

# THE NEW BREED OF WALK-BEHINDS

By CURT HARLER, Contributing Editor



American Honda HRC 7113TXA available with a 36- or 48-inch deck

They may look similar, but the walk-behind mower at your dealer's shop is not the same as the one that has been serving your business for the past several years. Improvements in ease of deck adjustment, user-friendly hand controls, fuel efficiency and noise reduction make the 1999 models worth considering.

In most operations, it is the walk-behind mower that provides the finishing touches to any job. In some cases, it's the only machine required.

Like everything from rakes to pick-up trucks, the price of mowers has gone up. But the features available in today's mowers mean that they will pay back their additional cost in a relatively short time.

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#### AMERICAN HONDA

770/497-6000

[www.honda.com](http://www.honda.com)

The new TruGear mid-size, walk-behind mowers from Honda, Duluth, GA, offer an attractive price point, and feature gear drive with no internal drive belts. The HRC 7113TXA is available with a 36- or 48-inch deck. The 13-hp OHV Honda engine runs for a long time thanks to the 6-gallon fuel tank. Transmission is a twin, 4-speed gear with ball bearing supported axles. Units have four forward and one reverse speed. Hour meter is standard. Optional 54-inch sweeper or 38-inch snow blower attachments are available.

Circle No. 250

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#### ARIENS

920/756-2141

[www.ariens.com](http://www.ariens.com)

The Ariens 21-inch commercial mower line is manufactured in Brillion, WI, of 14-gauge steel and solid steel axles. Available as a push- or self-propelled unit, it has the option of mulching, bagging, vacuuming or side discharging — all from one machine at one price. The multi-position handlebar is ergonomically shaped to reduce wrist and hand fatigue. A 6-hp, overhead-valve, Robin engine features full-pressure lubrication, full-flow spin-on oil filter, a cast-iron cylinder liner and half-gallon fuel tank. The Disc-O-Matic drive on the self-propelled model allows ground speeds between 0 and 4 mph at full engine rpm.

Circle No. 251

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#### JOHN DEERE

800/537-8233

[www.deere.com](http://www.deere.com)

One lever controls the speed, direction and tracking of the hydrostatic wide-area commercial walk-behind mowers from John Deere, Research Triangle Park, NC. The 14-hp HD45 and 17-hp HD75, equipped with an overhead-valve 4-cycle gas engine, provide easy starting, improved fuel effi-

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Howard Price Hydro Walk-Behind features dual hydro control levers. Floating deck system oscillates to prevent scalping.

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**One lever controls the speed, direction, tracking of John Deere walk-behind units.**

ciency, lower noise levels and cooler operating temperatures. Choose from a 36-, 48- or 54-inch deck. The larger two decks are equipped with spring-loaded quick-pull pins for fast, easy cutting height adjustment.

Circle No. 252

**EXMARK  
402/223-4010  
www.exmark.com**

The Turf Tracer, from Exmark Mfg. Co., Beatrice, NE, comes with 36-, 48- and 53-inch full-floating TriVantage decks. Mowers offer true zero-turn and instant forward-to-reverse to maximize maneuverability. Ground speeds to 6.2 mph forward and 2.2 in reverse increase productivity. Feather-Lite grip tension and reduced grip-distance steering controls make the units easier to use. The hydro drive system has a 2-year warranty, the spindle assembly is guaranteed for 3 years.

Circle No. 253

**FERRIS INDUSTRIES  
800/933-6175  
www.ferrismowers.com**

The HydroWalk DD from Ferris Industries, Munnsville, NY, has an extremely wide and low stance that creates excellent traction and stability. Like all Ferris mowers, it features lap-welded corners to reduce stress and not crack like butt-welded corners, and double-strength steel in wear areas. Large 18 x 7.5-inch drive tires are standard. Available with 48-, 52- or 61-inch deck, and 14-, 17- or 18-hp Kawasaki or Briggs & Stratton engines. Unit has

a reliable Eaton 771 hydrostatic transaxle and cast iron spindle pulleys with tapered hubs for positive locking and easy removal. Three-year commercial warranty is industry's longest.

Circle No. 254

**GRAVELY  
920/756-2141  
www.gravelly.com**

Several models and options of Pro commercial mowers are available from Gravelly, Brillion, WI. The Pro 300 is available with a 20-hp Kohler Command or a

14-hp Kawasaki OHV engine. Variable speed hydrostatic transmission offers speeds up to 5.5 mph forward and 1.5 mph reverse. Electric clutch is easy to operate. See-through hydraulic reservoir lets operator check oil level at a glance. The Pro 200 line comes with either the 14-hp Kawasaki or an 18-hp Robin V-twin engine. 4.5 gallon tank makes for long run times at 2.0 to 5.5 mph forward or 3 mph in reverse. All 200 and 300 mowers can be equipped with 36, 40, or 50-inch decks.

