



John Deere offers five hydraulically powered 30-inch ESP reels on the JD 365 hydraulic gang mower. Cutting width, 134 inches.



Jacobsen Hydraulic Rangers available in 7-gang or 5-gang versions. The 7-gang model has a 15-foot cutting width.



The operator can stand or sit to operate the Hustler ShortCut zero turn rider. Hustler Bar Steering can be mastered in minutes.

MOWERS, THE BIG GUYS

By CURT HARLER

Mowing is a demanding job. First, it demands the right equipment. Next, it demands machines which will perform well for years, often be mistreated, and occasionally be run by operators who are not the gentlest of workers.

Today's landscapes demand mowers which will operate in places where mowers have not gone before — close to flower beds, on steep slopes, in tight by roads and cart paths. Despite the number of reduced-maintenance landscapes being installed today, there's still a lot of grass to mow. Also, demands to keep labor costs in line require supervisors to seek mowing efficiency.

To meet all of these demands, several factors must be considered. In addition to buying a tough piece of equipment meant to give a long service life, ease of operation and operator safety must be checked. Look, too, at how environmentally friendly the machine you are buying may be. Check "hidden" labor costs — like the amount of time it takes to mount the mower to a tractor, or how difficult it is to remove, sharpen and replace mower blades. Look at fuel capacity on self-propelled models ... a larger fuel tank

should mean longer operation between stops, and more efficiency out on the "back forty."

Here are some machines to consider as you gear up for the 1998 mowing season.

ALAMO INDUSTRIAL
800-882-5762
Circle No. 250

Eliminate clumps of windrowed grass with the Grass Gator from Alamo, Seguin, TX. Machine produces a fine-cut mulch with its 74-inch wide reversible, self-cleaning flail knife setup. Unit requires a 30 hp tractor. Twin flail shafts with counter rotation reduce grass to a fine mulch. Rear knives are set one-inch lower than the front knives for a cleaner, smoother cut. Deck is made of 10 gauge steel and can be set in one-half inch increments up to a six-inch cut.

EDWARDS EQUIPMENT
509-248-1770
Circle No. 251

The Series HM7400 flail mowers from Edwards Equipment Co., Yakima, WA are side-mount mowers for right-of-way mowing and other tough jobs. The HM7460 is 61 inches wide with 64 blades and weighs in at 1,288 pounds. The HM7472 is 73 inches wide, has 72 blades, and weighs 1,347 pounds. Both mowers have a 90-inch transport width.

JOHN DEERE
919/877-0877
Circle No. 252

Five hydraulically powered 30-inch ESP reels give a durable and top-quality cut on the JD 365 hydraulic gang mower from John Deere. Available with 6, 8, and 10-blade reels, cutting heads on the 365 can be operated in the fixed or floating position. Cutting width of 134 inches. Powered by a 540-rpm pto-driven hydraulic system. Con-

> LM REPORTS

version bundle allows conversion to a 7-gang mower.

EXCEL INDUSTRIES

800-395-4757

Circle No. 253

Shorter and more compact than a comparable walk-behind, the Hustler ShortCut has a body length of only 59 inches. Its HBar Steering system requires only a simple twist to move forward or backward, much a motorcycle. Made by Excel Industries, Hesston, KS, the ShortCut is available with 20, 17 and 14 hp engines and Ross wheel motors, with deck options of 54, 48, and 40 inches. Side-discharge full-floating decks are made of 11-gauge steel.

THE GRASSHOPPER COMPANY

316-345-8621

Circle No. 254

Zip right through that mowing job with the Model 928D from The Grasshopper Company, Moundridge, KS. With forward speeds up to 9 mph, this zero-radius outfront unit has the new Gemini2 dual hydrostatic drive with dual hydrostatic pumps, auxiliary cooling fans and high-torque large frame direct drive wheel motors. Mower has a complete set of collection systems and attachments, is powered by a 28 hp liquid-cooled diesel with 8-gallon tank.

JACOBSEN

414/637-6711

Circle No. 255

Available in 7-gang or 5-gang

version, the Hydraulic Rangers give a tournament-quality cut every time. Powerful hydraulic reel motors cut heavy, wet grass easily with extra power to run vertical mowing equipment. The 7-gang model from Jacobsen, Racine, WI, has a 15-foot cutting width with 3, 5, 6, or 7 units; the 5-gang cuts 11 feet with either 3 or 5 units. Six or 10-blade reels are available. Cutting height adjustable from three-eighths to three inches. Transport width 7.5 ft.

KUT-KWICK CORP.

800-248-5945

Circle No. 256

Both the Commercial/Landscape series and the RoadMaster models from Kut-Kwick, Brunswick, GA, give a 12-15 year useful life. The Commercial series mowers have hydrostatic propulsion, rear discharge decks, low center of gravity and mowing speeds up to 12 mph. The RoadMaster has a cutting width of 88 inches and can be operated safely on slopes up to 31 degrees. Its road transport speed is 24 mph.

R.L. PARSONS & SON

800-456-6937

Circle No. 257

The MicroMower line from Parsons, West Jefferson, OH, consists of four models designed for 15 hp to 35 hp tractors. The 128XL has a vertical reach of 120 inches, the 138XL a reach of 138 inches and the 135T a reach of 138 inches. All machines mow both left and right and offer break-away cantilever in



Power Trac 45-degree slope mower has a low center of gravity and wide wheel base, keeping it grounded on steep terrain.

both forward and reverse. Heads rotate 360 degrees. All machines require a three-point hitch and 540 rpm pto.

POWER TRAC

800-843-9273

Circle No. 258

A 45-degree slope mower is available from Power Trac, Tazewell, VA. The PT-1850 has a low center of gravity and wide wheel base. Special fail-safe braking system

stops machine automatically should hydraulics fail. Tilt-seat feature allows the operators to remain upright regardless of the slope. Unit has 25 front-mounting attachments to do other jobs on slopes.

YEAGER-TWOSE

503-359-0110

Circle No. 261



Yeager Twose offers speciality mowers.

QUALITY AFTERMARKET

800-772-7166

Circle No. 259

Now that you've got that new mower operating in the field, where are you going to find replacement parts? Check the Parts Catalog from Quality Aftermarket, Rockville, IN.

TORO COMPANY

612-888-8801

Circle No. 260

Toro Company, Bloomington, MN, offers the Reelmaster Frames,

Two reach arm or boom flail mowers for turf and grounds work are available from Yeager-Twose, Hillsboro, OR. Larger unit has a horizontal reach of 10 feet, two inches. Mower has independent hydraulics and a safety breakaway. The 34-inch cutting head can mow 1.5 inch material to a mulch. Unit is suited for cutting light overhanging branches, around ponds, trimming hedges and in hard-to-reach places. Mower itself weighs 800 pounds. **LM**



The MicroMower line from R.L. Parsons & Sons consists of four models designed for tractors in the 15 hp to 35 hp range.