

# GREEN INDUSTRY SHOWCASE

## Tree spades dig deep for multi-service nursery

For more than 27 years, Greentree Nurseries in Allentown, Pa. has been carefully nurturing 250,000 trees as they mature on its six tree farms.

Tree farming is just one of Greentree's businesses. It offers to service wholesale and retail customers. It also provides industrial and commercial landscaping, seeding and sodding, irrigation systems design and installation, site grading and snow plowing.

Alex Tamerler, owner of Greentree, oversees this large and diversified company, which employs up to 80 people during the spring and fall seasons, and utilizes 40 pieces of large equipment.

One of the services the company offers as part of its landscaping business is transplanting large caliper shade trees to residential and commercial locations.

Customers select a tree, or trees, from any of the six tree farms. After the selection has been made, one of the company's four Vermeer truck-mounted tree spades is used to dig the tree.

The operator stands to the rear of the truck and operates the hydraulic controls, activating the spades and causing them to encase the tree, digging down below the roots and removing the entire root ball. The tree is then lifted hydraulically, with the root ball attached, over the truck and secured for transit.

Greentree owns a Vermeer 9400, three Vermeer TS 84s, 2 TS 60s and 18 other Vermeer tree-related products.

The 9400 can transport a tree with up to a 12-inch trunk diameter, and up to seven tons, including the dirt needed for the root system. It features spades made of alloy steel. There is a 450-gallon water tank attached to keep the spades wet while digging.

"Vermeer equipment is an integral part of our business," says Tamerler. "We rely heavily on the dependability of our tree equipment and the swift availability of Vermeer parts and service. Tree moving has become a large part of our business."

Circle No. 191 on Reader Inquiry Card



Vermeer TS 84T tree spade removes a tree from the Greentree farm.



Vermeer TS 84T prepares to place the tree in freshly-dug hole at office complex.