Circle No. 255

**GREAT DANE  
812/246-8770**

The zero-radius turn Scamper from Great Dane Power Equipment,



**Great Dane Scamper offers 36-, 48-, 52- and 61-inch cutter decks.**

Sellersburg, IN, comes with 36-, 48-, 52- and 61-inch cutter decks. There is a simple blade brake-clutch control with no bails, and fail-safe controls: when the operator lets go there is instant traction stop. Engine options include a 14-hp Kawasaki, and twin-cylinder 18- or 20-hp Kohler electric starts. There is a dual hydro drive system with independent left/right wheel control and ground speeds to 6 mph in forward, 3 mph in reverse.

Circle No. 256

**LAWN-BOY  
612/888-8801**

The 21-inch Lawn-Boy Commercial is powered by a 6.5-hp Dura-Force engine. Staggered wheel design provides easier maneuvering and reduced scalping. Fuel tank holds 4.25 quarts of gas. Unit, made by Toro, Bloomington, MN, has a lightweight cast-aluminum deck, steel wheels and cast iron sleeve. It is EPA-certified and carries a 2-year commercial engine warranty. Mulching kit and bagging kits are optional, but the forward-positioned discharge chamber disperses clippings at the fastest point, virtually eliminating windrowing or clumping.

Circle No. 257

**LESCO  
800/321-5325  
www.lesco.com**

For operations on difficult terrain, the Lesco 48-inch and 54-inch Float Deck rotary mowers are the



**Lesco Float Deck rotary mowers tame difficult terrain.**

answer. Floating deck with pneumatic caster wheels and fully articulating front axle assures precision cutting. Deck is designed for maximum air flow for even dispersion of clippings. Height adjusts on four-pin system. The 48-inch version comes with a 17-hp electric-start Kawasaki, the 54-inch with a 20-hp electric-start Kohler. Both have 5-gallon fuel tanks and true zero-turn radius.

Circle No. 258

**MTD PRO  
330/225-2600  
www.mtdproducts.com**

The 1852 wide-track, dual-hydro, commercial mower from MTD Pro, Cleveland, OH, offers an 18-hp Vanguard V-Twin engine and a 52-inch fixed fabricated cutting



**Hydrostatic deck allows on-the-go tracking with MTD unit.**

deck. Dual hydrostatic transmission allows on-the-go tracking adjustment while 5-gallon tank keeps the unit working. Electric start makes it easy to get the mower going and the standard backup recoil spells reliability. Tapered roller bearings in the spindles add reliability and increase life. Mulching kit and bagger

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are available as options. The MTD Pro is targeted to commercial uses, while the company's Cub Cadet, White, Yard-Man and Yard Machine lines are for residential use.

Circle No. 259

**HOWARD PRICE TURF EQUIPMENT**  
**314/532-7000**

The Hydro Walk-Behind from Howard Price, Chesterfield, MO, features dual hydro control levers. They allow the operator to independently set each drive wheel's speed. The unit's floating desk system oscillates nine inches to prevent scalping in tender grass areas.

Circle No. 260

**PRO INC.**  
**318/635-8184**  
**www.promowers.com**

The Pro Rolling Trimmer/Mower is a professional-grade high-wheel unit that uses monofilament cutting line. The RTM is engineered in Shreveport, LA, to provide a consistent cutting height when trimming under fences and shrubs, along buildings, or around trees. Fixed-line cutting head accommodates four-line or two-line use and offers widths up to 25 inches. It accepts any diameter line from 0.08 to 0.155. It comes with commercial grade 2- or 4-cycle engines, ranging from 5 to 6 hp. Belt idler system allows engine to keep running when the cutting head is disengaged.

Circle No. 261

**ROOF EQUIPMENT**  
**909/354-7600**  
**www.roofmowers.com**

The new 39400K Piranha walk-behind trimmer mower from Roof Equipment, Riverside, CA, is designed to cut wet or dry weeds or grass at amazing speed. It features a 5-hp, overhead-valve, Kawasaki engine, solid aluminum 1.5-inch cutting head, and uses 0.155 mil thick monofilament cord for more effective cutting. Large 20-inch wheels with precision bearings roll easily. New sprint-loaded clutch prevents premature belt failure.

Circle No. 262

**SARLO POWER MOWERS**  
**800/749-5296**

A couple of tough string mowers

from Sarlo, Ft. Myers, FL, offer quick, tool-free height adjustment. The 16-inch high rear wheels feature ball bearing hubs, steel rims and spokes, and thorn-resistant tires. The push-version Sarlo SST61/C and the self-propelled SST6SPVC provide a 22-inch cut. A 6-hp engine can be either a Honda or Kawasaki. Sarlo's string trimmers have four high-speed trimmer lines to assure even cutting. There are no spools to jam and the spindle's anti-tangle design comes with a five-year warranty.

