, Iowa: Joe's the proud owner of a 2013 **Kubota M135GX** tractor. "I bought this tractor online, and it's easily met my expectations. We already had a 2015 with a loader, so I knew what to expect. We've owned five large Kubota tractors over the last 35 years, and they were all good."



Duane Fischer, Beattie, Kan.: "My **Stull** ATV feeder works great, and they have helpful staff (www.stullfeeders.com; ph 800-369-4131)."

Allan S. Welsh, Darien Center, N.Y.: Allan nominates his **Generac** generator with 123 hrs. on it as a worst buy. "The dealer says the engine has internal damage. There's no compression. It's minimally run for weekly testing. I've never run it over 2 hrs. Generac refused to replace the motor. The cost to replace it was over \$5,000. Never again."

Scott Weaver, Ballston Lake, N.Y.: Scott is a fan of his **HandCrew** goat skin work gloves. "I purchased a pair of these over 2 years ago, and they just wore through at the thumb seam. I've used these daily for everything from welding to wood splitting to general maintenance. They were sold at Lowe's, but they stopped carrying the goat skin style model HG-3215LX in my local store. For now, I'll sew the seam and buy ten pairs when I find them again."



David Donarski, Minong, Wis.: "I saw the **Vevor** forklift safety cage work platform in **FARM SHOW** (Vol. 47, No. 5) just as I was about to replace my shop roof. I'm afraid of heights, but this made the whole process very comfortable. Great purchase (www.vevor.com or www.vevor.ca)."

John Jenkins, Brunswick, Mo.: "We're pleased we purchased a 2020 **Ford F-150** pickup. It gets 25 mpg on the highway."

"In 2023, we purchased a **Massey Ferguson 2317** tractor with hydrostat. It's ideal for light-duty farm chores."

Mark Zaharia, Cummings, N.D.: "My worst buy is my **LeafFilter** gutter protection system. It was very expensive, so I figured it must be good. The system is probably okay, but the installation on my house was terrible. The installer lifted the downspouts out of the gutters and pinched my gutter heat cable behind their C channel. I worked 10 hrs. to put the downspouts back into the gutters and rescue my heat cable. The company wouldn't reimburse me any money. They did send a service guy out to seal the ends and seams. The system holds fresh snow, so when any melting occurs, the water drips off the front edge of the gutters, which sometimes causes ice on the driveway."

Michael S. Wilson, Mill Spring, N.C.: "My **Priefert** squeeze chute works very well. I've never missed a calf. It's great for a one-man operation."

Michael had a poor experience with the **Craftsman** brushless tools he purchased at Lowe's. "The battery wouldn't charge, so I took it back to Lowe's a week later. They said they don't honor the tool that had a 3-year guarantee even though it was only a week after purchase. They said I'd have to call Craftsman as they don't do replacements, even if it's the next day. I don't recommend buying tools at Lowe's."

Dale Orman, Jerseyville, Ill.: Dale is a fan of his **Toyota** 2012 hybrid Prius and 2016 and 2023 hybrid RAV4s. "They've never used oil or needed brake pads. The 2012 and 2016 are both high mileage vehicles."

Gerald Meyer, Lyndon Station, Wis.: "My 2022 **Deere 2025R** tractor with loader and backhoe is a good machine. It's handy and easy to get around."

George Yagler, Mount Calvary, Wis.: "I purchased a used **Kubota L275 4x4** subcompact over 10 years ago. It's very dependable and easy to fix when needed. I also bought an L3560, which is also very dependable. Kubota tractors are tough, dependable, and easy to work on. Parts are easy to find."

Larry Harvey, Macon, Mo.: Larry's the satisfied owner of a 2021 **Precision Manufacturing** Add A Grapple model 112200 (www.precisionmfg.com; ph 800-759-4159). It installs on the bucket of a loader. "It was easy to install on my **Massey Ferguson 1532** (also a best buy). It has two grapples that open to 33 in. It picks up brush piles with ease as well as logs, stumps, and almost anything that fits. It's very well made, and I've had no problems with it. I've hauled a lot of wood and brush. We burn wood, and

Best Buy Salt Remover

Jim Deardorff, Chillicothe, Mo.: "I use **Salts Gone** (www.saltsgone.com; ph 832-242-1147) to wash my car and trucks. I can also use it to remove road salt from concrete pads."

