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walk slower. Thin grass, walk faster.”

Andy Lysaght, Napier, New Zealand: “In 2010 we bought a 1994 Case Magnum 7220 tractor used with about 10,500 hrs. on it. It had been worked hard by the original owner, who was a contractor. At about 15,500 hrs. we rebuilt the engine and transmission.

“This tractor has been worth every cent we paid for it. If we want more power we shut the tractor down, reset the fuel screw, and 10

“I wish they made new high horsepower tractors like this!”

min. later we’re back in action and up 2 gears, with a 6 percent increase in fuel usage and a 30 percent increase in productivity. The job takes only 10 min. in the field with 3 tools. Try to do that with modern tractors and see what it costs.

“The tractor now has about 17,000 hrs. on it, but is more than able to keep working. I had green blood in me until I bought this old tractor. It’s not full of wires and computer plugs, so if we have a problem we can find it and fix it. I wish they made new high horsepower tractors like this.”

Henry G. Fojtik, Jourdanton, Texas: Henry bought an Eco-Tector grille to protect the EcoBoost Turbo Intake on his Ford F-150 pickup (ph 440 255-4966). The grille is fabricated from 5/16-in., 304 stainless steel (see Vol. 38, No. 2).

“Now my wife and I don’t have to worry about birds, small animals or miscellaneous



trash getting into the pickup’s intake system and causing damage. It installs easily using existing tabs on the pickup’s front grille. My wife installed it in less than 5 min. The workmanship is superior. With this grille we don’t have that ugly hole in front to look at. It looks sharp.”

Dominick J. Pellegrin, Cherry Valley, Calif.: “My 2004 Dodge 1-ton pickup equipped with a Cummins diesel engine is the best pickup I’ve ever owned. I’ve used it to pull a 34-ft. fifth wheel trailer and the truck drives like the trailer isn’t even there and still gets 16 mpg. This pickup also has a comfortable ride.”

Rodney Juntunen, Esko, Minn.: “I bought my 1952 Ferguson TO30 tractor used 30 years ago along with a plow, disk harrow, front-end loader, and pony grader. I use the tractor to skid all my firewood in the fall and to plow snow. It has had only one tune-up in 30 years.”

Arden Johnson, Scandia, Minn.: “My DeWalt cordless 1/2-in. impact wrench was an impulse purchase, and I wasn’t sure how much I would use it. However, I found it to be surprisingly powerful and very convenient. I use it for many smaller jobs when power isn’t available.

“My Dolmar 6400 chainsaw is a large 4 1/2 hp frame saw that works great for felling

large trees. However, for all around use I prefer my Dolmar 5100. It’s a midsize 3.8 hp high speed saw that’s ideal for limbing and felling everything but large trees.

“My Jonserud chainsaw filing guide does an excellent job of sharpening by hand, without removing excess material like power band units do. It has been years – and many cords of wood – since I’ve had a chain sharpened any other way.”

Norman Luce, Anson, Maine: “I find that Steuart’s Pain Formula really works for relieving joint and muscle pain (ph 877 210-9664; www.steuartlaboratories.com). I read about it in the 2014 Best of FARM SHOW.”

David Montalbano, Pollok, Texas: David bought a 2003 Kubota M4900 tractor equipped with a front-end loader used in 2005 with about 300 hrs. on it. “Now it has about 1,400 hrs. and still runs great. It has a lot of power and a smooth shifting transmission. We use the loader with a grapple fork to clear trees and cut brush. After a hurricane hit we used the tractor to operate a pto generator for 2 weeks, 24 hrs. a day. It worked well and was fuel efficient, even under a large load.

“I like my 2009 Kubota ZG327 zero-turn riding mower equipped with a 60-in. deck. I use it to cut about 7 acres of lawn, pasture and roadside ditches. It’s powered by a 27 hp engine runs that great and is easy on fuel. The mower has a low center of gravity and is stable on ditch inclines, with good traction. Also, the engine has plenty of power when mowing thick grass in our pasture. My only complaint is that the grass discharge guard is large and located too low. I tied a rope to the guard that holds it up about 6 to 8 in., in order to discharge the cuttings over a larger area.”

E.D. Gingerich, Halsey, Ore.: “The Crescent ratcheting socket wrench we bought recently is a best buy (www.amazon.com). It works well and the company will replace it if necessary.”

Richard Baker, Grants Pass, Ore.: “I like my 2003 Kubota BX2200 4-WD tractor equipped with a hydrostatic transmission and front-end loader. I bought it with a Kubota HR3 rotavator and a 36-in. scraper box with teeth. I’ve used this tractor around my property for cleaning horse manure, mixing compost in the loader bucket, and tilling fire breaks along a fence by our road. No problems and it always starts right up, even in winter.”

Andy and Dawn Broos, Mountain Grove, Mo.: “I like my Medi-Dart pole syringe extension livestock vaccination kit (ph 888 778-7757; www.telusplanet.net/public/medidart). It’s handy and easy to use and causes much less stress on the animal.”

Glenn Wise, Elizabethtown, Penn.: Glenn’s happy with his 2001 Massey Ferguson 390 2-WD tractor. “We use this tractor all the time, yet the problems we’ve had with it can be counted on one hand.”

He’s disappointed with his Husqvarna 2-wheeled string trimmer. “In less than 10 hrs. the Briggs & Stratton engine on it lost compression. The company won’t refund my money because the problem was with the engine and not the trimmer. Another problem is that the trimmer wheels are too small and push hard. We ended up buying a Stihl model and it has performed well. It cost more but was a better buy.”

