PRODUCT REVIEW

and key-lockable cabinet.

The controller has a diagnostic, electronic circuit breaker system. The system can sense a shorted or overloaded valve circuit. When a short is detected, the problematic station is bypassed and the ESP-LX continues to operate the other stations in the program. An alert light turns on to indicate there has been a problem and the station number with the problem is displayed along with the word "fault."

The controller has a test program, water budgeting program and provisions for hooking up a rain or moisture sensor system. An indoor version (ESP-LXi) of the same series, with a plug-in style transformer, is also available through Rain Bird Distributors worldwide.

Circle No. 220 on Reader Inquiry Card

Central controller for large turf applications

The Network DR2 from The Toro Company is a new irrigation control system for new and retrofit large turf applications.

The Network DR2 satellites use modular technology to allow for flexible system design as site demands change. Four-station modules enable easy expansion from 16 to 32 stations and should keep retrofitting less costly and disruptive. The Network DR2 provides diagnostic sensor data to the central computer and can operate as a stand-alone controller, which is programmable through a portable keyboard interface, or as a satellite of the central control system.

The Network DR2 includes Toro's Electro-Flow feature, which assists in the proper management of hydraulic flow and electric current demands for optimal operation of the control system during the irrigation cycle.

The Network DR2 central comes with a one-year, no-charge subscription to the exclusive Toro National Support Network, a support system for computer hardware and software.

Circle No. 221 on Reader Inquiry Card

Walk-behind mowers offer versatility and value

Walk Behinds from Ariens mulch, bag or side discharge grass and vacuum leaves.

The Walk Behinds come with 5-, 5.5- or 6-hp engines, made by Kawasaki, Briggs & Stratton or Tecumseh, respectively. The mowing deck is made of 14-gauge steel. The 21-inch deck also features a "rolled-under" lip to enhance air-flow for better bagging and side discharge.

Standard equipment includes a 2½bushel rear bagger, a side discharge and a Mulch-Master Plug and mulching cover. The handlebar was designed with ergonomics in mind, to fit the most comfortable position of the hands and wrists. The handlebar features four working positions, one service position and one storage position.

Optional Swivel System wheels are available and improve the Walk Behinds's performance around flower beds, trees and shrubs. **Circle No. 222 on Reader Inquiry Card**

Steel, tree support device minimizes branch breakage

A simple wire device attached to a stake can support heavily-laden fruit or ornamental tree branches to prevent breakage.

The Fruit Brute is made by V.I.T. Products of San Diego.

The wire ends provide dual point penetration which dig into the stake under high compression stress to prevent slipping and to assure a positive locking action.

The Fruit Brute installs quickly and can be removed quickly.

Fruit Brute is extra wide at its bottom, for full closure at the top of the stake to create a centered entry for the barbed ends. Using your thumb and forefinger to gently squeeze the shank, the top of Fruit Brute easily opens for rapid installation.

Fruit Brute will not twist or unwind and will not splinter stakes.

Circle No. 223 on Reader Inquiry Card

Low-profile light combines styling with efficient output

The Malibu Low Profile Edge Light features a half-dome shape and low profile for use along driveways, sidewalks, patios, paths, steps and decks.

The light is secured into the ground by two stakes. The stakes can be removed so the light can be easily mounted on walls, fences and other flat surfaces.

When the ground stakes are removed, the edge light can be mounted to create dramatic lighting effects on flowers, plants, walls or architecture.

Circle No. 224 on Reader Inquiry Card



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