



Commercial's SRM-2601 weighs just 11.5 lbs. but offers power.



Mitsubishi engines power Deere's commercial string trimmers.

## TRIMMERS

By CURT HARLER/ Contributing editor

"Take a little off the top and trim a bit around the edges." Whether the order is given at a barber shop or to a grounds manager, the goal is the same: to make the area look neat and tidy.

Line trimmers provide the finishing touches to any landscaping job. They are able to get in close on rocky borders or knock down grass under fences. They handle jobs on hillsides too steep for mowers or in places too tight or small to maneuver a larger machine.

When buying a line trimmer, consider engine size or power, the weight of the trimmer, and whether it offers an anti-vibration system to make operation more comfortable. Since trimmers often are moved from one spot to another, be sure to note how simple the unit is to start. To keep weight down, most trimmers have smaller fuel tanks. Check engine efficiency and fuel capacity so the user spends more time whacking weeds and less time with a fuel can.

Once a unit is placed in operation, be sure the debris shield is not removed in the field. Operators should wear standard safety equipment, including goggles and steel-tipped toes on boots. Many of these "little" machines are quite powerful and can hurl sticks, stones and other small objects a surprising distance, often in weird and unsuspected directions.

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### COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPE SUPPLY

800-635-8686

CIRCLE NO. 250

From Commercial Landscape Supply, Irvine, CA comes the lightest 25 cc class trimmer available. Weighing 11.5 pounds, including the cutting attachment, the new SRM-2601 develops about 10% more peak torque than the SRM-2501. New spring design does not have sharp ends. New, completely redesigned engine vibration-reduction system provides smooth operation. The 21.6 ounce see-through fuel tank makes it easy to see how much longer between refills.

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### JOHN DEERE

800-537-8233

CIRCLE NO. 251

Four string trimmers with powerful Mitsubishi engines are available for commercial operators from John Deere, Research Triangle Park, NC. The T30S has a 30 cc engine, centrifugal clutch for reliability and a carburetor primer bulb for easy starting. The T23S has a 22.6 cc engine while the T26SB features 25.6 cc's and the T40SB has a powerful 40.6 cc engine for the most demanding jobs. The T40SB's extra-long 59-inch shaft gives maximum reach and comfortable bicycle handlebars provide optimum comfort on long workdays. XRT brush blade and 6-inch string head are standard with every unit.

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Husqvarna's 225L trimmer is less tiring to work thanks to the LowVib anti-vibration system and strong rubber dampers.

**DOLMAR**  
714-522-8088  
CIRCLE NO. 252

Dolmar offers commercial-duty trimmers, models MS2501 and MS3210. The MS2501 is a 24.5cc mid-range trimmer and the MS3210 is a larger version at 30.5cc. Features on both units include: all-position diaphragm and fixed-jet carburetor, easy starting solid-state ignition, solid-steel shaft with splined ends, full anti-vibration systems, low-noise encapsulated engines.

**ECHO INTERNATIONAL**  
847-540-8400  
Circle No. 253

Brand new, straight-shaft trimmer from Echo, Lake Zurich IL weighs

a half-pound less than other 25cc-class trimmers thanks to its magnesium alloy nose and plastic fuel tank guard. The SRM-2601's 25.4 cc engine features a four-bolt head and fully caged needle bearings at the top and bottom of the forged connecting rod. Spool valve carburetor gives quick acceleration and a 21.6-ounce fuel capacity means more operating time. Unit comes with a 59-inch splined rigid steel shaft, commercial filtration system, and lifetime ignition coil warranty.

**HUSQVARNA**  
800-438-7297  
CIRCLE NO. 254

The 225L trimmer from Husqvarna, Charlotte, NC is less tiring to work, thanks to the LowVib anti-vibration system which separates handles and support components from the engine and drive-shaft with strong rubber dampers to absorb and minimize vibration. The 11.7-pound unit's Ergo handle is mounted at an angle of 97 degrees to the shaft, placing the cutting



LESCO offers three new string trimmers for professionals. The LST 350 is top-of-the line.

head directly in front of the user and allowing a larger sweep area with greater working capacity and a straight back. It comes with a 25.4 cc engine, equipped with E-tech, a combination of features to reduce certain harmful exhaust emissions and the smoke and odor associated with them.

**LESCO**  
800-321-5325  
CIRCLE NO. 255

An all-new trio of string trimmers from Lesco, Rocky River, OH was developed especially for the professional market. All have dual-ring pistons for extended engine life, throttle-lock for quick, easy starting, and anti-vibration system to reduce operator fatigue. The LST 3500 is the top-of-line model with heavy duty drive clutch and drum, and a commercial-duty two-piece air filter to protect the engine. The 2600 is a mid-size unit and the 2300 is designed to be easy on the budget. Optional bush blade is available for all models.

**RED MAX**  
770-381-5147  
CIRCLE NO. 256

A full line of Pro Series trimmers is available in the RedMax line from Komatsu Zenoah America, Norcross, GA. These units feature straight, solid steel shafts with splined ends, with engines ranging from 1.38 cubic inches to 2.53 cubic inches. EPA certified, they are easy to use, weighing in at 10.2 pounds for the smallest unit with its 4-inch commercial tap, to 18.5 pounds for the 6-inch commercial tap model.

**PRO LAWN EQUIPMENT**  
800-282-8768  
CIRCLE NO. 257

Three 4-cycle and one 2-cycle engine rolling trimmer models are available from Pro Lawn Equipment, Shreveport, LA. The 4-cycle models in the RT-97 series allow string-trimmer cutting swaths up to 25 inches. A five-position tilting head allows for even mowing. The two tilt positions to each side let an operator get under fences or shrubs without having to change direction. The cutter head accepts line from 0.080 to 0.155 inches in diameter.

**SOLO, INC.**  
757-245-4228  
CIRCLE NO. 258

A full line of trimmers, with engines ranging from 1.3 hp on the SKM-127L, 2.2 hp on the SKM 134 and 2.6 hp on the SKM 140 is available from Solo, Newport News, VA. Engines are fully enclosed in a cylinder made of nickel, impregnated with silicon carbide. Cold start/primer button centrifugal clutch and electronic ignition assure fast starting in all weather. Fingertip controls are located on the multi-function handle.

**RYOBI**  
602-961-1002  
CIRCLE NO. 259

Powerful 31cc, two-stroke gas engine powers the Ryobi 700R gas trimmer. The Chandler, AZ firm's heavy-duty chrome plated cylinder assures long engine life. The Bump Head line-release system dispenses pre-measured line with a single tap. Ease-of-use features include a quick-start primer for easy starts and an adjustable handle which can be fitted for right-handed or left-handed operation.

**THE TORO COMPANY**  
612-888-8801  
CIRCLE NO. 260

Toro's Landscape Contractor Group and Maruyama of Japan are entering their second year of a long-term OEM agreement. Maruyama supplies Toro with a full range of gas-powered commercial hand-held equipment, including string trimmers. Two trimmers are available with 23-cc or 26-cc commercial grade engine. Also available are two trimmers with a 26-cc or 32-cc industrial grade engine. All the models are designed with operating comfort in mind. The trimmers feature polished steel straight shafts with six ball bearings, anti-vibration grips and engine mounts, and a light-weight, easy-to-handle design. The trimmers range in weight from 10.6 to 12.9 pounds. **LM**

