



Agri-Fab, Sullivan, IL, manufactures both tow-mount and push-behind spreaders for professional users.



Befco's Green-Rite aerator/overseeder aerates, seeds, agitates seed to the ground and compacts the seed in a single pass.



Finn Corporation's T30 HydroSeeder is an entry-level machine for establishing new lawns. It has a 300-gallon capacity.

SUCCESSFUL SEEDING

Units to plant the seeds of success

By CURT HARLER, Contributing Editor

Whether you're in the market for a simple push-behind seeding unit, a tractor-mounted machine, or you're looking for a hydro-seeder, the latest crop of seeders is blooming with units designed for every application.

Among the key statistics to check is the capacity of the hopper — the more seed the unit will carry, the fewer stops the worker has to make. The exception to this rule is push-behind units, where operator fatigue can become a factor if the machine becomes too heavy to maneuver handily. A good standard of reference when buying a seeder is the number of square feet or acres covered per hour.

It is possible to get two-for-one deals from a number of firms. Combination machines provide an opportunity to get more useful days out of one equipment purchase. Designed to do a couple of different jobs, these units either perform multiple functions on a single pass, or they can serve as backups to other single-function machines.

AGRI-FAB
217/728-8388
www.agri-fab.com

A 175-pound, rustproof poly hopper is available on the 45-0298 push drop seeder from Agri-Fab, Sullivan, IL. This push spreader will cover 40,000 sq. ft. in one trip. It can be equipped with marker wheels to assure accurate drop in difficult conditions. Several other push-behind and tow-mount seeders are also available.

Circle No. 250

BEFCO
800/334-6617
www.befco.com

The Green-Rite one pass aerator/overseeder from Befco, Rocky Mount, NC, comes in a 58-inch working width for use with tractors from 25 to 45 hp. In a single pass, it aerates, seeds, agitates seed to ground and compacts the seed. It has a single 7.5 cubic foot seed hopper and precise seed cups to meter seed. Optional front gauge roller kit is available.

Circle No. 251

BLUEBIRD INTERNATIONAL
800/808-BIRD
www.bluebirdintl.com

The new HS-15 SeedScaper from Bluebird, Englewood, CO, allows a single



The pull-behind aerator/spreader combo from John Deere, NC, can do two jobs at once. It perforates the soil while the calibrated drop-spreader follows with seed. Lime or fertilizer can also be dropped. Unit is 40 inches wide with up to 2-inch penetration. Unit has 132 steel tine tips on 8-inch diameter tine stars. Adjustable flow control and direct drive for consistent performance make this the right tool for smaller jobs or use with a lawn tractor.

Circle No. 255

FINN CORPORATION
800/543-7166
www.finncorp.com

The T30 HydroSeeder from Finn, Fairfield, OH, is designed as an entry-level machine for establishing new lawns and turf. It has a 300-gallon capacity and applies mulch up to 70 feet from the hose end, covering 3,200 sq. ft. in as little as 8 minutes.

It offers simple controls for easy one-man operation, hydraulic reversible mechanical agitator for fast thorough mixing, and a unique pump to handle heavy hydro-mulching slurries.

Circle No. 256

GANDY COMPANY
800/443-2476
www.gandy.net

Combination dethatcher/over-seeder from Gandy, Owatonna, MN, has a rugged 7-gauge steel frame and a 42-inch, covered steel hopper that holds 3.5 cubic feet (or 100-125 lbs. of seed). This 48-inch wide unit drops seed on 2-inch centers through 24 outlets. It requires a 540-rpm tractor with slip clutch for tractors 18-hp and up. Easily accessible tumbuckle adjusts planting depth. Optional shoe assembly puts seed right in the slit for improved seed-to-soil contact. Trailing 3-section gang roller and brush assembly also available.

Circle No. 257

JACOBSEN
800/727-JAKE
www.jacobsen.textron.com

The Aero King 1321 Verticuter-Seeder from Jacobsen, Racine, WI holds over a bushel of seed, allowing a seeding rate of 23,000 sq. ft. per hour. It has an extra-wide 21-

inch seeding width and operates at a speed of 2.5 mph. Seed outlets are 1.5 inches apart, giving good one-pass coverage. Regardless of the unit's ground speed, a uniform seed rate is maintained. Unit has a 13-hp Honda engine, overhead-valve design and 6:1 gear reduction. Front-mounted verticut blades allow verticutting and seeding one time.

