



SOIL AERATION EQUIPMENT

A wide variety of soil aeration tools have entered the market in recent years, filling every conceivable turf aeration need.

Soil aeration techniques open to green industry professionals have quickly moved from discussion to practice.

A helpful treatment for compaction and thatch, aeration can be accomplished in a variety of ways, perhaps as varied as the equipment. Generally, either solid tine, hollow core (open spoon) and shatter/slicer

Turf in warm-season climates is best aerated in late spring and early summer.

designs are common. Turf research has suggested solid tining may be less beneficial overall.

Water entered the picture this year with Toro's Hydroject 3000, which uses high pressure water coring.

Giving the turf "room to breathe" at the

For more aerator information

Specifications for shatter/slicer aerators available to landscape professionals can be found on page 26.

Specs for core aerators can be found on the following page and page 24.

To obtain information from individual companies, circle the numbers listed below on the Reader Service Card.

Shatter/slicers		Core aerators			
Co. name	Circle No.	Co. name	Circle No.	Co. name	Circle No.
Aer-Way	300	Befco	308	Hahn	311
Brinly-Hardy	301	Brinly-Hardy	301	Jacobsen	312
Cushman	302	Cushman	302	Lesco	313
John Deere	303	John Deere	303	Olathe	307
Feldmann	304	Feldmann	304	Ransomes	314
Green Care	305	First-Products	309	Terracare	315
Hoffco	306	Gandy	310	Toro	316
Olathe	307	Green Care	305	Verti-Drain	317

right time saves later headaches as grass roots welcome the opening of the turf surface to air and moisture.

Options range from model to

model, manufacturer to manufacturer. Superintendents, landscape and lawn care operators, and sports turf

continued on page 26

CORE AERATORS

Manufacturer	Model	Pull/Walk/Ride	Penetration	Plug Diameter	Overall Width	Weight (lbs.)	Speed
Befco ¹	Green-Rite I	pull	1"	N/A	52"/68"/84"	1,383/1,636/ 2,063	conditional
Befco	Green-Rite II	pull	1"	N/A	50"/58"/66"	N/A	conditional
Befco	Green-Rite III	pull	1"	N/A	58"	N/A	conditional
Befco	Green-Rite IV	ride	1"	N/A	58"/66"/74"	N/A	conditional
Brinly-Hardy	CA-30 BH	pull	N/A	N/A	30"	75	conditional
Brinly-Hardy	CA-36 PR	pull	N/A	N/A	36"	84	conditional
Brinly-Hardy	AS-24 BH	pull	2"	N/A	24"	50	conditional
Cushman	Ryan DGA 30-06 Model 544882	ride	4"-6"	1/2"-3/4"-7/8"	30"	1,960	up to 19,920 ³
Cushman	Ryan GA 30 Model 544875	ride	3 ³ / ₄ "	5/8"	30"	1,200	up to 28,125 ³
Cushman	Ryan Greensaire 24 Model 544872	walk	3"	1/2"	24"	800	up to 8000 ³
Cushman	Ryan Lawnaire 28 Model 544874	walk	2 ¹ / ₂ "	3/4"	28"	400	up to 24,000 ³
Cushman	Ryan Lawnaire IV Model 544863	walk	2 ³ / ₄ "	3/4"	19"	188	up to 21,000 ³
Cushman	Ryan Lawnaire V Model 544883	walk	2 ³ / ₄ "	3/4"	26 ¹ / ₂ "	218	up to 29,300 ³
Cushman	Ryan Lawnaire Tow 36 Model 544860	pull	4"	1/2" or 3/4"	36"	500	up to 10 mph
Cushman	Ryan Lawnaire Hitch Model 544859	pull	4"	1/2" or 3/4"	36"	475	N/A
Cushman	Ryan Lawnaire Hitch Model 544876	pull	4"	1/2" or 3/4"	48"	675	N/A
Cushman	Ryan Renovaire Hitch Model 544317	pull	4"	1/2" or 3/4"	72"	1,445	up to 10 mph
Cushman	GA 60	pull	4"	3/4"	60"	2,209	up to 1.3 acres/hr
Cushman	Quick Aerator	pull	5"	1/2" or 3/4" slicing knives	46"	N/A	N/A
Cushman	Greensaver Model 884716	pull	2 ³ / ₄ "	3/8" or 1/2"	22 ³ / ₄ "	N/A	N/A
John Deere	132/232	pull	N/A	1/2" or 3/4"	32"	N/A	conditional
John Deere	270	pull	N/A	1/2" or 3/4" Slicer blades	72"	N/A	conditional
Feldmann	2300	walk	2 ¹ / ₂ "	(Slicer available)	26"	128	1,800 ³
Feldmann	2340-32/2340-48	pull	2 ¹ / ₂ "	1/2"	32"	85/100	conditional
Feldmann	2552/2528	pull	2 ¹ / ₂ "	1/2"	32"/48"	83/98	conditional

