

Cleanup made easy

BY CURT HARLER /
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

There are four key numbers to check when buying a blower. The first is the weight of the unit. There's no reason to make a worker's life miserable by making him haul an overweight blower around.

The second figure to check is the volume of air which a unit moves. A good design will give one model an advantage over another rated at similar horsepower.

Third, look at the airflow speed at which the unit operates. For commercial jobs, something over 175 mph is adequate.

Finally, check the unit's noise rating for the sake of your workers' hearing as well as to comply with local noise ordinances.

AA-TACH EQUIPMENT

888/922-8224

www.aataach.com

The PV-II Sweeping System from AA-Tach, Scottsdale, AZ, is a pickup-mounted sweeper that fits most domestic and foreign trucks. Hopper is made of impact and abrasion-resistant polyethylene. Rear unloader holds 2 cu. yds. Gasoline engine is a Wisconsin Robin EY21 with 14-hp at 3600 rpm. Unit holds 25 gal. of water for dust control.

Circle #256

AGRI-FAB

217/728-8388

www.agri-fab.com

The Agri-Fab Vac shreds and cleans up debris. Powered by an 8-hp Tecumseh engine, the Sullivan, IL, firm's unit has a 6-in. diameter spiroflex hose. Unit weighs about 275 lbs. Optional remote hose kit extends the vacuum unit's reach.

Circle #257

AGRIMETAL

819/398-6883

Choose from three 3-point hitch models for tractors with 15+ hp or front-mounted blowers that fit popular commercial front-mount mowers. Blowers from AgriMetal, Wickham, Quebec, are distributed by SouthAg and fit the Deere F and 1145 series, Kubota 200 and F-60 series and Ransomes mowers. The 24x7-in. impellers are two-sided to maximize airflow. All units are belt-driven. Units move 5,115 cfm.

Circle #258

CARSWELL DISTRIBUTING

800/929-1948

www.carswelldist.com

The Robin FL500 Pro power blower from Carswell, Winston-Salem, NC, weighs 19 lbs. and provides a maximum air volume of 240 cfm. The 48.6 cc engine has solid state ignition and generates 75 dBA at 6,300 rpm. Also available is the FL251, powered by a 24.5 cc engine with air volume of 107 cfm. It weighs 8.4 lbs. with pipe.

Circle #259

The Hurricane Plus Series blowers from Minuteman Parker create up to 2,200 cfm air.



What to look for

- ▶ **Weight of the blower**
- ▶ **Volume of air a blower moves**
- ▶ **Airflow speed for blower operation**
- ▶ **Noise rating**

lm reports

JOHN DEERE
800/537-8233

www.deere.com

The BP-50 backpack blower from John Deere, Research Triangle Park, NC, develops 185 mph air velocity and 470 cfm air volume.



John Deere unit is just 19.4 lbs.

Soft tone muffler system lowers sound level to 69.5 dBA at 50 ft. while operating at 7,000 rpm. Unit weighs 19.4 lbs. and features a 54-oz. fuel tank.

Circle #260

ECHO, INC.
800/432-ECHO

The PB-260L from Echo, Lake Zurich, IL, delivers the power of a backpack blower at just 65 dBA sound level. Two-stroke engine features Echo's Pro-Fire electronic ignition. Purge pump diaphragm carburetors force fuel directly into the carb body, a quick start. Unit

includes one-year professional warranty.

Circle #261

EXPRESS BLOWER
800/285-7227

www.expressblower.com

The truck-mounted TM-20 from Express Blower, Eugene, OR, fits any truck with 20-ft. minimum mounting capacity. Unit's Perkins 1006-60T 6-cyl. turbo diesel develops 150 hp at 2,500 rpm. Blower system can blow material over 300 ft. away. Its 280 ft. of on-board hose length offers access to any site. Unit blows between 20 to 60 cu. yds. per hour and is capable of dust suppression with remote water source.

Circle #262

GOOSEN INDUSTRIES
800/228-6542

The Goosen self-propelled BL3000 debris blower's 27-in. blower fan delivers a powerful thrust to tackle tough cleanups. Features sturdy



Goosen BL300 for tough jobs

trailer for transport and can be towed by any truckster, tractor or utility vehicle. Powered by a 22-hp Robin engine, it has bi-directional discharge.

