

INTO THE FUTURE

Here's what to expect from major mower manufacturers in the future.

Alamo Group is looking at hydraulically powered mowers which would cut down on the wear of the mower, making the upkeep cost lower. The company also is investigating belly-mount units which would fit underneath a tractor and self-powered small mowers which would hook behind an all-terrain or recreational vehicle and be ideal for smaller mowing areas.

Ariens will broaden the WBLM line with more models.

Bomford & Evershed is hard at work building "better and cheaper flail mowers."

Brouwer will market two new 5-gang tractor mid-mounted mowers in 1987.

Bunton has just introduced a thatcher attachment for the rotary mowers, which allows the operator to dethatch. Also, a 12.5-hp Kawasaki engine or an 11-hp overhead valve Honda engine will be available for the rotary mowers. Within the next few months, Bunton will start marketing a triplex greensmower.

Cushman Ryan will offer a wider range of attachments for the commercial mowing market including thatcher attachments, snow and dozer blade, leaf blower, reel mower attachment, flail mowers, aerator attachment, and additional size decks to appeal to all potential users.

Cushman's newest product on the market is the Model 807 Cushman Front Line Diesel with 3-cylinder, 21.5-hp Kubota engine which features a 4-wheel tractor standard, extra wide tires, and power steering.

Dandl Manufacturing has plans for a new reel with both coarse and fine cut knives for the Expando and Industrial mowers.

Deere has introduced a new line of 12 golf and turf products. Included in that line will be 3- and 5-reel tractor mounted and 3- and 5-reel pull-type mowers.

Excel "feels good" with where the product line is right now. They are,

however, looking at additional engine options and attachments which would make the tractors more flexible. The availability of new cutting widths is another possibility for Excel in the future.

Ford Tractor plans to redesign "certain models." Available to the public in the spring of 1987 will be a new diesel-powered garden tractor mower.

Grasshopper is completing the conversion to a new powder-coated paint system. This state-of-the-art process gives an unmatched appearance as well as long-lived durability. Also in the plans is a water-cooled, gas engine model.

Gravelly plans to market a new 36-insert multi-mode mower for their 5000 series line (mower has side discharge, rear discharge, and grass collection all in one).

Grazer will implement complete hydraulic drive and introduce commercial walk-behind mowers.

Heckendorn is working with liquid-cooled gas and diesel engines, as well as hydrostatic drives for its original line of mowers. The new line will offer a deck which allows the user to tailor it to fit his needs with respect to size and capability. Options such as a snow thrower and rotary broom also will be available.

Ingersoll Equipment Co., Inc. has released five hydraulically powered attachments in the last three years and is continually striving to add to the versatility of the only hydraulic drive tractor manufactured for lawn and garden use.

Jacobsen maintains a constant, strong engineering research and development and product refinement program: improvements to existing products, as well as newly-designed products are introduced regularly. Among Jacobsen's new products are new triplex mowers and a hydraulic drive 5-gang tow-behind reel mower.

Kinco Manufacturing is getting away from castings and stampings and

looking to forgings in some critical areas to ensure the strength and longevity of products like a new walk-behind front-throw reel mower.

Kubota plans to introduce a 72-inch mower deck and 48-inch mower deck models. Also in the works is a radio control mower with all four wheel steering.

Lesco has introduced the "500" Greensmower, which will be available next spring. The "500" uses the basic design of the "300." with two cutting units added. This gives a 100-inch cutting width and offers the finest cut available for fairway mowing. An out-front rotary and a line of walk-behind rotaries will be available within two years.

Locke doesn't plan modifications of existing products, but will introduce two new products: an 18-inch rotary trimmer for commercial use only and a 70-inch triplex hydrostatic model.

Mathews Co. will broaden its established lines with more models, particularly flail-type mowers and mowers which reduce time and manpower requirements.

Middlesworth Engineering & Manufacturing is designing a 54-inch mower for a line that already runs from 40- to 72-inch cut and adding a grass catcher to the C40R rotary riding mower.

National Mower says changes in its mowers are "always under study." They will introduce a 76-inch triplex to the market in '87.

Ransomes will make modifications to improve the user's "down time" and cost of operations. New products include: 61-inch riding rotary with several engine options (low cost) for the landscape industry; narrow transport 71-inch triplex for golf course and municipality use; and a triplex greensmower for golf course use.