¹ Befco aerators are also overseeders & fertilizers

² Model also a seeder/fertilizer

³ Square feet per hour

CORE AERATORS

Manufacturer	Model	Pull/Walk/Ride	Penetration	Plug Diameter	Overall Width	Weight (lbs.)	Speed
First-Products	Aera-rator	pull	3"	1/2"	60"	635	3 1/2 mph
Gandy	aerater attachment	pull	2 1/2"	N/A	24"	N/A	conditional
Green Care	Core Master 12	pull	3 3/4"	1/4"-3/8"-1/2"- 5/8"-3/4"	49"	N/A	conditional
Green Care	Core Puppy	walk	3 3/4"	1/4"-3/8"-1/2"- 5/8"-3/4"	25"	650	conditional
Hahn	TB-60/TM-60	pull	N/A	N/A	32"	550/500	conditional
Hahn	TM-140/TB-140	pull	N/A	3/4" or 1"	72"/90"	672/954	conditional
Hahn	EA-3	walk	N/A	N/A	22"	166	conditional
Jacobsen	Aero King PT 2448	pull	3"	1/4"-3/8"-1/2"	48"	885	conditional
Jacobsen	T 3019	walk	3"	3/4"	19"	250	24,000 ¹
Jacobsen	P 4024/T 6030	walk	3"	1"	24"/30"	240/285	24,000 ¹ / 30,000 ¹
Lesco	Aerator 30	walk	3"	5/8"	30"	254	conditional
Olathe	88	walk	3 1/2"	3/4"	32 1/2"	260	19,000 ¹
Ransomes	XRA 550R/ XRA 540	ride	up to 6"/ up to 5"	1/4"-3/8"-1/2"- 5/8"-3/4"	54"	1,600/1,200	up to 60,000 ¹
Ransomes	XRA 240	walk	2 3/4"	5/8"-3/4"	24"	440	25,800 ¹
Ransomes	XRA 250/ XRA 270	walk	4"	1/4"-3/8"-1/2"- 5/8"-3/4"	25"	440	25,800 ¹ / 13,900 ¹
Terracare	WR 2 ²	walk	2 3/4"	1/2"-5/8"	36"	600	3/4 acre/hr
Terracare	T 98/T 200/T 320	pull	2 3/4"	1/2"-5/8"	9'3"/4'/7'	600/1,100/1,600	1 acre/hr, 1 1/2 acre/hr, 3 acre/hr
Toro	HydroJect 3000	walk	4"-20"	N/A	33"	995	up to 26,000 ¹
Toro	Greens Aerater 09110	walk	3 1/2"	3/8"-1/2"-5/8"-3/4"	27"	1,275	13,000 ¹
Toro	686/687/96	pull	N/A	1/2" or 3/4" ³	90"/82"/48"	1,420/1,290/600	1-10 mph
Toro	Fairway Aerater 09500	pull	3" to 5"	3/4" or 7/8"	63"	2,975	61,000 ¹
Verti-Drain	305-250/ 305-200H	pull	16"	3/4" or 1"	98"/79"	4,685/3,515	21,500 ¹ / 17,200 ¹
Verti-Drain	105-145	pull	12"	1/2"-5/8"-3/4"-1"	57"	1,850	7,800 ¹
Verti-Drain	005-120	pull	10"	1/2"-5/8"-3/4"	48"	1,100	7,500 ¹
Verti-Drain	001-060	walk	6"	1/2" or 5/8"	24"	680	5,700 ¹

¹ Square feet per hour

² 4" spiking tine available for all models

³ 4" slicing blades available

SHATTER/SLICERS

Manufacturer	Model	Pull/Walk/Ride	Penetration	Overall Width	Weight (lbs.)	Speed
Aer-Way	AWO40T-1365T	pull	6 1/2"	4'	N/A	conditional
Aer-Way	AWO56S-1365T	pull	8"	5' 6"	N/A	conditional
Aer-Way	AWO60Q-2380C	pull	6 1/2"	6'	N/A	conditional
Aer-Way	AWO76S-2380T	pull	6 1/2"	7' 6"	N/A	conditional
Aer-Way	AWO80Q-2380C	pull	6 1/2"	8'	N/A	conditional
Aer-Way	AW150T-4380T	pull	6 1/2"	15'	N/A	conditional
Brinly-Hardy	SA-30 BH	pull	2"	30"	22	conditional
Brinly-Hardy	SA-36 BH	pull	2"	3'	40	conditional
Brinly-Hardy	SA-36 PR	pull	4"	3'	95	conditional
Cushman	Ryan Tracaire Model 544423	pull	4"	6'	1037	up to 10 mph
John Deere	140S	pull	N/A	41"	360	conditional
John Deere	260S	pull	N/A	5'	420	conditional
John Deere	280S	pull	N/A	82"	690	conditional
Feldmann	2200S	walk	2 1/2"	26"	128	18,000 ²
Green Care	Shattermaster SH-6/250	pull	12"	5'	725	conditional
Green Care	Shattermaster SH-8/250	pull	12"	80"	950	conditional
Hoffco	L'I Hoe	walk	N/A	10"	25	conditional
Olathe ¹	83	pull	3 1/2"	4'	N/A	conditional
Olathe ¹	84	walk	2 1/2"	29 1/2"	350	conditional
Olathe ¹	37	pull	3"	5'	N/A	conditional

¹ Slit Seeder attachment available ² Square feet per hour

AERATION from page 22

professionals must decide what system best suits their needs.

Aeration is most effective when the surface plant is actively, healthfully growing. Early aeration can lead to disruption in the grass root system.

Another important consideration: aeration plans must consider the climate. Cool-season climates,

Aerate cool-season turf in early spring and early fall, during periods of vigorous growth.

generally, favor early spring and early fall programs when the grass shows vigorous growth. Warm-season climates, as a rule of thumb, invite aeration benefits in late spring and early summer.

The accompanying chart lists what is available to professional lawn/landscape maintenance contractors this fall. **LM**