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great pleasure out of reading it and getting ideas for their shops."

Celestia Babcock, Wash.: "I like using homemade livestock feeders made from IBC containers. They're a good size, have a draining floor, are lightweight, have a frame that's easily customized, are easy to keep clean, and the plastic cube ends were made into tops. Their tops latch on nicely with no special effort or design. Animals don't get tangled or stuck in them."

Celestia finds short-based bunk feeders with short hay racks of any year or brand to be worst buys. "I have to drill drainage holes into them. The bottom of the hay rack is such a distance from the curved feeder that goats can climb in to sleep, then get stuck when they tuck their legs up under them. I got a loose tooth and a concussion from a goat flailing when I was helping him get out. I made a wire divider that connected from the bottom of the feeder through the plastic bunk. I haven't had a problem since."

James Wright, Green Cove Springs, Fla.: "I'm retired and have quite a few battery-powered tools. I'm old, but not ready to throw in the towel. Milwaukee, by far, is the best. My 18-volt chainsaw is my favorite. My 12-volt saw is also great, but it's a problem for my 77-year-old hands. My RIDGID tools are also great and less expensive. Best of all, they have a lifetime guarantee. When a few of the batteries that I'd purchased with the tools died, RIDGID replaced them. Bottom line, I'd choose Milwaukee for earning a living and RIDGID for homeowners and lighter-duty uses."

John Hubbard, Wilderville, Ore.: "I'm a big fan of Ritz crackers. My only problem is that unless you have a sharp knife in your pocket, you'll never get the package open."



Bruce Porkka, Atlantic Mine, Mich.: "My made in the U.S. Quikpoint electric mortar gun performed without flaw on cracks on barn foundation walls (www.quikpoint.com; ph 800-368-2292). I was able to shoot mortar into rock wall cracks of various depths and widths. I used a 2Ah battery with a drill driver for almost a full day of mortaring with S mortar. It's a great invention with unbelievable performance. The mortar gun came complete with various tip sizes, tools and a loading scoop."

On the negative side is Bruce's DeWalt electric grease gun. "It has a bypass issue with the rubber push seal on the grease barrel. It wants to bypass the grease to the spring end of the grease barrel. A new seal is priced too high. I was able to flip the seal to slow the leakage, but it's not designed to be flipped on my model."

Richard Zacher, Lincoln, N.D.: Richard has had a poor experience with Hobart plasma cutters. "I bought a 2025 model; it cut only 3 ft. and quit. I also had a 2021 model that I bought at auction, but it didn't work at all. I threw them both away."

Sigurd Grindheim, Ojibwa, Wis.: "I've had a Stihl (FS46) weed eater for 10 years. It's had no repairs and starts all the time. Good machine."



Everett Kauffman, Carbondale, Ill.: "I'm pleased with my EZ-Start battery jumper. It uses DeWalt, Milwaukee or Makita 20-volt 5Ah or larger batteries. It's very compact and lightweight. I used it to start an 80-hp tractor with a dead battery. It started right up. It works well on lawn mowers or just about any small to mid-size engine."

"I use my DeWalt air inflator quite a bit. It also uses a 20-volt battery. Just hook it up to a flat tire, set for the desired psi, do something else, come back, and the tire is ready to go. It'll even inflate small rear tractor tires."

John Wint, Pittsford, N.Y.: "My best buy is my Country Clipper Charger 52-in. zero-turn mower with Kawasaki engine that I bought new in 2021. I've had over 200 hrs. of trouble-free mowing. The lift-up mowing deck makes blade changes and cleaning easy. The suspension seat is quite comfortable. I ordered it with joystick steering, and I'm so glad I did. It's super fun to mow now."

"It's super fun to mow now."

John is displeased with his 10-ft. by 17-ft. Harbor Freight portable car canopy. "The frames have too big a spread between them, so rain and snow get too heavy and rip out the fabric. I installed extra rafters and purchased a replacement cover. Now the sun has quickly deteriorated the new cover. Just no quality."

Derrel Cook, Lebanon, Mo.: Derrel is the satisfied owner of a 2019 Gravely ZT HD mower. "I've only done routine maintenance. It sits all winter and turns over on the first try in the spring. It still has the original battery."

He's unhappy with his Everstart battery for a 4-wheeler. "They have a 90-day warranty, and the battery lasted 100 days. No more Everstart batteries."

Tom Chenal, Morganville, N.J.: Tom nominates his 2025 Grasshopper PowerFold 3661 front-mount mower deck as a best buy. "I have a 1999 Grasshopper 725 mower. After 26 years, the original deck had lost so much steel that it couldn't really be repatched. So, I bought a new PowerFold 3661 deck that could easily replace the original."

"Some minor electrical modifications were required for the PowerFold actuator. Everything necessary was supplied with the purchase, so I installed it myself. Fantastic! I get excellent, smooth, even cuts, and the PowerFold makes deck height adjustment very easy. The biggest benefit is the ability to effortlessly lift the deck up to a 70-degree (or so) angle to allow for cleaning. Scrape or wash the underside, let it dry, and then spray with WD-40. The deck will outlast me."

