The Bob-Cat ZT 100 features independent power and control to each wheel for enhanced maneuverability.

The midsized Walker Rider is one of the more compact zero-turn radius mowers available. Five Walker tractor models are available.

Z-Trak F620 from John Deere features a low center of gravity that makes it stable on hillsides and maneuverable in tight spots.

SCORE A ZERO, WIN AT MOWING

BY CURT HARLER/ Contributing Editor

Anyone who has spent a few hours driving a mower around shrubs, weaving around path lighting or going through other tight areas understands that a mower that has a zero-turn radius is a godsend.

If you're responsible for working in the field, you'll sing the praises of a zero-turn mower's maneuverability. That means less time cutting and less time on foot following the mower with a weed whacker.

If you're the landscape operation's chief mechanic and dog owner, however, it is likely that you will also appreciate the smaller size of the zero-turn mower. That means more equipment can be placed on a shorter trailer. Most zero-radius turn mowers are 61 in. to 80 in. long, a substantial savings over the full-sized four-wheelers that can eat up an extra foot or more on transportation equipment. It also may mean that a smaller trailer can be used on jobs that require only mowing equipment, while larger, heavier twin-axle trailers can be held back for moving skid-steer loaders to job sites were the equipment demand is greater.

Cutting decks come in all the typical sizes and most companies make a full line of attachments and accessories for their zeros.

ARIENS
920/756-2141
www.ariens.com

Ariens offers its EZ Rider™ EZR1648 powered by a 16-hp Briggs Vanguard engine. This dual hydro-drive, 647-lb unit features a 48-in. cutting deck. Its pivoting front axle provides the operator with a smooth comfortable ride.

Circle No. 250

BLACK ROCK MFG.
203/259-6750

This zero-turning radius mower is made of tough 10-gauge deck material with seven-gauge sides. Units with cutting decks of 48 in. or 52 in. come with engine options including the 17-, 21- or 23-hp Kawasaki twin cylinder...
Bush Hog's zero-turn mowers with 18-, 22- and 25-hp Kohlers.

from Dixon Industries, is powered by a 25-hp Kohler Command engine. The full-floating deck is available with 52-, and 60-in. options with 1.5 in. to 4.5 in. cut heights. It offers easy underside access for blade maintenance. The 7025 can hit 10 mph on open ground, making short work of big mowing jobs. Accessories for mulching, grass catching and pushing snow are available.

Circle No. 256

Encore Z-52 model

level cut. High-lift blades, anti-scalp rollers and large turf tires protect the grass. The Z-52, shown here, has a 20-hp Vanguard V-twin engine.

Circle No. 257

www.landscapergroup.com / SEPTEMBER 1999 / LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT 97
Features cut daily maintenance time by up to 30 minutes. That means the mower pays for itself in under 24 months.

Circle No. 261

GREAT DANE EQUIPMENT 812/246-8770

Great Dane offers several innovative zero-turn radius mowers—the Surfer hydro walk-behind, the Chariot (cutters decks of 52 and 61 in.) and the Chariot, Jr., (decks of 48 in. and 52 in. wide). The Chariots feature center control levers, low seat height for maximum stability on hills, excellent visibility for trimming and an extra wide wheel stance.

Circle No. 262

HUSTLER 800/395-4757

www.excelhustler.com

Hustler has just introduced its first rear-steer, out-front rider in three 3000-series models. The unit is available in 3200 zero-turn, 3200 rear steer, or 3400 rear steer 4x4 configurations. The 3200s are powered by a Kubota 23-hp diesel. The 3400 is 28 hp. All of these 3000-series tractors use H-Bar Steering, similar to motorcycle steering. Speed and direction controls are hand-operated. Extra-high-lift BacVac catcher, tractor-mounted edger, 55-in. snow thrower and assorted mowing decks are available. 

Circle No. 263

MTD PRO 877/MTD-PRO1

www.mtdproducts.com

The zero-turn MTD 1852 Pro Widetrack is the newest member of the MTD Pro line. The mower features an 18-hp Vanguard V-Twin Engine and 52-in. fixed fabricated cutting deck. Dual hydrostatic transmission allows on-the-go tracking adjustments, and electric start and backup recoil mean there is no excuse for not getting to work. Tapered roller bearings in the spindles provide added reliability. Optional bagger and mulching kit is available.

Circle No. 267

HOWARD PRICE TURF EQUIPMENT 636/532-7000

The Blazer 360Z leads the line of zero-radius mowers from Howard Price. Units are available with 52-, 60- and 72-in. cuts and decks are offset to the left for better trimming around trees. Extra-wide throat allows even grass discharge. Floating front axle provides superb cutting flotation, operator comfort and reduces chances of frame breakage. Units are powered with either a 22- or a 25-hp Kohler, or a 23-hp Kawasaki engine.

