

Continued from previous page

action lawsuit for not releasing key codes. You had to go to a dealer to get a replacement key that cost \$800. The turbocharger has a faulty wastegate that I can't get parts for, and a new turbocharger costs \$1,100. So at this point I have a car sitting in my driveway with a good running diesel engine that won't go anywhere."

Reinhard Grenz, Trapper Creek, Alaska: "Our 2011 Oreck vacuum cleaner makes it a joy to clean house, and as a result I have to fight my wife for it. But because she's really nice I still let her use it."

"My Kubota L3600 tractor always starts right up and runs well. It uses a minimal amount of fuel and has about 2,300 hours on it."

Charles E. Hawkins, Austin, Texas: Charles is a believer in Shell Rotella T-6 5W-40 synthetic diesel motor oil. "Motors that use this oil never fail, and the vehicle's tail pipes stay clean inside. I buy this product at Wal-Mart."

Ernest A. Sjuts, Urbane, Ill.: "This is the quietest and smoothest vehicle we've ever owned," says Ernest about his 2011 Ford Edge. "It turns short, is fuel efficient, and easy to enter and exit. Also, the driver has a great view."

Richard Smith, Piketon, Ohio: "It takes me back and forth to work in all kinds of weather," says Richard, pleased with his 1980 Ford F-100 pickup with about 55,000 miles on it. "This pickup provides reliable transportation that shade-tree mechanics can appreciate, and parts for it are cheap. It has required only routine maintenance."

Cora Berg, Yacolt, Wash.: "I've used Super Clean degreasing product for years to remove thick grease on several restoration projects, including my 1956 Farmall (ph 800 501-1702; www.superclean.com). It comes in a spray bottle. You just squirt it on and the grease dissolves. To get rid of heavier coats of grease I use a brush and make several applications. It leaves everything spotless and is biodegradable. Just rinse with water."

Brent Strickland, Louisburg, N.C.: Brent's disappointed with his 2003 Ford F-550 pickup equipped with a 6.0-liter diesel engine. "The engine goes down often and always costs \$1,500 to \$2,000 to fix even when the problems are minor. Now it needs a new automatic transmission, even though it has only about 100,000 miles on it. This pickup has been a \$30,000 disappointment."

Brad Whitaker, Linneus, Mo.: Brad installed an Edge CS engine tuner on his 2005 Chevrolet 2500 heavy duty, 4-WD pickup equipped with a Duramax engine (ph 888 360-3343; www.edgeproducts.com). He also installed a new 4-in. exhaust and cold

equipped with a Cummins diesel engine and 5-speed transmission. It has about 235,000 miles on it. "This pickup is easy to maintain and the fuel efficiency keeps improving the more I drive it. I recently put more than 2,000 miles on it hauling a tractor from Idaho to Nebraska, and it averaged 16 mpg."

Tim Rowe, Churchville, N.Y.: "This tractor has worked great without requiring any major repairs," says Tim about his 2001 Deere 5410. "I use it to mow, bale hay and clean my barn."

John Houston, Davidsonville, Md.: "I'm well pleased with my Hud-Son Oscar Series 328 sawmill (ph 800 765-7297; www.hudson.com). A local dealer demonstrated it for me and answered any questions that I had."

Vernon Noell, Westlake Village, Calif.: Vernon's impressed with his Voltman rebuilt battery pack (ph 419 526-1570; www.voltmanbatteries.com). The company says that if you have a rechargeable power tool battery pack that's gone bad, they can rebuild it. "The battery pack they rebuilt for me works better than the original," says Noell.

He's happy with the inflatable Air Dancer he uses as a moving scarecrow to keep birds away (ph 866 586-3888; www.lookourway.com). Air Dancers consist of a 20-ft. tall tube made of high strength polyamide nylon silk that flaps back and forth, powered by a 1 hp industrial fan.

