SUCCESSFUL SEEDING

Units to plant the seeds of success

By CURT HARLER, Contributing Editor

Whether you’re in the market for a simple push-behind seeding unit, a tractor-mounted machine, or you’re looking for a hydro-seeder, the latest crop of seeders is blooming with units designed for every application.

Among the key statistics to check is the capacity of the hopper — the more seed the unit will carry, the fewer stops the worker has to make. The exception to this rule is push-behind units, where operator fatigue can become a factor if the machine becomes too heavy to maneuver handily. A good standard of reference when buying a seeder is the number of square feet or acres covered per hour.

It is possible to get two-for-one deals from a number of firms. Combination machines provide an opportunity to get more useful days out of one equipment purchase. Designed to do a couple of different jobs, these units either perform multiple functions on a single pass, or they can serve as backups to other single-function machines.

**AGRI-FAB**
217/728-8388
www.agri-fab.com

A 175-pound, rustproof poly hopper is available on the 45-0298 push drop seeder from Agri-Fab, Sullivan, IL. This push spreader will cover 40,000 sq. ft. in one trip. It can be equipped with marker wheels to assure accurate drop in difficult conditions. Several other push-behind and tow-mount seeders are also available.

Circle No. 250

**BEFCO**
800/334-6617
www.befco.com

The Green-Rite one pass aerator/overseeder from Befco, Rocky Mount, NC, comes in a 58-inch working width for use with tractors from 25 to 45 hp. In a single pass, it aerates, seeds, agitates seed to ground and compacts the seed. It has a single 7.5 cubic foot seed hopper and precise seed cups to meter seed. Optional front gauge roller kit is available.

Circle No. 251

**BLUEBIRD INTERNATIONAL**
800/808-BIRD
www.bluebirdintl.com

The new HS-15 SeedScaper from Bluebird, Englewood, CO, allows a single
The pull-behind aerator/spreader combo from John Deere, NC, can do two jobs at once. It perforates the soil while the calibrated drop-spreader follows with seed. Lime or fertilizer can also be dropped. Unit is 40 inches wide with up to 2-inch penetration. Unit has 132 steel tine tips on 8-inch diameter tine stars. Adjustable flow control and direct drive for consistent performance make this the right tool for smaller jobs or use with a lawn tractor.

Circle No. 258

REINCO 
800/526-7687
www.reinco.com

A full line of HydroGrassers is available from Reinco, Plainfield, NJ. Ranging from the HG-5H for smaller seeding jobs to the giant HG-30GX which has up to 6-acre capacity, these units can be truck or skid mounted. The mid-sized HG-10GX has a 35-hp Ford gas engine or a 33.5-hp Kubota diesel. It has a standard 130-ft. discharge range, or 400 feet with hose.

Circle No. 262

SPYKER
800/972-6130

Spyker of North Manchester, IN, has two new broadcast mulch spreaders. Model 296 is a 100-lb. walk-behind and the 297 is a 200-lb. pull behind. With an eight-foot swath of material and a pattern for accurate application, they broadcast seed and fertilizer, as well as the new pelleted products on the market. These models also include Spyker’s patented Accuway adjustment, to adjust the spread pattern from left to right on the fly to ensure a dead center spread.

Circle No. 263

TORO
612/888-8801
www.toro.com

The 205 Seeder from Toro, Bloomington, MN, allows seeding of a full 18-inches width, dropping seed at 2-inch intervals. The Delta Reel blades open a soil slit to receive the seed. A flap on back of the machine covers the seed with a thin layer of soil for better germination. The 205 is powered by a 5-hp Briggs & Stratton engine. For safety, it has a handle-mounted automatic safety clutch control.

Circle No. 264

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