



MOWERS

Model 226V-48

The Model 226V-48 offers a 48-in. cutting deck along with the 52- and 61-in. deck options for Model 226V. Its individual pump-and-wheel motor drive is design matched for precision control, while an extra-deep 48-in. cutting deck offers side discharge, mulching and vacuum capabilities. Other features include True ZeroTurn maneuverability, a 12-gal. fuel tank and smooth handling.

Grasshopper // GrasshopperMower.com/226V



Lazer Z X-Series

Exmark has introduced RED technology to its Lazer Z X-Series with Kohler electronic fuel injection power. It uses an electronic governor and operator-defined performance modes and is designed to reduce fuel consumption compared to carbureted models. The Exmark custom seat is a standard feature. The series is available with a 60- or 72-in. full-floating cutting deck.

Exmark // Exmark.com



QuikTrak

The redesigned John Deere QuikTrak stand-on commercial mower offers a short design and is very light, making it highly maneuverable around obstacles and contours in the turf. The QuikTrak is available in the B Series and R Series. Both feature run-flat front tires and sealed front caster bearings. The B Series features a 7-gauge, fabricated 52-in. fixed deck. The R Series is available with 48-, 52-, or 61-in. 7-gauge fabricated floating decks and also offers a quick height-of-cut adjustment and cast iron front forks.

John Deere // JohnDeere.com/MowPro

TurfMaster

The 30-in. deck on the new, wide-area Toro TurfMaster walk-behind mower features a precisely timed, twin-blade cutting system and a three-in-one design for mulching, bagging or side-discharge. Powered by a Kawasaki FJ180V gas engine with a spin-on oil filter, it has a rear-wheel drive transmission with variable ground speeds up to 4.1 mph.

Toro // Toro.com/TurfMaster



Raptor

Starting at less than \$3,000, the all-new zero-turn Raptor is powered by a Kawasaki engine and is built with a fabricated steel deck. Features include Hustler's patented SmoothTrak Steering and its Automated Park Brake System. The Raptor is backed by a three-year warranty.

Hustler Turf Equipment // HustlerTurf.com



Mid-mount ZTO mower

Wright's new mid-mount Zero Technology Optimized (ZTO) mower offers deck widths of 48, 52 and 61 in. A transmission interlock is built into the controls, eliminating the need for a separate parking brake. Featuring a 15-gal. fuel tank, the ZTO's cutting speed is 10.5 mph with either the standard 31-hp Kawasaki FX or optional Briggs & Stratton Commercial Turf (Cyclonic) engine.

Wright Commercial Products // WrightMfg.com



Pro-Stance series

The new Pro-Stance series features integrated transmissions and a foot pedal deck lift. The integrated Hydro-Gear transmissions provide a low center of gravity to handle slopes or uneven terrain. Speeds reach up to 9 mph. Another feature is the dial height-of-cut adjustment, which allows the operator to change the deck height at the control panel without stepping off the machine.

Gravely // Gravely.com



TREE CARE PRODUCTS

CS-355T

The new CS-355T chain saw weighs 8 lbs. and features a 35.8 cc commercial-grade two-stroke engine. It offers a palm rest that provides control, supporting the operator's hand and preventing the hand from sliding. A G-Force Engine Air Pre-Cleaner provides a clean air supply to the engine by pulling dust and chips from the air box.

ECHO // ECHO-USA.com



Carbide Cutter G3

Loftness' Carbide Cutter G3 mulching head attachment for skid-steers is available with 51-, 61- and 71-in. cutting widths. The cutter features a two-stage cutting chamber with staggered counter teeth and a shear bar. This combination of features results in small particle sizes, while eliminating jamming and wrapping issues.

Loftness // VM-Logix.com



TREE-age and PHOSPHO-jet

TREE-age insecticide and PHOSPHO-jet fungicide are now labeled for use in California. TREE-age provides up to two years of control for insects like emerald ash borer and mountain pine beetle. PHOSPHO-jet, a systemic fungicide, helps suppress various plant diseases like sudden oak death and anthracnose. It inhibits fungal cells while eliciting a plant health response from the tree.

Arborjet // Arborjet.com



US500 and US1000

TurfEx's line of skid-mounted spot sprayers are designed to mount into the bed of any utility vehicle or pickup. Available with a 50-gal. (model US500) or a 100-gal. tank (model US1000), the units feature 50-ft. hoses on 100-ft.-capacity manual-rewind hose reels and long spray wands with trigger actuation. An optional trailer kit is available.

