

Dear Mr. Turner,

I wanted to commend you on the excellent products that Turner Mills manufactures. The following are some of my thoughts and observations after having used a Turner mill for the past four years.

My dad had a Belsaw sawmill when I was in school in the 50's. I don't recall that I much enjoyed helping with that mill as a youngster. But, as I got older, I found myself with an interest in sawmills. As I think back, that past experience with my dad's mill probably had a lot to do with my interest in sawmills later in life.

During the fall and winter of 2000 I spent time researching the features of band sawmills. I became interested in the Turner mill because of its simplicity and ease of maintenance. My mill would be a hobby when I retired. Cost of maintenance, along with purchase price, was definitely a big consideration. During a conversation with another manufacturer while comparing features of different mills a remark was made that the biggest drawback of the Turner mill was the fact that it used rubber tires for the band wheels. Eventually I decided to purchase a mill and I put my order in for a Turner. My only reservation was the rubber tire band wheels.

I picked up my mill on September 27, 2001. I didn't have an opportunity to use it until the following summer. During the next three years, I sawed a lot of Red Pine that had been knocked down by the wind and ice in the winter of 2001. **The beauty of my mill is the fact that I can saw a small 8 inch long log and get a couple of 2 x 4's as well as saw something larger.** During the summer of 2005, I sawed all of the material for a 16 X 24 foot cabin with an 8 X 14 front porch.

Most of the lumber I saw is red pine and spruce, with a few hemlock mixed in. To make a long story short, let's get to my favorite feature. That is the rubber tire band wheels. After the past four years of use, I've come to the conclusion that rubber tires are the only way to go. The only lube that I use on my blade is a mix of ½ kerosene and ½ chain saw bar lube in a spray bottle. My blade stays clean with this mix and vibration of my mill, compared with others that I've watched is at a minimum. In four years of use my only repair has been to replace a throttle cable and this past summer I replaced the lift cable on the saw head as it was becoming frayed. My mills is trailer mounted and is completely manual except for electric start. My thought is that I spend maybe 10 percent of my time actually making the cut. The rest of the time is spent preparing the saw such as loading the log, turning the log, moving lumber and slabs, etc. **I feel that the mill is set to make the manual labor as easy as possible.** I believe that I get better lumber with the manual feed and the potential damage to the mill is far less because I have better control.

In closing, I want to commend Turner Mills for producing such an excellent product. They produce a quality sawmill at an affordable price, and if you are looking for low cost of maintenance, you can't do any better.

Sincerely,
Joe Emerson
Deposit, New York
March 27th, 2006