Circle No. 268

RICH MFG. 765/436-2744

Whether you want to walk or ride, the Convertible is the one machine that lets you do both. This hydro walk-behind converts to a zero-turn rider just by pulling a pinch. It comes with 48-, 52- or 61-inch deck and choice of Kawasaki or Kohler engines. Grass catcher, sprayer, aerator, thatcher or Convert-A-Barrow options are available.

Circle No. 269

The Model 425D Articulator is a 8-ft. wide, 38-hp diesel zero-turn radius mower from LasTec. It features four individual 25-in. articulating mower decks. The firm's patented belt drive system lets mower decks float over contoured turf without scalping or missing grass. It can be configured to mulch or for side discharge. It comes with hydraulic mower deck lift system, headlights and flashers for night work and a certified ROPS.

Circle No. 265

For more information circle the appropriate number below:

Circle No. 259

THE GRASSHOPPER CO. 316/345-8621

With forward speeds up to 8.5 mph, the Model G2-700 Series zero-radius mower from Grasshopper per gives a quality cut in record time. The Gemini2 Dual-Path Hydrostatic Drive delivers reliability in dirty, dusty conditions. Liquid-cooled diesel or gas engines are fed by an 8-gallon fuel tank. Cutting widths of 44-, 48-, 52-, 61- or 72-in. are available. Quik-D-Tach mounting system adds attachments in minutes.

Circle No. 260

GRAVELY 800/472-8359

www.gravely.com

Check out the reduced maintenance times on the 260Z zero-turn mower from Gravely. Tungsten carbide-coated blades stay sharp and the XL Spindles reduce time spent greasing. The Air-Flo Deck expels clippings faster using a 21-in. wide discharge tunnel. A nine-gallon fuel tank keeps the mower going all day long. The manufacturer says those features cut daily maintenance time by up to 30 minutes. That means the mower pays for itself in under 24 months.

Circle No. 261

Viper features anti-scalp weld ed square tubular steel frame for strength and rigidity, it is powered by a 23-hp Kawasaki twin-cylinder OHV power plant. Comes with a 54-in. or 60-in. anti-scalp floating deck and cut heights from 1.5 inches to 5.5 inches. Unitized hydraulic pump/motors provide power and speeds up to 8.6 mph forward, 4.3 mph in reverse.

Circle No. 266

MTD 1852 Pro

www.mtdproducts.com

The zero-turn MTD 1852 Pro Widetrack is the newest member of the MTD Pro line. The mower features an 18-hp Vanguard V-Twin Engine and 52-in. fixed fabricated cutting deck. Dual hydrostatic transmission allows on-the-go tracking adjustments, and electric start and backup recoil mean there is no excuse for not getting to work. Tapered roller bearings in the spindles provide added reliability. Optional bagger and mulching kit is available.

Circle No. 267

HOWARD PRICE TURF EQUIPMENT 636/532-7000

The Blazer 360Z leads the line of zero-radius mowers from Howard Price. Units are available with 52-, 60- and 72-in. cuts and decks are offset to the left for better trimming around trees. Extra-wide throat allows even grass discharge. Floating front axle provides superb cutting flotation, operator comfort and reduces chances of frame breakage. Units are powered with either a 22- or a 25-hp Kohler, or a 23-hp Kawasaki engine.

Circle No. 268

RICH MFG. 765/436-2744

Whether you want to walk or ride, the Convertible is the one machine that lets you do both. This hydro walk-behind converts to a zero-turn rider just by pulling a pinch. It comes with 48-, 52- or 61-inch deck and choice of Kawasaki or Kohler engines. Grass catcher, sprayer, aerator, thatcher or Convert-A-Barrow options are available.

Circle No. 269

The Model 425D Articulator is a 8-ft. wide, 38-hp diesel zero-turn radius mower from LasTec. It features four individual 25-in. articulating mower decks. The firm's patented belt drive system lets mower decks float over contoured turf without scalping or missing grass. It can be configured to mulch or for side discharge. It comes with hydraulic mower deck lift system, headlights and flashers for night work and a certified ROPS.

Circle No. 265

For more information circle the appropriate number below:

Circle No. 259

THE GRASSHOPPER CO. 316/345-8621

With forward speeds up to 8.5 mph, the Model G2-700 Series zero-radius mower from Grasshopper per gives a quality cut in record time. The Gemini2 Dual-Path Hydrostatic Drive delivers reliability in dirty, dusty conditions. Liquid-cooled diesel or gas engines are fed by an 8-gallon fuel tank. Cutting widths of 44-, 48-, 52-, 61- or 72-in. are available. Quik-D-Tach mounting system adds attachments in minutes.