Franklin Russell, Speedwell, Tenn.: "The four Kumho Solus KR21 tires I bought for my pickup from an online tire site called The Tire Rack are my worst buy. Before I could put 8,000 miles on them, 3 of the tires were so out of round and wobbly that I couldn't even use them. The tires were warranted against defects in workmanship and materials for 6 years. They promised free replacement for the first 2/32 in. of tread wear, and then pro-rated from there to the final 2/32 in. of tread. However, the company said that since I had owned the tires for 2 years they were no longer under warranty."

Joe Fitzgerald, Barling, Ark.: "During the last 40 years I've purchased 4 Cub Cadet lawn tractors equipped with horizontal shaft engines with 6 to 18 hp, and all are still running. Three are used regularly on my 1 1/2-acre lawn and 2 acres of an adjoining property. I strongly recommend these tractors to anyone."

Jack Willis, Lind, Wash.: Jack's impressed with his 2007 Sears Craftsman riding mower equipped with a 42-in. deck and 18 hp Briggs & Stratton engine. "I've worked the heck out of this mower but it just keeps on running. We live on 1 1/2 acres in dryland wheat country and mow everything on it, even going right over gopher mounds. I change the blades twice a year and all is good. It was a great buy at \$999."

Bill Johnson, APO, AE: Bill's the satisfied owner of a 16 by 20-ft. equipment shed he bought from Carolina Carports Inc. (ph 800 670-4262; www.carolinacarportsinc.com). "Their online custom ordering process is simple and you can see exactly what it will cost as you add or subtract features. The building was delivered on time and erected by a professional crew. It's built solid and is weathertight. I'm happy with it."

Dennis C. Coulter, Chaplin, Ky.: "This is the worst new vehicle I've ever owned," says Dennis about his 2006 Dodge Ram 1500 2-WD pickup. "At about 30,000 miles the rear end started locking up whenever I turned from a stop, and at about 32,000 miles the CD player quit working. Then at about 35,000 miles the right front wheel bearing went out. The dealer wouldn't fix any of these problems and said they were all due to normal wear and tear. At about 50,000 miles the recirculate door in the heater box broke."

"Worst Buy" 1-Row Garden Seeder

By Jim Ruen, Contributing Editor

The Lambert 1-row garden seeder looked great on paper. In my garden, it just didn't measure up.

When I wrote up a description of the Lambert All-In-One Garden Row Seeder in the last issue (Vol. 36, No. 2), I was impressed with its multiple plates, row marker and fertilizer spreader. We ordered one and put it to the test in freshly tilled garden soil.

Results were less than positive. The instructions were inadequate with virtually no diagrams except for the assembly schematic and a photo on the cover. Plastic seed plates were helpfully labeled for seed type. However, only two out of 6 indicated what row spacing could be expected with each plate. Spacing was indicated for medium peas and beans, but not for small peas or large beans.

Small scoops around the circumference of the plate are intended to grab a seed and lift it half way up the seed hopper's side to an outlet for a tube that drops the seed behind an opener shoe.

"While it was hard to see what actually dropped down the tube, it was clear to see that multiple seeds were often carried up to the outlet. Other times, seeds slipped between the plate and the side wall. We tried to plant two packets of carrot seed and the seed plate barely dipped into the pile.

After failing to determine how many seeds made it to the row, the test was moved to a concrete driveway. An attempt was made to drop sunflower seeds. While the seed plate suggested it would produce a 9-in. spacing, the seeder actually delivered a dozen or more seeds per linear foot.

A row marker seemed like a handy attachment. However, when positioned as shown in promotional pictures, it caught



After writing an article for the last issue of FARM SHOW, Jim Ruen bought a 1-row Lambert All-In-One Garden Row Seeder. He was disappointed with its performance.

and dug into the soil, causing a problem.

One feature that worked as suggested was the fertilizer hopper. It could be adjusted for 1, 2 or 3-lb. per 100 ft. application rates. When checked on the concrete driveway, it delivered within an ounce of a pound per 100-ft.

A very real problem with the unit was the inability to back up...at all. Once the seed plate was in place, backing up caused it to come loose. This required seed to be removed from the hopper before the plate could be reinstalled. While the directions did include a warning to this effect, no mention of it was made in promotional materials.

