

Farmers Nominate Best & Worst Buys

John Cole, Canby, Minn.: John nominates his **Ford 960** tractor as a best buy. "Even at its age, it's wonderful to mow hay with."

"Buying an electric pole saw has turned out to be one of my better buys. I can trim tree branches without balancing on a ladder, so it's safer and I get more trimming done. My spouse is also more willing to use it."

James D. Lee, Gallatin, Mo.: "I'm an old guy with back problems and can't handle a chainsaw. After reading a glowing online article about a **WoodRanger** mini chainsaw, I ordered one. I received it, and it looked good, with two batteries and a charger. The only problem was that it wouldn't run. It was completely dead. I sent it back. That was a year ago, and I still haven't received a response. Clearly, the WoodRanger is my worst buy ever."

Thomas Suh, Little River, S.C.: "I purchased an electric **Westinghouse** pressure washer after being impressed by the performance of the one I borrowed from a neighbor. I was using my ePX3500 to wash my pool for the first time and wasn't paying attention when I caused it to fall into the pool."

"I quickly unplugged it, pulled it out of the pool, drained it for a few minutes, and let it dry. I plugged it back in, started washing again, and worked for another 4 hrs. with no problems. Although I don't recommend testing it this way, I was very impressed that it still works fine. It's very good for residential work like cleaning walkways, fences, etc. I call this a best buy."

Dale B. Rivers, Dickinson Center, N.Y.: "My worst buy was my 2023 **Nissan Titan** truck. The brakes wore out at 12,000 miles and weren't covered under warranty. But my two previous Titans went beyond 60,000 miles."



Susan L. Hiatt, Mentor, Ohio: "My best buy is a **Commercial Electric** remote control plug I bought at Home Depot. It has an impressive remote range, and I like that it can control a 1/3-hp motor. I use it to control a pump for irrigation and watering, which saves me from walking back and forth to turn the pump on or off."

Mike Brose, Valley Falls, Kan.: Mike is impressed with his **Can-Am** Defender side-by-side UTV. "I looked at all the brands and found that Can-Am had the most storage compartments for tools and fencing supplies. The machine is reliable and powerful. I'm very satisfied."

"But I haven't been satisfied with Chicago Electric tools from **Harbor Freight**. They're very underpowered."

George Yaple, Saint Croix Falls, Wis.: "My **Ariens** and **Husqvarna** 42-in. mowers have provided me with many years of good service."

"The 20-volt batteries in my **Black & Decker** drills, chainsaw and saber saw last a long time and charge well."

Bradley Sauer, Sugar Grove, Ill.: "After selling the farm, I had no use for my full-size **Kubota** or 8-ft snowblower. After seeing a video of the **Bobcat** Toolcat, I realized it

was what I needed. It has all the attachments I'll ever need, and it takes 2 min. to change them. If the attachment has hydraulic hoses, it takes 3 min., and that's the only time you need to get out of the cab. With a 1/4-mile driveway to plow in the winter and 20 acres to maintain, it's the perfect tractor for me."

B.P.E., Ill.: "My **Milwaukee** 10-in. telescoping pole saw operates smoothly and has good reach and battery life."

"I bought a used 1968 **Deere** 3020 diesel. I probably paid more than it sold for when it was new, but I got a better tractor than anything else I could buy for the same price."

Glenn D. Mewes, Blue Springs, Neb.: "I'm 92 years old, and one of the best buys for me is the **FARM SHOW**."

Glenn Eash, Howe, Ind.: "My best buys have been **DeWalt** and **Milwaukee** tools. Both brands work great."



Christine Deichler, Norwalk, Wis.: "The best vacuum I've ever bought is my **Quantum X**. When the motor burned out at 4 1/2 years, the company was very good and stood behind its product. I would buy another in a heartbeat. It has a lot of power and a water filter. I love it."

Emil Janssen, Pahrump, Nev.: "At 97 years old, I really like my 2026 **Chevy** Blazer because the extra door handle helps me stabilize as I get in and out of the car."

John Damour, Minot, Maine: "Recently, the best product I've purchased is a **Husqvarna** battery-operated pole saw. It charges easily and lasts a long time. By contrast, my gas-powered Echo pole saw didn't start right from the first day and eventually needed a new carburetor. I gave it to my neighbor."

Robert Knight, Leetonia, Ohio: "My **Red Wing** work shoes are well made, and my feet and back don't hurt after a long day. I've worn this brand for years and will wear nothing else."

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Stuart Hall, Yonkers, N.Y.: "My Moen kitchen faucet is great, but they had no instructions unless you have a phone."

Louis R. Langlois, Limerick, Maine: "My **Milwaukee** tools are my best buys. I'm adding to my collection all the time. My latest purchase was the hedge trimmer. One of my batteries wasn't charging fully. I spoke with a company rep and learned it was out of warranty. He still replaced my battery at no charge. Excellent customer service."



Photo courtesy of Grain & Protein Technologies

GrainVue system automatically handles rehydration and provides bin stats to a cell phone.

Bin System Rehydrates Harvested Beans

Owen Gohlke, Belle Plaine, Minn.: Gohlke says the **GrainVue** aeration and monitoring system he installed in his soybean storage bin in 2024 increased gross revenue from those beans by nearly \$7,000 (www.grainsystems.com/na/en). The system allowed him to rehydrate beans he'd harvested at 8.8% moisture to about 12.8%, resulting in an additional 700 bushels sold because of the added moisture weight.

The GSI system adds moisture from ambient air over time, similar to heavy dew

or rain that adds moisture to unharvested beans in a field. Gohlke says the GrainVue system automatically handles rehydration and provides bin statistics on his phone, laptop and desktop computer. The system starts rehydration when the stored beans' moisture content is low and outdoor relative humidity is high. Circulating fans start or stop automatically in response to changing weather conditions or when the target moisture levels in the bin are reached.

FARM SHOW Word Search

Z B F A J G A C H W G S X R L N Z P J U
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SILAGE

FARROWER

SKIDSTEER

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PASTURE

DRILLING

CALF

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