Circle No. 260

GRAVELY 800/472-8359

www.gravely.com

Check out the reduced maintenance times on the 260Z zero-turn mower from Gravely. Tungsten carbide-coated blades stay sharp and the XL Spindles reduce time spent greasing. The Air-Flo Deck expels clippings faster using a 21-in. wide discharge tunnel. A nine-gallon fuel tank keeps the mower going all day long. The manufacturer says those features cut daily maintenance time by up to 30 minutes. That means the mower pays for itself in under 24 months.

Circle No. 261

GREAT DANE EQUIPMENT 812/246-8770

Great Dane offers several innovative zero-turn radius mowers—the Surfer hydro walk-behind, the Chariot (cutters decks of 52 and 61 in.) and the Chariot, Jr., (decks of 48 in. and 52 in. wide). The Chariots feature center control levers, low seat height for maximum stability on hills, excellent visibility for trimming and an extra wide wheel stance.

Circle No. 262

HUSTLER 800/395-4757

www.excelhustler.com

Hustler has just introduced its first rear-steer, out-front rider in three 3000-series models. The unit is available in 3200 zero-turn, 3200 rear steer, or 3400 rear steer 4x4 configurations. The 3200s are powered by a Kubota 23-hp diesel. The 3400 is 28 hp. All of these 3000-series tractors use H-Bar Steering, similar to motorcycle steering. Speed and direction controls are hand-operated. Extra-high-lift BacVac catcher, tractor-mounted edger, 55-in. snow thrower and assorted mowing decks are available. 

Circle No. 263

3000-series from Hustler

ered by a Kubota 23-hp diesel. The 3400 is 28 hp. All of these 3000-series tractors use H-Bar Steering, similar to motorcycle steering. Speed and direction controls are hand-operated. Extra-high-lift BacVac catcher, tractor-mounted edger, 55-in. snow thrower and assorted mowing decks are available.

Circle No. 263

LASTEC 317/271-4223

www.lastec.com

The Model 425D Articulator is an 8-ft. wide, 38-hp diesel zero-turn radius mower from LasTec. It features four individual 25-in. articulating mower decks. The firm's patented belt drive system lets mower decks float over contoured turf without scalping or missing
Scag Advantage Deck

Scag Advantage deck. Designed for Turf Tiger and Sabre Tooth Tiger zero-turn riders (as well as the walk-behind and three-wheel rider) from Scag, this deck eliminates stringers and reduces the need for double-cutting. Its air flow design stands up tall, wiry grasses and cuts them cleanly. The deck gives a finished look, even with tough, tall grasses like southern Bahiagrass. Scag also offers a zero-turn walk-behind with decks from 36 in. to 72 in.

Circle No. 270

Snapper
888/SNAPPER
www.snapper.com

The Pro Cruiser line now has a twin-stick model. The ZMT2500KH lets those who prefer twin-stick steering over a single joy-stick find a comfortable option in a zero-turn radius machine. It comes with a 52- or 61-in. midmount cutting deck. With a 25-hp Kohler Command engine, the unit has a ground speed up to 10 mph. Also new for 1999 is an optional 6-cu. ft. grass catcher with belt drive fan assist assembly and single-lever lid release.

Circle No. 271

The ZMT2500KH Snapper

Z-Master from Toro boasts excellent side-hill stability.

models are backed by a 1-year limited, 2-year engine and hydro system and 3-year spindle assembly warranty.

Circle No. 272

Walker Mowers
303/221-5614

The mid-sized Walker Rider is one of the more compact zero-turn radius mowers available. Designed to do the work of a mid-sized walk-behind mower with the increased productivity of a rider. Five tractor models are available ranging from 11 to 25 hp and with choice of gas or diesel engine. Five mower decks can be used, ranging from 36 in. to 62 in. with grass collection, side discharge or mulching capability.

Circle No. 273

The Mini-Max from Woods

The M2250 from Woods

M2250 has a 22-hp Kohler engine and a 50-in. deck and the M2560 has a 25-hp Kohler engine and an offset 60-in. deck. Both have a "user-centered" design that includes adjustable suspension seat cushioned for support and comfort, ergonomically designed hand controls for single-handed steering and a variety of positions to reduce operator fatigue.

Circle No. 274

Yazoo/Kees
800/723-9496
www.yazookees.com

The Mini-Max in the hottest-selling zero-turn radius model from Yazoo/Kees. New this year, it is a smaller version of the company's ZT Max. Mini-Max comes with a 10-gallon fuel tank, dampered steering control, state-of-the-art hydraulics and the same warranty as its big brother. Although built for narrower cutting widths and tighter budgets, it still provides full 1.5-inch to 5-inch cutting heights and on-the-go adjustment.

Circle No. 275

The M2250 from Woods

The Mini-Max from Yazoo

www.landscapegroup.com / September 1999 / Landscape Management 101