



Scag: cutting heights easy to change from driver's seat.



Excel: 2500 compact is built with high-capacity mowing deck.



Grasshopper: outfront decks reduce secondary trimming.

ZERO-TURN MOWERS

These mowers increase productivity with their quick maneuvering ability and compact design.

Over the last 25 years, commercial, zero-turn riding mowers have been gaining market share, as evidenced by the number of manufacturers producing them today and the large number of machines operating on properties.

The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) reports that almost half of the commercial riding mowers sold during 1993 were transmission steer (lever steering) zero-turn type machines.

More productive

Operators routinely claim doubling the amount of mowing output after changing from midsize walk-behinds or conventional steering wheel riders to zero-turn riding mowers.

Of course, the production gain depends on the type of areas being mowed, but generally, landscaped turf with combinations of small and open turf areas is "typically" where zero-turn riding mowers have an advantage.

Production gains are the direct result of increased maneuverability:

- ▶ ability to quickly maneuver, with very little lost motion, means the mower spends more time "in the grass."
- ▶ ability to maneuver in tight areas, which reduces travel time.
- ▶ ability to maneuver easily, which facilitates trimming and covering irregular-shaped areas.

Reduce or maintain labor

Increasing productivity gives zero-turn operators two options: reduce their labor force or maintain it and grow their businesses. Either way, labor savings easily offset the higher purchase price of a zero-turn rider and the investment to train workers to operate a "lever steering" machine (a common objection of "steering wheel" proponents).

Some zero-turn owners claim it is actually easier to teach proper operation of a lever-steering rider than a midsize walk-behind.

SOURCE: WALKER TALK, USED BY PERMISSION OF WALKER MFG. CO.

ZERO-TURN MOWERS

BUNTON

(502) 966-0550

Circle No. 250

The new "Twister" zero-turn mower features a new, innovative finger-tip, electric, deck height adjustment. The feature lets the operator make quick and easy deck height adjustments, based on various situations, such as curbs, sprinkler heads, or tree roots. Ergonomic, contoured seat and control panel provide exceptional all-around visibility of cutting deck and all four tires.

BUSH HOG

(334) 460-2595

Circle No. 251

New Bush Hog zero-turn mowers deliver top appearance and efficiency, says the Mobile, AL.-based company. Engine options include air-cooled, 18-hp Briggs & Stratton, or 22-hp, Kohler Command engines; or 20-hp Kawasaki engines.

COUNTRY CLIPPER

(515) 872-2544

Circle No. 252

The new mid-mount, zero-turn radius mower—Model 2200M—maneuvers well and has cutting widths of 48- and 60-inches. It offers the same high production capabilities of larger mowers, says the Corydon, Iowa company. Overall length is 74-inches, tire width is 48-inches.

ENCORE

(402) 228-4255

Circle No. 253

Encore's new Z48 is built with features that improve cutting performance and durability. Zero radius turning adds efficiency to mowing, and eliminates the need for small trim mowers. The rider is compact enough to maneuver in confined areas. Wide wheel base and oversized rear wheels give exceptional stability on hills.

EXCEL

(800) 395-4757

Circle No. 254

The 2500 Compact mower is built with high-capacity, deep-tunnel mowing decks. Hydraulic deck lift is standard, and a 22-hp Kohler Command engine provides the power. Excel says the 2500 Compact has "the world's fastest edger attachment." The mower turns within its own length, on counter rotating, independent drive wheels.

A BAC-VAC catcher installs quickly and is easy to remove and empty. The Excel Hustler 3000 features an air-cooled Kohler Command engine.

EXMARK

(402) 223-4010

Circle No. 255

The Lazer Z is a zero-turn mid-mount with hydraulically-dampened steering, for smooth control. A low center of gravity and wide drive-tire stance provide exceptional traction and unmatched stability. An Instant-Adjust system lets the operator easily change cutting heights from 1-1/2 inches to five-inches from the comfort of the fully-adjustable seat.

FERRIS

(800) 933-6175

Circle No. 256

The newest mower to the Ferris line is the Pro Cut Z zero-turn riding mower. The Pro Cut Z features an



exclusive, dual-point floating front end. Two mounting joints in the front axle allow vertical travel at each wheel. The company says the mower will provide an unbeatable cut on uneven terrain.

GRASSHOPPER

(316) 345-8621

Circle No. 257

The Model 725K from Grasshopper is the company's largest air-cooled unit. The mower is powered by a 25-hp Kohler Command V-Twin OHV engine for extra power to optional equipment. The 725K is compatible with all Grasshopper decks, including the Combo Mulching Deck, which is available for all Grasshopper dual-path, hy-

drostatic direct-drive, zero-radius power units.

KEES

(402) 223-2391

Circle No. 258

The Kees Hydro provides smooth, positive and responsive fingertip control for instant forward, reverse and turning without slippage on inclines or in wet conditions. The results are increased productivity and greatly reduced operator fatigue.

RANSOMES

(800) 228-4444

Circle No. 259

Ransomes' Bob-Cat ZT 200 offers true zero-turn capability. Tires are 23 x 10.50-12 for increased floatation. The wide design means peak performance on hills. A 22-hp Kohler command engine with dual hydrostatic drive brings power to

the task at hand, and six anti-scalp rollers produce a quality cut.

SCAG

(414) 387-0100

Circle No. 260

The SSZ is available in 48-, 52- and 61-inch cutting widths, and cutting heights can be conveniently changed from the operator's seat. Engine options include 18-, 20- or 22-hp Kohler Command models. Additional features include a convenient electric blade engagement clutch, tapered roller bearing spindles and an oversized five gallon fuel tank.

SNAPPER

(770) 954-2500

Circle No. 261

The Snapper Z-Rider line of mid-mount mowers offer joystick steering and maneuverability. Snapper Z-Rider have been designed to serve the varying needs of commercial users. Fingertip maneuverability is possible due to the single-lever joystick that enables point-and-go steering. A pivoting front axle and 20-inch rear tires help to provide maximum traction and stability.

STEINER

(330) 828-0200

Circle No. 262

The Model 202 "floats" over uneven terrain with a unique

mower deck that flexes and moves, for an even and clean cut. The cushioned hydrostatic levers give operator smooth control with minimal training. Twin hydrostatic controls provide a steady ride and smooth power, while a single park lever and cutting height handle allow for fast, easy adjustments.

TORO

(612) 888-8801

Circle No. 263

The Z Master is a out-front type, zero-radius tractor. The Z320 is equipped with a 20-hp Kohler Com-



mand vertical shaft engine. The Z325 has a 25-hp Kohler Command vertical shaft engine. With a forward ground speed of up to eight miles per hour and a reverse speed of four miles per hour.

WALKER

(970) 221-5614

Circle No. 264

Walker zero-turn mowers are easy to clean and maintain, thanks to the new tilt-up deck option. A hinged deck carrier frame, large retractable handle on front of the deck and roller wheels on the back provide quick, easy tilt-up of the deck assembly. One person can tilt the deck up and then lower to the normal operating position in less than 15 seconds.

ZIPPER

(316) 775-7766

Circle No. 265

The Zipper TS commercial mower decks swing into the near vertical position for easy, time saving maintenance and cleanup. The electric deck lift makes curbs and obstacles a snap to crossover. **LM**