

FARM SHOW – Vol.28, No. 6, 2004 - Farmers Nominate Best & Worst Buys :

John R. Carlson, Harrison, Maine : “Last February I bought a Kioti 40 hp front wheel assist tractor and also a self-loading log trailer called the Metavic. Both the tractor and the log hauler are sold together as a unit called **the Forester**, and it’s my best buy (Payeur Distributions Inc., Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada ph 1 – 888 – 821 - 2015; www.payeur.com).



“The company strips the Kioti tractor down and armor plates everything that could be affected by working in the woods. The tractor has an expanded metal grill on the front and sides, with steel plates protecting the underside. Both sides are hinged and secured with lynch pins, allowing me to swing them out for access to the engine. A small hydraulic-operated blade on front can be used to level off trails in the woods. The blade can be folded over the hood in wooded areas. A ROPS protects the operator, and there’s a metal shelf on one side for storing my chain saw, fuel, etc. Tire chains can be used during the winter.

“The trailer is equipped with side stakes and can handle logs up to 12 ft. long. To operate the controls, the operator stands on an expanded metal stand that mounts on the hitch, so he doesn’t have to get on the tractor to load a log. The boom supports a 360 degree rotating grapple and a hydraulic winch with 110 ft. of cable, which allows me to park on a road and drag trees out of the ditch for loading. If I want, I can use the grapple to hold a log up for cutting without even having to bend over. The company also offers several options for the Metavic, including a tilting platform for transporting your tractor, firewood or other items ; a dumper bed ; and a backhoe excavating arm.

“ I paid \$36,950 for the entire unit, which was delivered to my farm. I bought it after watching other units operate in our area. I’m 78 years old and I hope this unit will let me work for many more years in the woods”