Another apparent feature was a removable plastic plug in the seed hopper. Suggested as an easy way to empty the seed hopper, the instructions said push in on the center. However, after removal the first time, the soft plastic edge had been deformed and could not be replaced.

While the All-In-One looked good, actual use was a disappointment.

Anthony Indiek, Spearville, Kansas: Anthony's disappointed with his Bosch front load clothes washing machine. "The back part of the machine's center tub deteriorated and broke - it looked like something had eaten the metal. The machine came with a 2-year warranty but was 2 years and 3 months old when this problem happened. It would have cost more than \$600 to repair, so instead I bought a new washing machine of a different brand. The company did give me a \$250 adjustment."

Marvin W. Dechant, Ness City, Kansas: "Three years ago I bought a Sears Craftsman 20 hp lawn tractor equipped with electric start and an automatic transmission. The engine would often flood, and I had to keep buying spark plugs and blowing gas out the spark plug hole. A pair of wires at the bottom of the carburetor are supposed to automatically adjust the gas flow, but it wasn't working. I bought a new carburetor but it didn't help. I finally installed a shutoff valve in the fuel line between the fuel tank and the carburetor, which lets me adjust the gas flow by hand."

LeRoy Humbert, Genoa, Ohio: "My 2006 Deere 4520 compact utility tractor is my worst buy. The steering locked up and it took 3 years for the company to fix the problem."

Chris Scigliano, Leeds, N. Dak.: A 1987 Kubota L2550 30 hp tractor equipped with a front-end loader and backhoe rates as Chris's "best buy." "I bought this tractor used with less than 300 hours, and now after many thousands of hours it still works perfect. It has required only oil and filter changes and 2 sets of new tires. It starts instantly and has plenty of power."

James Konechne, Kimball, S. Dak.: "I've used several different disks in my life but this is the best ever," says James about his Case IH RXM 340 tandem disk. "Depth adjustment is a simple matter of turning a crank. The implement works at the same depth all across the field."

"My Silencer hydraulic chute with overhead scale makes working cattle a much easier job (ph 308 536-2369; www.silencerchutes.com).

"My 2008 Vermeer 605M round baler may be the heaviest baler ever built, but the bearings on it were junk. We could hardly go to the field without a bearing going out. We finally traded it for a different model."

Ty Witt, Lamar, Colo.: "I like my Boxer 320 mini stand-on skid loader so much that I might have to put it in my will (ph 800 654-6433; www.boxerequipment.com). I bought this machine for cleaning out horse stalls which have 40-in. wide doors, and it has been far more useful than we ever imagined. I even use it to carry large square bales that we feed to our calves whenever our big skid loader or tractor is down. It has been a real back saver."

"I like using it to help our neighbors out as well. People are amazed that a stand-on skid loader the size of an ATV can do the job of a full-size payload. We currently have a set of pallet forks and a bucket for it, but we plan on buying a few more of the 50 available attachments for it such as a tiller and posthole digger. I'd recommend this unit to anyone."

James Snyder, Norton, Ohio: James is the satisfied owner of a 1999 Toro Wheel Horse 522XI garden tractor equipped with a 48-in. recycler deck. "It still amazes me how well this mower grinds up yard waste. It not only

"We experienced a 2 to 4 mpg improvement in fuel efficiency and a lot more power."

air intake. The CS tuner consists of an in-cab controller, monitor and digital gauge display with a full-color, high-resolution screen.

"We liked the pickup but were disappointed with the fuel efficiency. Then we talked to a local service manager and he recommended the Edge tuner and to upgrade the exhaust and cold air intake. We experienced a 2 to 4 mpg improvement in fuel efficiency and a lot more power."

Ron Kraemer, Norfolk, Neb.: "It pulls my 35-ft. fifth wheel camper and 22-ft. gooseneck flatbed trailer with ease," says Ron about his 1996 Dodge dually pickup