"We've had a rough winter this year, and no doubt cars and trucks will experience a higher rate of rust due to salt used on the roads. Car washes may not be effective for removing road salts, especially on older vehicles."

"**Salts Gone** removes salt and brine residues and leaves a protective barrier to prevent new salt from attacking the surface. It works by bonding itself to the sodium and chlorine in salt, which breaks their bond."

"It was created as an environmentally friendly surface preparation for cleaning salts off industrial projects like offshore platforms, ships, etc., so that paint could be applied. It has been used in automotive and aerospace industries in addition to marine. It's non-toxic, non-hazardous, and biodegradable."

"It's available in a quart jug, ready to use with a hose-end sprayer, as well as by the gallon, 5-gal. pail and in bulk. You can even



Salts Gone is non-toxic, non-hazardous and biodegradable.

get it as wipes.

"I just mix **Salts Gone** with water at a 1:100 ratio. Usually, 1 gal. will wash three or four cars or trucks. It doesn't need to be rinsed off, but if you don't, it'll leave water spots."

Best Buy UV Light



Hydraulic, engine, and transmission oil as well as antifreeze all fluoresce under UV light.

Jim Deardorff, Chillicothe, Mo.: "Handheld black lights like the high-intensity **uvBeast** light are a best buy for anyone concerned about leaks (www.uvbeast.com). Hydraulic and engine oil, as well as other fluids like transmission oil and antifreeze, all fluoresce under a black light. If there's oil in stress cracks, it shows up as well. The black light is also good for checking caulk and sealant effectiveness."

it's saved us many hours of work. Worth every penny!"

On the worst buy side is a 2021 **Husqvarna Z560X** zero-turn mower with a **Yamaha MX825V** engine. "The engine is very hard to start. I took it back to the dealer twice with no change. It won't start well hot or cold. It also wants to die when you turn and go up a hill. The mower deck digs into the ground as the front wheels on the front of the deck are mounted too far in. The mower seems to be made to mow only on level ground (no hills or uneven ground). Also, it's uncomfortable to use."



Ervin Schimpf, Falcon, Colo.: "I have three best buys. I bought my 1951 **Farmall Cub 37** years ago. The engine was overhauled just before I bought it. Other than replacing the front crankshaft seal and repairing a cracked hydraulic valve housing, it has performed flawlessly all these years."

"I use mine when repainting equipment. I use a soy-based pre-cleaner that produces a natural bioluminescence. However, I can also mix in a fluorescing additive to make the effect brighter. If dirt or grease remains, it stands out under the UV light."

"If the surface has truly been cleaned, it won't rust for hundreds of hours, even without fresh paint. I recommend my farmer customers apply **Permanon** (another best buy) immediately after cleaning to extend cleaning performance (www.permanonfinishes.com; ph 800-288-3346). It also reduces future cleaning expenses."

"Our local elevator uses black lights to check for aflatoxin. With the **uvBeast**, you can go out in daylight and check. It's also good for checking for mouse and pet urine."

"The **uvBeast** lights come in a range of models. I use the 365NM UVx4. It has a high-performance filter that blocks out visible light and allows the UV light to pass through. It costs about \$79 and is well worth it."

"I used it to level out 13 dump trucks of base material for my new shop as well as backfilling foundations, grading my driveway, and plowing snow each year. I've repainted it twice over the years, and it still looks new. They don't make them like that anymore. It's a great little tractor."

"My next best buy is **Seal Lube**. I used it in the engine of an older car that had left an oil spot about 2 ft. in diameter in my driveway. It not only stopped the leak, but it has not leaked in the 2 or 3 years since."

"Finally, I like a 6-in. mini chain saw they advertise on TV and Amazon. It sells for around \$50. It comes with a case, saw, extra chain, charger, and two batteries. It clears brush and prunes branches up to 4-in. It's a valuable tool to have in a tool kit."

Merrill Smith, Deer Park, Wash.: "I bought a **Craftsman 26-in.** snowblower and it's excellent. It starts every time and runs a long time on a small amount of fuel. It has track drive, so it never gets stuck, and the two-stage snow blower shoots snow 20 to 30 ft."

On the worst buy side is a **Worx** weed trimmer. "The battery lasted only two charges and went dead. The enclosed charger won't revive it. A new battery is as much as the whole unit."