

# Get a Grip

TECHNOLOGY

TRIMMER LINE, THE SCOOP

All of them will do the job.  
It boils down to which is easiest  
to use and does the best job.



## Test them first, then buy

BY ALLEN SPENCE

**Y**ou need to purchase trimmer line for your trimmers. You're faced with a bewildering number of choices. How do you know which one is for you? Is it even important?

Consider these points about trimmer line before you plunk down your hard earned cash:

1. Will this product help me make more money?
2. Will it do the job I need it to do?
3. How will it affect my equipment?
4. How easy is it to use?

Obviously, you won't know how a particular line will function until you've used it. It takes a bit of trial and error. Start by buying small quantities from a trusted source. You can find out for yourself what each type of trimmer line does.

The line comes in at least five sizes. Diameters of .065, .080, .095,

.105 and .130 are available. Within each size are several different shapes and colors – round, square, twisted, dimpled, and even hexagon shaped; it is a long list.

Trimmer line should be chosen by matching its diameter to the horsepower of the unit. The larger the line, the greater the power needed to rotate it. Failure to match the cutting-line diameter with horsepower may cause mechanical problems such as excessive carbon build-up, spark arrestor clogging, premature clutch failure or overheating.

► **Shapes** — Round line is more aerodynamic says one manufacture, square line has more cutting edges and lasts longer says another. Another advertises that their hexagon-shaped line has more mass resulting in a cleaner cut. It is also supposed to last longer. Then we have line with serrated edges. These edges act like saw blades and are designed to work better in grasses and weeds that tend to have stronger stalks. The dimpled line is claimed to accelerate faster, run quieter and cut better.

► **Colors** — Distributors' claims don't make the decisions easier. Green line blends in to the grass resulting in less time spent cleaning up, advertises one distributor. Red, yellow and blue are highly visible, which results in faster clean up times, argues another.

Of all these choices which one is right for you? All of them will do the job, but which one will do the job best for you? It boils down to which is easiest to use and does the best job for you.

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