Circle No. 263

**SCAG POWER EQUIPMENT**  
**920/387-0100**  
**www.scag.com**

The Ultimate Hydro walk-behind from Scag, Mayville, WI, features an easily adjustable floating cutter deck with field-adjustable heights from 1 to 4.5 inches, no tools required. Self-adjusting, spring-loaded idler pulleys save time, effort and repair costs by keeping belts in perfect adjustments. New control levers increase productivity and comfort, with less hand-grip reach and lighter spring tension. Patent-pending Adjust-A-Trac feature allows instant, no-toll neutral and tracking adjustment. Comes with 36-inch deck and 15-hp Kohler engine, or 48-incher with 17-hp Kawasaki.

Circle No. 264

**SNAPPER**  
**888/SNAPPER**  
**www.snapper.com**

Field-serviceable spindle assemblies make it possible to rebuild the spindle assembly on the ProHydro SPLH140KWE with standard tools while it is still mounted to the mowing machine. This innovation from Snapper, McDonough, GA, keeps mowers going during the busiest months. Full-float deck with easy cut adjustment and 7-gauge steel deck is standard; 36-, 48-, 52- and 61-inch widths are available. Independent left/right crank height-of-cut adjustment with built-in height gauge makes mowing simple. Attachments include Ninja mulching system, hard plastic or cloth grass catcher, sully and snow removal kits.

Circle No. 265

**SWISHER MOWER**  
**800/222-8183**

**www.swisherinc.com**

Three models of perfectly balanced mowers — with 19-, 20- and 22-inch cutting widths — are available from Swisher Mower & Machine, Warrensburg, MO. All feature rugged cast aluminum decks, made of recycled/recyclable material, that will not rust out like steel decks. Each comes with a 3.75-hp Briggs and Stratton engine with safety control system that stops the blade as soon as the handle is released. The 19-inch version has a 6-inch front and 8-inch rear wheel incremental height adjustment. The 20-inch model has 7-inch front and 8-inch rear quick incremental adjustment. A mulching attachment is available only for the 20-inch model.

Circle No. 266

**TEXTRON TURF CARE**  
**414/637-6711**

The Bob-Cat® Variable Speed midsize mower is designed to deliver a top-quality cut and reliable performance. It has a variable speed pulley drive transmission. There are two engine choices: a 14-hp Kawasaki or a 15-hp Kohler; and five cutting deck options: 32, 36, 48, 54 and 61 inches.

Circle No. 267

**THE TORO COMPANY**  
**612/888-8801**  
**www.toro.com**

First available from Toro, Bloomington, MN, in February, the ProLine 21-inch heavy duty mower line now includes a Kawasaki full pressure lube engine. The 5.5-hp, 4-cycle OHV engine also has a larger, more durable 25 mm diameter crankshaft custom built for Toro.

Existing Suzuki 2-cycle and Briggs & Stratton 4-cycle engines also are available. Three models are offered: the zone start hand push 22170, zone start self-propelled

22171 and the BBC self-propelled 22172. The BBC (blade brake clutch) model stops the blade from spinning yet allows the engine to remain running once the bail is released. Units are CARB and EPA certified and include a 2-year engine warranty.

Circle No. 268

**TRU-CUT, INC.**  
**323/258-4135**

The commercial line of mowers from Tru-Cut, Los Angeles, CA, includes the C2150HQ Commercial Pro which comes with standard, large-capacity commercial fabric grass catcher and has an optional steel catcher. Powered by either a 5- or 5.5-hp Honda overhead valve motor, or a Briggs & Stratton 5-hp, it features 8-inch front wheels, 10-inch rear dual ball bearing wheels with zerk fillings. The 5-speed transmission allows speeds from 1.1 to 4.3 mph. Unit has eight cutting heights from 3/8 to 3 5/8 inches.

Circle No. 269

**YAZOO/KEES**  
**800/723-9496**  
**www.yazookees.com**

The high-wheel mower from Yazoo/Kees, Jackson, MS, provides a quality cut in the toughest of conditions. Available with a 22-, 24- or 26-inch cutting deck, it is made of 11-gauge steel for durability. Either a 6-hp or 8.5-hp Briggs & Stratton engine, mounted between the drive wheels, provides balanced weight distribution for positive traction and increased maneuverability. Large-diameter pneumatic drive tires are mounted on chrome bicycle-style extra-strength steel spoke rims. Knobby tread drive tires flex and clean themselves as you mow.

Circle No. 270

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