

PRODUCT SHOWCASE

New wood/plastic building composite for decks, play

A new building material, composed of wood and plastic, is now reportedly in use for a variety of landscape and playground structures.

Trex is made of 50 percent waste wood obtained primarily from furniture sawdust and wooden pallets and 50 percent reclaimed polyethylene obtained from grocery bag recycling programs and shrink wrap.

Mobil Chemical Company, maker of Trex, says the new material is not treated with any preservatives. It stays smooth, does not splinter, and provides excellent traction, in wet or dry weather. High insect and moisture resistance prevents rotting.

Trex has been used in rebuilding pro-

jects at the Jersey shore, and is being considered for use along shoreline properties.

A group of townspeople in Hooksett, N.H., recently built a maintenance-free playground out of the material.

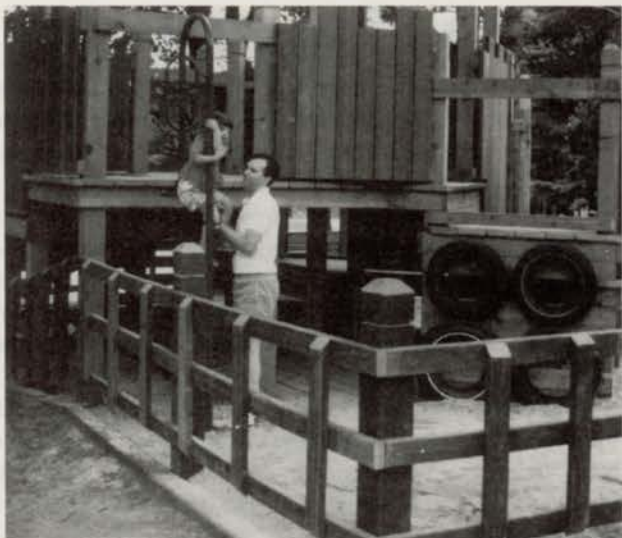
Trex comes in two colors, natural and dark brown. After exposure to air over a few months time, the natural brown turns a silvery gray color.

Trex can be worked like wood: you can saw

it, nail it, drill it, rout it or lathe it.

Mike Brunner, a contractor in Speonk, Long Island, says Trex does not split, even when nailed near its edge.

Circle No. 191 on Reader Inquiry Card



Control fire ants with new sub-surface injection tool

A new fire ant control tool reportedly provides 100 percent kill of any size fire ant colony when used correctly.



The injector product by Intertech Unlimited, Las Vegas, Nev., is used in indi-

vidual mound treatments, but does not require follow-ups to treat mounds built by surviving insects.

The Intertech System kills the colony in less than 30 seconds.

The technology acquired by Intertech is a sub-surface thermal injection system, patented and EPA labeled.

The active ingredient is resmethrin, a pyrethroid. According to Intertech Unlimited, resmethrin is a wax, with zero solubility in water, and thus will not enter into any aquifer or body of water.

A one percent solution is heated to a temperature which produces molecules in the 0.5 micron range. The heating process produces an extremely active vapor that provides for an almost instant and total infusion of even the largest fire ant colony.

For more information, contact Intertech Unlimited at (702) 873-5848.

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Software program manages payroll, many other jobs

Armor Premier Accounting Software manages all the payroll needs for landscape companies.

The software's payroll module handles the simplest to the most complex payroll



applications.

In smaller companies, the General Ledger's payroll feature lets managers track labor costs and prepare forms W-2 and 1099.

The company says the Premier program computes pay per client or landscapers' flat rate by job, as well as hourly over time and commissions.

Armor Premier handles direct deposits of checks. It calculates and tracks costs for workman's comp and other benefits; provides a place to file employee review information, reports, options and forms for analysis and tracking needs.

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SHOWCASE

PRODUCT REVIEW

Measure snow build-up, 'good-bye' to false alarms

"Snow Alert" monitors the accumulation of snow on the ground and sends a signal to an indoor receiver.

"We normally agree not to plow customers' driveways or parking lots unless there is at least three inches of snow on the ground," says Bill Eklund, president of Aspen Enterprises, Falmouth, Maine.

"Many times, predicted accumulations do not become reality. With this device, we can get our sleep and still serve our customers' needs," says Eklund.

"Snow Alert will help snow plowers who get predictions of flurries that turn out to be major accumulation satisfy their customers who want to be plowed out by 7 a.m.," Eklund says.

The wireless "Snow Alert," installs on a deck or driveway, and runs on batteries. The instrument monitors accumulation until it reaches a preset amount and then

transmits a signal to the designated destination inside the house on an FCC-approved frequency. Wet snow, freezing rain or blowing or drifting snow does not affect its accuracy.