TurfEx // TurfExProducts.com



E-750 electric wheelbarrow

The Power Pusher E-750 offers a motorized wheelbarrow alternative that operates quietly and is able to move as much as 750 lbs. at up to 3 mph. Its power dump feature enables operators to eject material without lifting the device. It has a bed capacity of 9 cu. ft.

Power Pusher // Electric-Dumper.com



550 XP

The 550 XP chain saw features RevBoost, which provides instant high chain speed for efficient delimiting. Its X-Torq engine technology provides more power, up to 20 percent less fuel consumption and 75 percent less exhaust emission, according to the company. The slanted cylinder design allows for greater control, while the retaining function prevents bar nuts from loosening.

Husqvarna // Husqvarna.com

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ABOUT THE HOST

Jody Shilan is an award-winning landscape designer with more than 35 years of experience in the green industry. In addition to hosting FD2B Talk Radio and managing FromDesign2Build.com, Shilan is a regular presenter at industry events and writes the "Profiting from Design" column for *Landscape Management* magazine.

Shilan earned his Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture (BSLA) from Rutgers Cook College and his Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture (MLA) from the University of Massachusetts.



LISTENERS LOVE IT!

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Bob Dobson

*President of Middletown (N.J.) Sprinkler Co.,
and president of the Irrigation Association*



Who's your mentor? Phil DeMarco, who owned an irrigation distributorship in South Jersey. Phil and I have spoken daily for nearly 40 years. As a young contractor, Phil was my "go to" person. He is who I called when I had a question, when I needed to know how to do something. He was responsible for getting me involved in the Irrigation Association (IA). He was serving on the IA board of directors and suggested my name for appointment to the planning council. That was nearly 30 years ago.

What are the irrigation industry's biggest obstacles? One of our biggest challenges is all the regulations, codes and standards. Many of these seem to villainize turf, and, in doing so, irrigation. They do not recognize the benefits of well-maintained turfgrass; that turf reduces runoff and erosion, enhances ground water recharge, moderates air temperatures and sequesters atmospheric carbon, not to mention turfgrass beautifies and enhances the landscape. Efficient irrigation is an essential element necessary to maintaining healthy turf. The irrigation industry, the IA, wants a seat at the table to help develop these standards and to ensure they are developed based on sound science.

You've been involved in the irrigation industry for 45 years. What's changed the most for the better over the years? I started Middletown Sprinkler Co. with a partner in 1968. Without a doubt the product has improved dramatically. It's more reliable, flexible and, most importantly, it improves the uniformity of the irrigation we apply so we use less water.

Has anything changed for the worse? I think the part that's most challenging is the competitiveness of the market. There were maybe 10 irrigation contractors in the state of New Jersey in late 1960s. Now there are well over a thousand. The competitiveness is a challenge.

What excites you about being president of the IA? My opportunity to work with many of the other Green Industry associations. We may represent different segments of the industry, but we share mutual challenges and opportunities. I've met the leadership of many of the associations and look forward to collaborative efforts for the benefit of the industry. I am also excited about our upcoming irrigation show in November. We're going to a new venue, Austin, Texas. I am really looking forward to the show, to working with the state and local Texas associations in promoting and delivering a great show. My youngest daughter, Colleen, tells me Austin rocks.



OFF THE CLOCK

WHO MAKES UP YOUR FAMILY?

My wife of 39 years, Judy, and my three children, Kelly, Colleen and Robert, who is vice president of Middletown Sprinkler Co., and my two grandsons, Henry and Jack.

WHAT DO YOU DO TO RELAX?

Fly fish when I can.

CAT PERSON OR DOG PERSON?

Dog person. We have Molly, a 1 1/2-year-old chocolate lab.

WHEN DID YOU FIRST GET INVOLVED WITH THE IA?

My first experience with IA was through taking a regional education session, probably in the mid-1970s. It piqued my interest and a short time later I became a member. I became a certified irrigation designer and obtained all three landscape designer certifications. In the 1980s I was appointed to the planning council, next I was asked to join the certification board where I served for six years and was chairman for a year. It was a phenomenal experience, likewise with the IA board of directors and executive committee. I have met, got to know and learned from some amazing people.





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