

skunks, bears, cougars, coyotes, owls and hawks and so forth.

"After a number of attacks by raccoons and owls, I installed several Nite Guards on my small acreage," says Audrey. "After a year in operation I've experienced absolutely no more problems. Living on the West Coast of Canada, I was concerned the solar-powered batteries wouldn't receive enough charge during the short, cloudy days of winter but it turned out to be a non-issue. Even after several overcast days in a row, these anti-predator lights have never let me down. They come on every evening, well before the last light has gone, and operate all night until well after dawn. I highly recommend them."

Dennis Anderson, Lake Linden, Mich.: "My 1997 Dodge Club Cab 4-WD pickup has more than 300,000 miles on it, yet in all the years I've spent only about \$400 on repairs."

Arnold Andrews, Centralia, Ont.: Arnold's impressed with the Drillmaster step drills he bought from Harbor Freight. "I do work away from my small shop, and these drills replace a lot of hole saws and drill bits without taking up much room in my toolbox. I use them a lot and they work well."

"My Harbor Freight saw sharpener works well. The flipper that stops the chain could work better, but it's not a bad unit for \$40."

Jack L. Sait, Butlerville, Ind.: Jack likes his Deere 790 tractor equipped with a 5-ft. loader. "I use it with a 6-ft. finish mower and several other attachments, and it saves a lot of work. It's a dependable tractor."

"My 1985 Chevy pickup was a lemon from the day I bought it, and I couldn't wait to get rid of it. The engine didn't have enough power to pull a trailer with a tractor loaded on it. It just seemed to be struggling all the time."

Jerry Dannen, Chariton, Iowa: "My best buy is Seallube (ph 800 434-9192; www.seallube.com). I read about this product in a recent issue of FARM SHOW and decided to try it in my Deere 2355 tractor, which was leaking oil around the seals where the 3-pt. hitch is connected to the transmission. I got tired of draining the hydraulic oil and putting in new seals."

"I thought I'd give Seallube a try and found this stuff really works. Not only did it stop the

giving me the addresses of the dealers in my area, indicating they couldn't help me."

Shirley Schuring, Mendon, Mich.: "Our best buy is our Ez Go Workhorse ST 350 utility vehicle (www.ezgo350.com). My husband Bill got it for me when I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. I use it to get myself around to do jobs in the yard, to tend to my chickens, and to ride in the woods. It has never broken down. I love it."

Calvin C. Moyers, Bardwell, Ky.: "I like our Kohler 17 kw natural gas home generator. I installed it about a year ago after a severe ice storm and wish I'd had it a long time ago. It automatically starts up after the power is off for 10 seconds. Our model has 49 hours on it. We love it."

Troy Manzey, Pipestone, Minn.: "It's a joy to operate and is the handiest tractor I've ever operated," says Troy about his 2007 Deere 5425 tractor. It's equipped with an 80 hp engine, cab, shuttleshift transmission, and 542 front-end loader. "It offers all the benefits of a larger tractor, yet can lift and handle a 6-row ridge-till cultivator with all the nimble qualities of a smaller tractor. It can turn short and isn't at all clumsy. The view from the cab is like the view from a picture window. I like this tractor better than I even thought I would."

"My 1998 4-WD Jeep Grand Cherokee is my worst buy. Although it was comfortable and handled nice, I couldn't drive it enough miles consecutively to really enjoy it. This vehicle was truly a 'nickel and dime' and was always in the shop. Finally I took it back to the guy I bought it from. I took a loss on it and gladly said good riddance."

Earl Wilcox, Table Rock, Neb.: "I like my 2007 Jazee zero turn riding mower (Country Clipper Division of Shivers Mfg., Corydon, Iowa, ph 800 344-8237; www.countryclipper.com). This mower is dependable and easy to operate, and has a tilt-up deck that makes the blades easy to service. It's also easy on fuel."

Ryan Krueger, Neshkovo, Wis.: Ryan's the satisfied owner of a Milwaukee 18-volt, ½-in. cordless drill that operates on Lithium Ion batteries. "It has a lot of power and the batteries charge quickly, in less than an hour. Also, the batteries last a long time between charges. The best part is the batteries have power indicator lights, which let me know how much power is left in the battery."

Gary Nauenburg, Cedar Rapids, Neb.: "My 2003 Yamaha 250 Bear Tracker 2-WD 4-wheeler rides and handles well. We use it every day on our farm."

"My Marlin .22 semi automatic rifle is my worst buy. The shells would jam and the gun wouldn't kick them out. I tried using all kinds of different shells, but nothing worked."

Delvin Meyer, Mission, S. Dak.: Delvin's disappointed with his Toro PowerShift 824 snowblower. "I hadn't used it more than 20 hours in light snow when the engine failed. I've always kept this machine inside a garage. I didn't need to use it the past two winters, but this winter we had snow and I needed it."