Don Peer, Roscommon, Mich.: “I’m the third owner of a 1992 Dodge 150 2-WD pickup with more than 224,000 miles on it. I love this pickup. It gets 22 mpg. Last winter I installed a pair of Cooper M&S tires on back, which make a world of difference in the winter. I can go anywhere with these severe weather-rated tires. I highly recommend



Jim Ruen, Lanesboro, Minn.: “My old 9N Ford has a badly worn hydraulic pump that requires constant readjustment of the 3-pt. hitch to keep attachments in position. A

couple of lengths of chain, quick links, and shackles took care of the problem. They let me lift the attachment higher while limiting lift-arm drop.”

them.

“My Sears cordless drill came equipped with 2 batteries. When I needed a new battery they wanted \$60 for one, which is more than I paid for the drill and batteries combined.”

Ronald Hoffman, Glen Easton, W. Va.: “It works great and is easy to operate,” says Ronald about his Massey Ferguson 1745 round baler equipped with automatic tie. “It picks hay up clean off the ground, makes tight bales, and runs quiet.”

“My 1965 Massey Ferguson 50 hasn’t failed me in almost 40 years. I wish they still made this tractor.

“My 1992 Dodge 2-WD pickup equipped with a Cummins diesel engine has more than 222,000 miles on it and still gets 22 to 25 mpg. It has required only minor repairs and always starts right up.”

Clifford Merinar, Cameron, W. Va.: “My 2010 Deere LA125 riding mower had only 168 hrs. on it when I had to replace the head and valves on the engine, as well as the bearings and shaft on the deck. I also had to replace the fuel pump after oil got sucked up in it because the valves wore out. My lady friend bought the same mower a week before I bought mine, and at 171 hrs. she had to replace the pulleys, shafts and bearings on the deck.”

Lorn Goede, Viroqua, Wis.: “I like my small Stihl chainsaw with Easy Start. It’s equipped with an additional spring between the crankshaft and the starter rope rotor, which makes starting the saw an easy job. At first my son and nephew called it a ‘girly saw’, but now it’s the first one they grab. It starts right up, cuts fast, and is lightweight and easy to operate.”

Rich Kuntz, Carson, N. Dak.: Rich bought tweezers called Uncle Bill’s Sliver Gripper (ph 800 505-8888; www.duluthtrading.com). “It’s precision-made to dig out slivers of any size, at any depth, in any part of your body. It fits on your keychain so the irritation of a sliver is short-lived. I’ve bought these tweezers for family and friends and they like them, too. Sells for less than \$10.”

Joseph H. Jasinski, Erie, Penn.: Joseph’s the satisfied owner of a 2012 Deere X720 garden tractor. “It starts easy and turns easy, and the Kawasaki V-twin overhead cam engine has plenty of power. It doesn’t slow down in tall grass or deep snow.”

Michael Stevens, Logansport, Ind.: “I bought my Grasshopper 720K zero-turn riding mower used about 10 years ago and it’s a real grass-eating machine. It has required only routine maintenance. No problems with the Kohler engine or the hydraulic drive system.”

Terry Morgel, Avon, Minn.: “I had problems with my 2012 Stihl 026 Pro chainsaw. The carburetor had to be rebuilt twice and the clutch also seized up twice. The bar turned blue for lack of chain oil, and I couldn’t adjust the oil flow. After making several trips to different dealers, I traded it in on a Husqvarna 353 Pro. We now have 3 Husqvarnas. They’re great saws.

“I bought a new Sears Craftsman 1 hp 120-volt air compressor in 1973, and I can’t imagine how many hours are on it now. I use this compressor in my shop and have also sprayed many gallons of paint with it. It still has the original V-belt. I’ve replaced the pressure switch twice and made a minor motor repair once. I change the oil and clean or replace the air filter once a year.”

Dale A. Cummins, Chattahoochee, Wash.: Dale’s impressed with his PullRite SuperGlide fifth wheel hitch (ph 574 259-1520; www.pullrite.com). “It lets me safely pull a fifth wheel trailer with my Ford F-250 Super Duty shortbed pickup. I can back the trailer into tight spots and make tight turns – theoretically up to 90 degrees – without the pickup cab and trailer meeting each other.”

Larry Nelson, Stacy, Minn.: “I’m surprised at how well my Drill Doctor performs (ph 800 418-1439; www.drilldoctor.com). Works great to restore dull bits so I can keep on working.”

Bob Schmidt, Holdingford, Minn.: “I recently bought a used 1976 Farmall 1066 tractor with cab. I know its history and that it was well taken care of and serviced regularly. I’ve put more than 500 hrs. on it. It starts and runs great and has plenty of power. The engine has never been overhauled but still uses very little oil. I bought this tractor because it’s simple to repair and doesn’t have a lot of electronics like my newer tractor.”

Jim Burch, Brush Prairie, Washington: “My best buy of all time is my 1959 Oliver 550 tractor. This tractor was well ahead of its time and performs as well as today’s newer models, but without all the electronics.”

Leon Bolinger, Stroud, Okla.: “Our 2014 Bad Boy Elite zero-turn riding mower, equipped with a 60-in. deck, has exceeded our expectations (ph 870 648-0050; www.badboymowers.com). It has a real smooth ride and a hydraulic mower deck that makes adjustments a dream. It also has a rollover bar and seat belt. This mower cuts so well that we can mow 10 acres in just a few short hours. We’d recommend this mower to anyone.”

Kevin Jacobs, West Milton, Ohio: “Several years ago I bought an engine overhaul kit for my Allis Chalmers WD 45 tractor, and when I opened everything up I