**products**

**Tends to turf**
Dakota's new Turf Tender topdresser/spreader is designed to pull behind any utility vehicle or tractor. The standard machine is designed to operate with a vehicle that has a minimum hydraulic flow of 3.5 gpm. An optional 8 hp Honda motor with electric start powers the hydraulic system. Its hopper is designed to hold more than .75 cu. yd. of materials and designed to fit loader buckets up to six ft. wide to reduce spilling and waste. The machine can spread any typical material used in landscapes.

For more information contact Dakota at 218/773-1946 or www.dakotapeat.com / circle no. 258

**Versatile wheel loader**
Caterpillar’s new wheel loader features a VersaLink Loader Linkage with a one-piece, fabricated box-section design. The standard model’s linkage features a hydraulic quick coupler for fast work tool changes, while a high lift VersaLink option adds 20-in. of dump height. Other features include a pilot-controlled loader hydraulic system with a low-effort joystick control and a turbocharged, six-cylinder, 114-hp diesel engine. Optional remote forward/neutral/reverse switch fits machines equipped with the joystick control.

For more information contact Caterpillar Inc., P.O. box 10097, Peoria, IL 61612-0097 / circle no. 259

**Maintenance-free grate**
Fibergate Composite Structures’ Aqua Grate™ is made of pultruded fiberglass reinforced plastic and designed with a fine grit-top surface for slip resistance. For use in recreational and industrial marine applications, it is resistant to corrosion and UV. The 1/4-in. space between Aqua Grate’s bearing bars was designed to further reduce slips, and the grating’s 1 1/2-in. wide flange provides comfort to pedestrian traffic.

For more information contact Fibergate at 972/250-1633 or www.fibergrate.com / circle no. 260

**Chase those deer away**
R.J. Advantage has added ReJex-iT® to its line of benign wildlife control products, a repellent that keeps deer from grazing on flowers, decorative and ornamental plants, shrubs, conifers and deciduous trees. The company claims ReJex-iT, a taste and odor deterrent, can be effective for up to two weeks and won’t change the color, texture or appearance of plants.

For more information contact R.J. Advantage at 800/423-2473 / circle no. 261

**Mulch-n-More**
Spyker Spreaders says that its Mulch-N-More can spread PennMulch™ in one pass without bridging or clogging. And, in the push, pull or electric models, a removable spinner blade and optional calibration tray ensures accuracy for maximum cost efficiency.

For more information contact Spyker at 888/877-9537 / circle no. 262

**Hungry for weeds**
Weed Tiger’s trimmer lines eliminate the need to “tap and go” with a trimmer, the company says, because the line begins and remains at a fixed length and doesn’t need winding. Drill a hole near the existing grommet hole, insert the Weed Tiger from the outside and restart. The bright yellow color increases visibility.

For more information contact Weed Tiger at 804/636-9333 or circle no. 263

**Tall grass mower**
Bachtold Bros.’ 7001 weed and brush cutter has an optional 30-in. cutting head powered by an 8-hp engine that was made to deal with grass up to 6 in. tall. Nickel-plated, 20-in. wheels and a 9-to-1 chain reduction drive with positive traction assists the mower through tough terrain. It comes with a standard Briggs & Stratton 8-hp engine.

Contact Bachtold Bros. Inc. at 217/784-5161; www.bachtoldbros.com or circle no. 264

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Landscape Management February 2000
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FEBRUARY 2000 WWW.LANDSCAPEGROUP.COM
I love turtles, fish, and frogs! So much so that when my hobby outgrew my parents house I dug up the backyard to build a water garden. The ultimate fish tank I thought would be a thousand-gallon pond where my critters could live just like they would in nature. That simple concrete pond built in 1982 became my passion and sparked what would ultimately be a lifelong odyssey.

In 1991, my hobby became my profession with the launch of Aquascape Designs a residential and commercial water feature design/build firm.

Aquascape Designs still builds ponds, waterfalls, and streams so others too can enjoy the beauty of nature where they live and work. In fact building water features is the backbone of our business and acts as a continuous R & D department. Our focus however has expanded from just building water features though. Today we have a company wide mission of "Changing the Way the World Builds Ponds." Far too many contractors experience frustrations constructing water features. Green water, leaks, over complicated filters and confusing pumps and plumbing have plagued water feature design and construction for years.

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Grasses for the masses

It’s official: According to an article in the *Wall Street Journal*, the Chinese are replacing hard-packed soil in their public parks with grass. Proof? Try four million lbs. of seed imported from the United States in 1999, up from 150,000 lbs. four years ago. Nixing dirt, grass proponents say, will cut down on pollution, especially in cities like Beijing where auto fumes, coal soot and dirt from construction sites choke the air. But those who are in line with the Communist notions of cleanliness say that grass breeds insects. Others, particularly martial artists who practice at the parks, say the grass is a layer between them and the earth and prohibits them from tapping into the earth’s qi, or vital energy. It remains to be seen whether the Chinese can have their grass and cut it, too.

Thanks, Harvard!

Did you know that landscapers have Harvard University to thank for instilling professionalism in their field? That’s right, it was over 100 years ago that Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. inaugurated the first professional degree program in landscape architecture at Harvard. To mark the occasion, the university is presenting a wide array of lectures, exhibitions and conferences in 2000 that will trace the history of the program and the way it shaped a profession just emerging at the turn of the century. And you thought weed-whacking wasn’t heady stuff.

Rain forest on wheels

Employees and guests of Rain Bird came together right before New Year’s Day to complete the company’s lush, colorful Rose Bowl Parade float on the theme, “Rain Forest Rendezvous.” Gretchen Wagner, our western sales manager, enjoyed the opportunity to help build the float, which she recalls was “an amazing experience.” Rain Bird’s floats have won prizes three years running. This year, it won the President’s Award.

Rocky delivers knockout punch to trees

MIAMI, FL—Sylvester Stallone agreed to replant 173 trees at least 20 feet tall and restore a rare native hardwood hammock, comprised of over 1,000 smaller trees and brush, on property he previously owned here. The price tag for the landscape material could approach $500,000.

Stallone — “Rocky” to millions of moviegoers — had the trees and brush removed from the property surrounding his former waterfront mansion sometime early in 1999. Trouble was, the property sits in the middle of an environmental preservation district.

“Mr. Stallone had no knowledge that the trees had been taken down. Someone on his staff removed the trees on his own,” Sly’s attorney Neil S. Litman, told the *Miami Herald*.  

**Coming next month in LM:**

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