TOOLS OF THE TRADE

HAND-HELDS & BACKPACKS 2001

A trim here, a trim there
Tanaka’s TBC-2501 steel-shafted grass trimmer/brushcutter has a 24cc, 1.2-hp engine with two piston rings and a chrome-plated cylinder for longer life. It weighs 11.4 lbs. and features a low-profile cutting guard, vibration system and 5-in. semi-automatic cutting head. For more information, contact Tanaka at 253/333-1212 / Circle no. 274

Well blow me down
SOLO Inc.’s 470 gas-powered backpack blower meets Category I sound levels of the new ANSI standards — it operates at less than 65 decibels of sound at 50 feet from the operator. For more information contact SOLO Inc. at 516/868-6645 / Circle no. 275

Edgin' along
Little Wonder’s Xtra™ edger combines the maneuverability of a stick edger and the power of a wheeled edger. At 16 lbs., it’s ideal for edging in confined spaces. Equipped with a cross-blade system, it can cut through thick overgrass and hard clay soil. For more information contact Mantis/Little Wonder at 505/822-8222 or www.littlewonder.com / Circle no. 276

Spray it
Chapin Manufacturing, Inc.’s poly sprayer series features 4-1/2-in. wide openings; easy disconnect/safety lock for quick access for cleaning and repair; brass-plated zinc shut-off with lock-on for continuous spray, actual capacity tanks. Available in 1- to 3-gal. models. For more information contact Chapin at 716/3443-3140 or www.chapinmfg.com / Circle no. 277

Cleaner air
The RedMax BCZ 2500S clean air trimmer meets CARB II and EPA with a 25.4 cc, two-cycle Strato-Charged™ Air Head™ engine. Weighing 5% less, the engine uses 35% less fuel and reduces emissions by 73% over previous engines. For more information contact RedMax, a division of Komatsu Zenoah America, Inc., at 800/291-8251 or www.redmax.com / Circle no. 278

Take control
Husqvarna’s 155BT backpack blower has a tube-mounted throttle for easy control that can be locked in any position. Its harness has two hip pads to take weight off the shoulders. Maximum air velocity is 183 mph, weight is 19.4 lbs. with 70dBA. For more information contact Husqvarna at 704/597-5000 / Circle no. 281

Quiet and powerful
Echo Inc.’s hand-held blowers generate 160-mph air speed and air volume of 365 cfm, and are rated at 65 dBA at 50 ft. at wide open throttle. Features include a 22.8 cc Echo engine and 20.3-fl. oz. see-through tank. For more information contact Echo at 800/673-1558 or www.echo-usa.com / Circle no. 283

Trim or blow
LESCO Service Centers® and Stores on Wheels® offer a line of Kawasaki handheld power equipment which includes string trimmers with 23cc to 34cc engine units. Also included are backpack blowers with 48.6cc engines, handheld edgers (26 cc engine) and single or double blade hedge clippers. For more information contact LESCO at 800/833-6855 / Circle no. 282

Sharp idea
John Deere’s 880MS multipurpose saw features an 88 cc engine and 15-in. wheel. The 28.9-lb. 880MS is also equipped with a triple air filter system, six-point vibration isolation system and right-angle, semi-automatic belt tensioner. For more information contact John Deere at 800/537-8233 or www.john-deere.com / Circle no. 280