Scag Power Equipment will offer the new engine options of a Kohler 18-hp Kawasaki 17-hp engine for their ST18B rider. They also plan to introduce 12-hp brakes on the mid-size walk-behinds and riders.

Sensation, Division of Gilson Bros. has plans for Honda engine options on 21-inch push mowers at 4- and 5.5-hp,

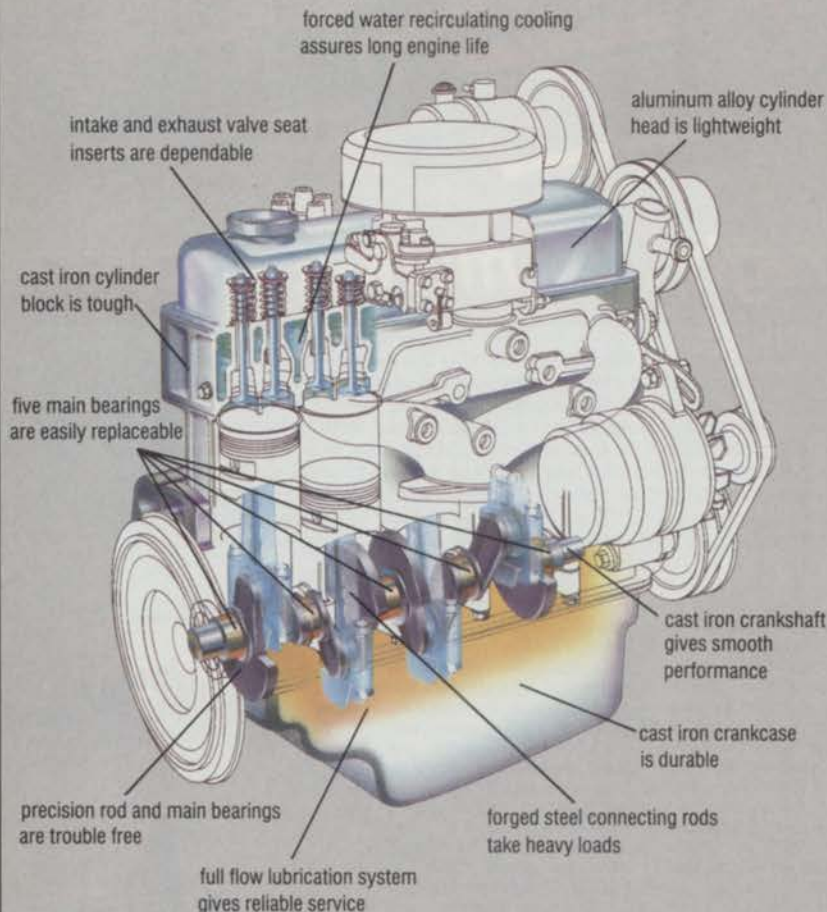
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R-11/14

for two riding mowers with out-front 61-inch and 48-inch cutting decks, three-wheeled configuration, and good maneuverability.

Simplicity promises larger mowing decks for both belly-mount and front-mount mowers along with lower cost and better performing grass collection systems.

Snapper will introduce new models designed for the commercial market, including walk-behinds.

Toro has just introduced a commercial 112-inch walk power mower. It is the fourth model in the company's

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line of mid-size commercial rotary mowers. The mower features a powerful 4-cycle, 12.5 hp Kawasaki engine, making it ideal for heavy cutting situations. It is compatible with Toro's three floating decks (36, 44, and 52 inches).

Turner International Ltd. is constantly evaluating new methods and modifications which will increase output, with safety being the highest priority.

Vrismo will introduce a complete line of updated three-point flails for the turf market plus a new flail knife for a finer cut.

Walker plans to introduce a 16-hp model "C" with long life drive train components. The company will continue to refine the existing model, particularly in boosting performance of the grass handling system.

Wheel Horse will introduce a commercial or extra heavy duty garden tractor with a "beefed up" mowing deck plus a commercial rear engine rider.

Woods, Division of Hesston has an ongoing program for improving existing mower products in performance, safety, and cost competitiveness. The company has no plans at the moment for new mower products.

Yazoo is constantly updating its mowers particularly with safety features and improved appearance. They have introduced two new 42-inch front-cut mowers, the Eagle I for consumer use and the Eagle II for commercial use. Both mowers have hydrostatic drive. **WT&T**