Laurie DeMare, Sequim, Wash.: Laurie is the proud owner of Milwaukee 12-volt pruning shears (number 2534-20) and a 12-volt 6-in. pruning saw (number 2527-20). "We've used both of these battery-operated pruning tools to do extensive pruning of fruit trees and evergreens. Both tools have performed beyond expectations. They're solidly built and easy to handle for a 67-year-

Best Buy Bug Remover

Jeff Prose, Northfield, Minn.: "I drive several hundred miles a week for work and a lot more delivering kids to games. My windshields continually get bug-splattered and have to be cleaned every couple of days. My go-to remedy for removing splattered bugs, even those dried on, is Bugs B Gone from Sea Foam (www.seafoamworks.com; ph 800-536-4812).

"I spray the solution on the windshield, let it soak for about a minute and then wash the windshield. It's unbelievable how well it works to get the windshield clean as new; I hardly need to scrub at all."

"Bugs B Gone also cleans bug splatter from bumpers, headlights, mirrors, the front of the hood and the grill. Just spray it on, let it rest for a minute or two, then wash it off with clean water."

"Bugs B Gone is a water-based solution that doesn't contain any harsh chemicals or odors. It's safe on any surface and doesn't leave a film or haze. Although the name says it cleans away bugs, I also use it to remove brake dust, exhaust soot and general grime from vehicles. It'll also work great on campers, RVs, boats, motorcycles, golf carts and lawn equipment."

old woman. The long-lasting batteries (sold separately) get the job done. The shears have two settings to select from, depending on the size of the branches you're cutting. I highly recommend these products."

Robert Hisler, Woolstock, Iowa: "My Worx 14-in. electric chainsaw is my worst buy. I bought it in May 2024 and only used it once. The automatic oiler doesn't work, and it leaks out when not in use. Also, the chain tightener doesn't work. The chain won't stay on. Now it just sits on a junk pile."

Douglas Drake, Aledo, Ill.: Douglas likes his 2024 AWD Ford Maverick pickup. "It runs well, is comfortable to ride in, and gets 28 mpg. It was about half the price of a full-size crew cab pickup."

"My 2023 Honda Pioneer 700 side by side is loud, low on power, slow and doesn't have enough leg room."

John Kramer, Hamlin, Iowa: John is impressed with his DeWalt drivers. "My 20-volt impact drives screws with ease and I can use it a long time with one battery. My 1/2-in. impact driver for sockets has more force to remove lug nuts and blades on the mower than I thought it would. It has three power settings."

A Hecasa seat bottom cushion for the bench seat in his Gator qualifies as a worst buy for John. "It wore out in less than 6 mos. It started ripping at the seams and edges. The foam cushion became very compressed in a short period of time. I had to buy a new seat cover from Deere."

Ronald Michael, Independence, Iowa: "I've had three Deere X390 garden tractors. They've all worked great. I really like the power steering; they're easy to drive and operate."

Bethi Hendrickson, Danville, Pa.: Bethi is pleased with her 2025 Kioti K9 UTV. "I love the ability to go anywhere on our farm. It's great for carrying tools to work anywhere when needed. I appreciate that it sits three. I love the heat on cold winter days and will soon try the A.C."

Norman Kaiser, Massena, Iowa: "I've received FARM SHOW Magazine for more than 40 years now. I still have many of those older issues. Now that I'm in my 80s, I seem to have worn out my knees. The doctors tell me, 'bone on bone, replace joints.'"

"Well, I remembered reading about



Bugs B Gone is a water-based solution that doesn't contain any harsh chemicals or odors. It's safe on any surface and doesn't leave a film or haze.

"I've tried a lot of specialized glass cleaners over the years to clean off the bugs, but nothing comes close to Bugs B Gone. It's available at gas stations, convenience stores and automotive parts stores. If you're going to use it on a lot of equipment, buy a 1-gal. jug and fill your own spray bottle; that's more economical than always buying the small bottles."

Steuart's Pain Relief cream several years ago in FARM SHOW, so I gave it a try. I know it probably didn't fix my knees, but it sure did relieve the pain and has allowed me to carry on with farm chores for the past three or four years. I can always tell if I've forgotten an application.

"Also, I've been quite happy with my DeWalt 12-in. 20-volt electric chainsaw. It's lightweight, has good power, and it starts in an instant every time. I get about 20 min. of cutting time on each battery charge. By that time, I'm ready to rest. I do have two batteries. I still have my 16-in. gas-powered saw, which runs well, but I seldom use it."



Leonard Wise, Seneca Falls, N.Y.: Leonard likes his Streamlight MicroStream penlight, which he bought in 2024. "It has a reversible clip for a quick cap light, and when it gets dim, pull down the cover and charge it up. They cost approximately \$40, and you have a lifetime warranty. If the clip or something breaks, return it to the place of purchase, and they'll take care of you."

On the worst buy side are Nunn Bush slip-on shoes. "After three weeks of daily wear, the sole was nearly ripped off the shoe. I say they weren't worth the discount price of \$40."

Earl Kalkwarf, Belmond, Iowa: "I've had the best results with my Worx tools (weed eater and trimmer, small vac and cordless upright vac, leaf blowers and 40-volt snowblower). The power share that lets you use more than one battery is great."

Robbie Schrock, Sugar Creek, Ohio: "I'm very happy with my \$20 NEBO Slim Mini pocketlight (www.nebo.acgbrands.com/en_US; ph 800-255-6061). It's small (4 in. by 1 in. by 3/8 in.), light and bright. It came with a pocket clip, a magnetic base and a rechargeable battery."