Ernest Erdmann, La Crosse, Minn.: "My 2005 New Holland Res-Cut big square baler makes nice, tight bales. It's equipped with a Harvest Tec automatic preservative applicator that works nice. With the Roto-Cut feature I can cut the crop to any length I want, from 1 ½ in. to full length. It works in any type of forage, even corn stalks. The company has made some changes on new models that should work even better."

Rick Reich, Craik, Sask.: "I bought my 1982 Deutz 4507 tractor used in 1992 and have put about 3,000 hours on it, with no breakdowns. This tractor starts great, is easy to operate, and is easy on fuel. All I've replaced are the battery and tires. It's the best tractor on our farm, new or old."



Using Hydro-Stacker vertical grow pots, Dennis Knutson is able to grow the equivalent of 5 acres of strawberries on just 1/4 acre of land.

Hydro-Stackers Help "Pick Your Own" Business Thrive

Hydro-Stacker vertical grow pots let Dennis Knutson, Newark, Ill., grow the equivalent of 5 acres of strawberries on just 1/4 acre of land.

The 4 1/2-ft. tall hydroponic planters are planted with about 15,000 strawberry plants. Yields are tremendous, and customers at the pick-your-own operation like to be able to pick berries from a standing position.

The everbearing plants Knutson grows start producing fruit in mid June and keep producing until the end of October. Best of all, the growers say the system produces a great-tasting berry, unlike many hydroponic crops that people are familiar with, like tomatoes.

Knutson and his father-in-law built a 3.3 acre pond on their farm to provide water for the berries. They add organic fertilizer and a solution to lower PH level, as favored by the berries. In the winter, they shut down the water and allow the plants to die. They replant in April. Six weeks later, they've got berries.

Knutson says this system prevents ground born diseases and insects. The pots are filled with perlite and vermiculite. Knutson says two workers can plant 15,000 plants in less than a week.

The Knutson operation is near Chicago so

"My 2009 Farm King 10-in. dia. by 60-ft. long swingaway grain auger is my worst buy. It leaks grain everywhere around the hopper. I had to use foam and duct tape to seal it up. The hopper wheels are a joke, so it takes two people to move the auger. Also, this auger is noisy and slow. I plan to trade it in next year for a Brandt or Sakundiak."

Donald A. Ramberg, Mentor, Minn.: Donald's the satisfied owner of a 2008 Kubota B3030 diesel tractor equipped with a front-end loader, heated and air conditioned cab, snowblower, and 5-ft. mower. "The heated cab makes it a pure joy to blow snow when it's 25 degrees below zero, and the air conditioned cab is ideal for loader and mower work in hot weather. No problems. Also, the diesel engine is easy on fuel."

"My 2004 Drill Doctor doesn't do a good job sharpening bits. The problem is that it doesn't have enough rake or heel clearance, so the bit just slides around rather than cutting. It's at its worst on small bits, which I use a lot. No amount of adjusting seems to help."

Vernon Deadmond, Odin, Ill.: "I like my



Overhead water lines irrigate freshly planted Hydro-Stacker units.

there's a big demand in the area for fresh fruits and vegetables. They have a total of 12 acres in production, mostly in apples. They produce 20 different types of home-baked pies for sale, as well as 60 different jams, 10 pickle types, and pickled beets. They also sell Hydro-Stacker planter units.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dennis Knutson, Newark, Ill. (ph 815 557-4429; www.knutsonsharvest.com).

Reddy 50,000 btu multi-fuel portable heater. It delivers heat quickly - just fill it up and plug it in, and you've got heat.

"My 2001 Ford Explorer Sport Trac is my worst buy. At 70,000 miles the automatic transmission started to slip whenever I would shift gears. Upon investigation I found the push rods in the transmission are made out of steel and mounted in an aluminum housing, which wears out. I checked on the internet and found the company has known about this problem for some time."

"Our dealer said he'd be happy to sell us another transmission, which costs about \$3,000 and has a 3-year, 100,000-mile warranty. However, the first transmission lasted barely 70,000 miles, so what makes them think this one will work any better? If you own a Ford Explorer Sport Trac equipped with a V-6 engine and an automatic transmission with less than 50,000 miles on it, get rid of it now. You'll be happy you did, because otherwise it'll cost you in the long run."

"No more oil leaks. It's the best product I've ever used."

leaks, but the loader now works better than it ever has. The loader used to jump and would lose pressure, and it used to chatter like it had air in the lines, but now it works smooth like it should. No more oil leaks. It's the best product I've ever used."

Darrel Taylor, Morley, Mich.: "We use our 2007 Kawasaki 610 4 by 4 Mule like a small tractor and haul various stuff with it. We use it every day. An outstanding machine."

Murray G. May, Lacey's Spring, Ala.: "My 2007 Husqvarna riding mower equipped with a 23 hp Briggs & Stratton engine is my worst buy. I used it for the first time during the 2007 mowing season, and then in 2008 I had knee surgery so the mower wasn't used that year. Last year the mower smoked, lost power, and used too much oil. Since the mower had been used for only one year I asked the company for help in getting a new engine or at least an overhaul. The mower had only 118 hours on it. The company answered my letter of May 4, 2009, in August 2009, by returning my letter and