Product research and the quest for better, more efficient tools and control products never ends, as these company histories will show.

Welcome to "Looking Back." It's our 35th Anniversary retrospective of green industry product developments that have made the work you do far more safer, productive and efficient.

Anyone who's been in the industry since 1962 or thereabouts could tell you how much products have changed, and how many have come and gone down the pike to ultimate acclaim, or total oblivion.

Today's mowers, aerators, dethatchers, and all kinds of other turf cutting machines are so much better than they used to be thanks to lightweight metals, improved engine and fuel science, and safety mechanisms. And let's not forget product design. (Nothing wrong with wanting it to look good, too!)

Chemical science has also taken a series of small and giant steps, as agricultural management principles were applied and adapted to turf and ornamental care.

We thank the companies who were able to provide us with these brief glances back to the green industry of the 60s, and forward to what may be yet to come. Thanks to AgrEvo; Bunton; John Deere; Encore; Jacobsen; Kubota and O.M. Scotts for their help with this section.

And certainly, LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT wants to thank these companies, and many more, for their advertising support through the years. We wish them all continued success in their respective green industry businesses.

—The editors