

SPREADERS

A quality spreader assures that seed, fertilizer and dry chemicals 'hit the ground running.'

by TERRY McIVER / Managing Editor

Your "ground level" plan for turf and landscape management should include a spreader that matches the size of the job, and is versatile enough to carry and deposit a variety of products.

Art Downing, sports field supervisor for the Howard County, Md., recreation and parks department, looks at spreaders from four angles:

1) **Easy to load.** This means the hopper has to be wide enough to accept the bag of material that you're loading, and low enough so you don't have to lift the bag very high off the ground.

2) **An agitation device that works.** Pelletized lime, for example, works much better in spreaders than the powdered variety, says Downing.

3) **Ease of operation.** Gauges should not be complicated, says Downing, requiring only "an easy on or off."

4) **Consistent spreading pattern.** This is important whether it's a tractor model that throws material 25 feet, or a walk-behind model with a spread of 5 feet. In the walk-behind category, Downing prefers spin models over drop spreaders.

"If you don't walk the exact pattern, [drop spreaders] will miss," he says. "They're great for powdered lime, but that's about all."

You won't have uniform turf color and vigor if your spreader puts material down unevenly. This means the spreader chute or ports must be cleaned before and after every application, or at least given a good look to check for clogged particles.

Drop spreaders may also not apply materials evenly if the driver or person walking behind it is not moving at an even pace. Too fast an application may result in missed spots or inadequate coverage. Too slow an application will cause materials to be applied heavier than necessary.

High-capacity walk-behind models reduce the labor involved in refilling the hopper repeatedly on the same site. Spreaders from Agri-Fab, for example, come in 100-lb. push models as well as 125-lb. or 175-lb. tow-behind models. **LM**



The Grotech multi-purpose spreader has universal mounts.



Vandermolen's Windmill spreader, above, has an effective spreading width of 40 feet. At left, the Gandy drop spreader can be used as a walk or tow unit.



Jacobsen's SV System Vehicle with spreader attachment. The spreader carries 14 cubic feet of material.

AGRI-FAB
(217) 728-8388
Circle No. 200

The Model 45-0238 is a tractor-mounted spreader that carries up to 100 lbs. of material. The spreader is compact, with a reliable design that ensures even and continuous flow and spread of materials. Spread width is 10-12 feet. The unit is driven by a 12-volt motor and comes with a poly wrap-around shield to reduce the spread width to four feet, and a vinyl cover.

EARTH WAY
(914) 356-8300
Circle No. 201

Distributed by Landscapers Supply Corp., Earth Way Ev-N-Spred commercial spreaders have large, easy rolling jumbo tires. Nylon wheel bushings ensure long, maintenance-free operation and smooth travel. All tractor pull and push models feature large enclosed gears with a full, 2-year unconditional guarantee, a self-cleaning design and a controlled feathered-edge broadcast.

C & S TURF EQUIPMENT
(800) 872-7050
Circle No. 202

The Turf Tracker is a riding spreader/sprayer unit that allows the operator to apply a granular product or spot application of liquids at the same time. Application speed allows the operator to cover one acre in 10 minutes. Zero-turn allows high maneuverability in heavily landscaped areas.

CHANDLER EQUIPMENT CO.
(800) 243-3319
Circle No. 203

"Low profile" golf course spreaders have capacities from three to five tons. A standard PTO belt drive is set up for 540 or 1000 rpm PTO or both. The dual hydraulic hook-up with hydraulic flow is supplied by tractor. A self-contained hydraulic drive with direct mount pump mounts to the tractor PTO. The "High profile" model is available in 304 stainless steel, 409 stainless steel painted or heavy-duty carbon steel.

GANDY
(507) 451-5430
Circle No. 204

The 6500 series of spreaders are 4, 5 and 6-foot-wide models for

heavy-duty jobs. Use them to fertilize, apply seed, herbicides, insecticides, fungicides and nematicides. Four- and five-foot models can be ordered with a handle to maneuver in small areas. Two rotors are independently driven from each end with three lengthwise rods spaced uniformly around the core for gentle agitation and free material flow.

GROTECH
(800) 725-8377
Circle No. 205

The MPS-125 is a multi-purpose spreader to mount on any tractor, utility vehicle, front mower or truck. A simple trailer attachment enables the user to pull the unit behind a golf cart. The MPS-125 spreads evenly, regardless of the throttle rpm or terrain. The spinner height adjusts 24 inches vertically, on a three-point hitch mount. The spread pattern adjusts from 4 to 40 feet.

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT CO.
(319) 363-8281
Circle No. 206

The L2020GT has a 50-lb. capacity. The successor of traditional spinner spreaders, the unit resists corrosion, reduces bridging and improves spread patterns. A carbon steel hopper is fully welded, caulked, and painted with an advanced corrosion-resistant paint system developed to endure years of use. The hopper body is 96 inches wide.

JACOBSEN
(414) 637-6711
Circle No. 207

The SV System Vehicle comes with a spreader accessory that carries 14 cu. ft. of materials. The working width ad-



The Turf Tracker has a spreader mounted on the front. The Spyker Spreader, below, has responsive controls.

justs from 20 to 66 feet. It installs with brackets on top of the polyethylene hopper (with formed steel frame) for lifting. The SV hydraulic system provides the drive. One spout is used for sand and salt applications, another for seed and fertilizer.

LESCO
(800) 321-5325
Circle No. 208

The Mark II is made with a new frame and handle assembly that features stiffer construction to reduce bounce and provide more comfort and easier pushing for the operator. To better accommodate applicators of all sizes, the spreader has longer, adjustable handles and a wider handlebar. A simplified calibration adjustment improves application accuracy and establishes uniformity when calibrating a fleet of spreaders.

MARUYAMA
(206) 885-0811
Circle No. 209

The MG10 granule spreader carries seed, fertilizer and other dry chemicals, up to 2.9 gallons in capacity. The model MG10 features very uniform distribution and an 18-foot range. The spread pattern can be set for left or right side, or a 180-degree coverage. It has a 10 position adjustable discharge volume and tank agitator to eliminate clumps or jamming.

RIVERSIDE GARDENS
(607) 729-2292
Circle No. 210

The Applicator's Friend shield encloses the rear portion of fertilizer spreaders to reduce operator exposure to materials. The shield

does not affect the spreader operation or spread patterns. The Applicator's Friend shield is thermoformed from durable, high-tech, corrosion-resistant materials. The shield can be cleaned easily with water, and it can be attached in minutes.

SPYKER SPREADERS
(219) 774-8122
Circle No. 211

Pro Model spreaders from Spyker have been improved and are now available to the green industry. Spreaders include the "Big Spread" spreading spinners, and Model 78-22 with instant action spread/no spread. Stainless steel frames are optional. The "Big Spread" distributes material in a wide, level distribution pattern.

UNITED HORTICULTURAL SUPPLY
(503) 678-9000
Circle No. 212

Commercial broadcast spreaders from UHS feature linear, low density polyethylene construction. Gears are made of Nylatron GS, and are self-lubricating, with superior wear characteristics. Nylon 6/6 axle and wheel bearing are also self-lubricating, with excellent wear and load-carrying ability.

VANDERMOLEN CORP.
(201) 992-8506
Circle No. 213

The Windmill Spreader Model 510 features a granular capacity of 400 lbs., and an effective spreading width of 40 ft. The Windmill spreads all types of seed, and can handle salt and sand. The Windmill is designed for smaller tractors in the 16 to 28 hp range. □