The "Snow Alert" sells for \$249.
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Adjustable spray jet throws water up to 13 ft., no clogs

Antelco Corporation of Longwood, Fla., has begun to market Spectrum 360, an adjustable turbulent flow spray jet with built-in vortex action.

Finger-tip control allows a flow rate of 0 to 23 gph. The Spectrum 360 throws water up to 13 ft. in diameter.

Special features reduce the possibility of system failure through clogging. The even, full circle spray pattern is produced with fine droplets at high velocity for efficient watering while maximizing irrigation reliability.

The fully adjustable flow and spray length provides the basic needs for water conservation and balanced performance to minimize waste.

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Wood treatment has 'built-in' repellent

ACQ "Preserve" is arsenic and chromium free. For some wood species, ACQ comes with a "built-in" water repellent to resist checking and cracking. ACQ Preserve weathers naturally to a warm brown color. The product can be painted or stained to match existing outdoor color schemes.

The preservative in ACQ is registered by the EPA and is accepted by the American Wood Preservers' Association and major building codes.

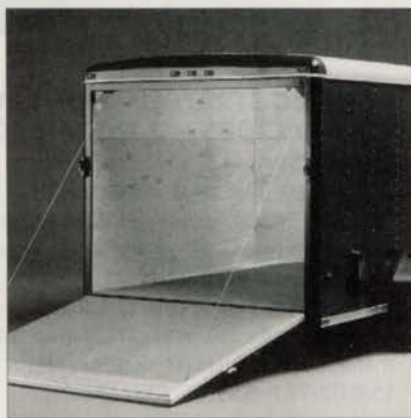
It is backed by a Limited Lifetime Warranty when used in residential construction.

Trailer easily hefts landscaping equipment

The new Wells Cargo Wide Axle Landscape Trailer has a 102-inch track width for extra on-road stability.

The trailer also features a spacious 9-foot, 9-inch-wide interior floor with no wheel boxes to get in the way.

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Workbench designed for use by green industry experts, lifts to 300 lbs. of cargo

The Uni-Lift Model 384 Lift/Workbench is a fast and safe way for one person to service all kinds of turf grooming equipment.

One person can service a 30-inch ground-driven reel mower, adjust bedknife clearance and perform backlapping on a greens mower.

The Uni-Lift has a 300 lb. capacity.

An additional support hanger lets you suspend 30-inch reel mowers by the axles. Simply raise the mower, secure it to the support hanger with the adjustable locking clamp, and lower the lifting platform for total access. The basic unit costs \$1295. Accessories are extra.

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PRODUCT REVIEW

Nursery stock easy to track with electronic inventory

ScriptWriter II is an automated, portable data collection device that uses pen-based technology pioneered by Data Entry Systems of San Mateo, Calif.

The Warren County Nursery, in McMinnville, Tenn., has used the system to eliminate eight-inch thick inventory books.

ScriptWriter has the capability to upload data to computers almost immediately after counting trees.

"The nursery had been running into problems because they don't sell in small quantities," says Shyrunn Beasley, president of Condor Computing. Condor used ScriptWriter II to develop software for the electronic inventory system.

"They're usually selling quantities of 50 to 100 at a time, and even truckloads of trees during the spring," says Beasley, to illustrate the magnitude of

Warren's bookkeeping.

ScriptWriter II lets operators input data collection effectively, so that inventory reflects a more accurate picture of what's been sold and what's in stock.

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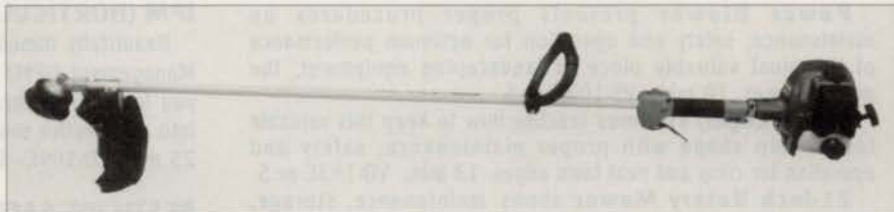
New model trimmers lighter, easier to use

Makita's line of commercial duty gas engine trimmers can handle any trimming

straight shaft design as their commercial-duty counterparts.

The economical RST250 is highlighted by a curved shaft design for a clear view of the work areas and allows the operator to stay close to the trimming work for better control and handling.

The trimmers have patented automatic string feed which advances string to the desired length by quickly decreasing, then boosting engine speed.



task required by the groundskeeper or landscaper with power and reliability, says the California-based company.

Models RBC221 and RBC251 feature the same durable and efficient aluminum

According to Makita, all three models have a vibration-absorbing design to reduce operator fatigue over extended periods of use.

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