Circle No. 258

JRCO, INC.
800/966-8442

Electric front-mount Broadcaster Seeder/Spreader from JRCO, Minneapolis, MN, fits most commercial walk-behinds and riding mowers. Provides controlled 5- to 24-ft. spread. Hopper has a capacity of 2.2 cu. ft. (about 130 lbs.) and is ideal for spreading fertilizer, seed, fire-ant bait and ice-melting pellets. The Broadcaster attaches to the JRCO mounting bar with four clevis pins and is controlled from the operator's position.

Circle No. 259

MARUYAMA
425/885-0811
www.maruyama.co.jp

The MG-10 spreader from Maruyama, Redmond, WA, distributes dry seed or granular chemicals on difficult terrain. The spreader has a translucent tapered tank that constantly feeds material and allows the operator to monitor the 3-gallon, 15-lb. tank. Agitating foot keeps the spreader from clogging and the ribbed, contoured disk consistently delivers material over an 18-inch swath. Gear case is fully enclosed for long effective life.

Circle No. 260

RANSOMES CUSHMAN RYAN
800/228-4444
www.ransomes.com

Overseed, dethatch or do both at once with the Mataway Overseeder/Dethatcher from Ryan, Lincoln, NB. Model 544873 has a 0.8-cu.-ft. hopper which is fully adjustable for all types of common grass seed. There are 10 seed drops on 2-inch spacing, 1-inch hardened steel slicing reels and ten 8-point slicing blades spaced on 2-inch centers. Unit is powered by an 11-hp, 4-cycle Kohler engine. Seed flow

stops automatically when the reel is raised to cross cart paths or lanes.

Circle No. 261

REINCO
800/526-7687
www.reinco.com

A full line of HydroGrassers is available from Reinco, Plainfield, NJ. Ranging from the HG-5H for smaller seeding jobs to the giant HG-30GX which has up to 6-acre capacity, these units can be truck or skid mounted. The mid-sized HG-10GX has a 35-hp Ford gas engine or a 33.5-hp Kubota diesel. It has a standard 130-ft. discharge range, or 400 feet with hose.

Circle No. 262

SPYKER
800/972-6130

Spyker of North Manchester, IN, has two new broadcast mulch spreaders. Model 296 is a 100-lb. walk-behind and the 297 is a 200-lb. pull-behind. With an eight-foot swath of material and a pattern for accurate application, they broadcast seed and fertilizer, as well as the new pelleted products on the market. These models also include Spyker's patented Accuway adjustment, to adjust the spread pattern from left to right on the fly to ensure a dead center spread.

Circle No. 263

TORO
612/888-8801
www.toro.com

The 205 Seeder from Toro, Bloomington, MN, allows seeding of a full 18-inches width, dropping seed at 2-inch intervals. The Delta Reel blades open a soil slit to receive the seed. A flap on back of the machine covers the seed with a thin layer of soil for better germination. The 205 is powered by a 5-hp Briggs & Stratton engine. For safety, it has a handle-mounted automatic safety clutch control.

Circle No. 264

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to manufacturers and their
products.

operator to install a 5,000-sq.-ft. lawn in under two hours. Used with a quality hydroseeding mulch, the unit has a seeding rate of 3,000 sq. ft. per hour. Built-in loading platform lets users fill the 15-lb. capacity hopper easily. Unit can also be used in flower beds for quick planting.

Circle No. 252

CLASSEN MFG. CO.
888/252-7710

The multi-purpose TS-20 commercial turf seeder comes with a choice of 5-hp Briggs & Stratton or 5.5-hp Honda OHV engine with oil alert. Versatile unit can put in a new lawn, overseed an existing one or be used as a vertical cutter. Seed flow is adjustable for different types of seed and is activated by a single lever. One-eighth inch blades are set on 1.5-inch centers. Polypropylene hopper does not rust. Optional flail-blade assembly made by Classen, Norfolk, NE, will convert the unit into a turf rake.

Circle No. 253

DARION
717/288-9630

Renovate compacted soil, level and seed in one pass with the Rotadairon from Darion SA, distributed by Emrex, Kingston, PA. Models can be adapted to most standard tractors. The PTO-driven machine turns stones under the soil and creates a clean, smooth surface for seeding. The combi-seeder drops the seed, completing a one-pass operation.

Circle No. 254

JOHN DEERE
800/537-8233
www.deere.com