Circle #263

HUSQVARNA
800/GET-SAWS

www.husqvarna.com

With air velocity of 183 mph and air volume of 600 cfm at only 70 dBA, the 155BT blower makes short work of debris. Made by Husqvarna, Charlotte, NC, it features a tube-mounted throttle and 44 cc motor. Ignition is covered by lifetime warranty. Unit weighs 19.4 lbs.

Circle #264

LESCO, INC.
800/321-5325

Lesco's (Rocky River, OH) walk-behind wheel

blower units range from the LWB-4000 powered by a 16-hp B&S Vanguard engine with hydraulic

wheel drive, electric start and air volume of 3,700 cfm; to the WB-2525, with 8-hp Kohler or the LWB-2575 with 8-hp Honda engine. Both offer 2500 cfm airflow.

Circle #265



Lesco blowers



Little Wonder high-output unit

LITTLE WONDER
877/596-6337

www.littlewonder.com

The 8-hp Little Wonder high output blower can move a 52-lb. cart to the top of a 12-ft. ramp, the Southampton, PA company says.

Curved, aerodynamic inlet draws air in smoothly. Unit is made of 12-gauge steel housing with arc-welded seams for strength, 10-in. diameter steel-hubbed wheels and an optional 10-in. diameter intake hose and either discharge hose or bag to convert the unit to a vacuum.

Circle #266

MACKISSIC
800/348-1117

The 10-hp, electric start blower from MacKissic, Parker Ford, PA, blows 2,000 cfm at 200 mph. Powered by a B&S Intek engine, it offers a standard

swiveling pneumatic front wheel. All models in the 6 to 10-hp line are equipped with ergonomic handles. High-impact polymer impeller provides high output with less noise and vibration.

MacKissic units with pneumatic front wheels

Circle #267



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MARUYAMA USA 425/885-0811

The BL5400 from Maruyama, Redmond, WA, uses the Kawasaki 48.6-cc commercial engine and its housing and fan design to produce 520 cfm air volume at 180 mph. It weighs 18.9 lbs. and, at just 69 dBA, is quiet.

Circle #268

MTD PRO 330/225-2600

www.mtdpro.com

The HB26 portable blower from MTD Pro, Cleveland, OH, features a



26-cc 2-cycle engine with dual piston rings. Unit weighs 8.8 lbs. Vacuum conversion kit offers added cleanup. Also available is the BB 45 backpack model with padded backrest. Unit has a 45-cc 2-cycle engine and 2-part air filter.

Circle #269

PARKER 630/627-6900

www.parkersweeper.com

The Hurricane Plus Series blowers from Minuteman Parker, Addison, IL, are available with 5, 8 or 11-hp B&S or Honda engines. These blowers create up to 2,200 cfm air. Units are made of 12-gauge steel. Hurricane Plus model has hand-controlled deflector to adjust airflow.

Circle #270

PECO 800/438-5823

www.pecovacs.com

The model 6000/7000 Windrow Blower from PeCo, Arden, NC, has a 90° sweep-action nozzle for directional blowing. Engines are available in 5-hp, 6.5-hp or 8-hp sizes. Weight ranges from 95 lbs. to 108 lbs. Cast aluminum blower on steel frame is built to last.

Circle #271

REDMAX 800/291-8251

www.redmax.com

The EB-7000 backpack blower from RedMax-Komatsu Zenoah, Norcross, GA, is 21.1 lbs. and produces 204 mph air output or 730 cfm. It is rated at 4 hp at 7,500



EB-7000 from RedMax

rpm, and produces just 73 dBA noise. Dual-filter system and non-clog air intake boosts intake surface 10 times. Fuel tank holds 70.1 oz.

Circle #272

SAXON TURF EQUIPMENT 724/339-7790

The Saxon Blower-Vac's design allows one operator to do two functions: With the chute open, you can blow around trees and windrow. Then, with a lever pull, you can vacuum up the material.

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Unit, made by Wolfe Metal Fab, Lower Burrell, PA, requires a 28-hp, 540-rpm PTO. Impeller enclosure has 5-ft. diameter, and underside of the enclosure has 34-in. opening to allow material to flow out chute or into 4.4 cu. yd., 18-gauge hopper.

Circle #273

SELBRO, INC. **800/9-SEL-BRO**

www.selbro.com

Selbro, Inc., Bellevue, OH, makes high velocity/high output blowers for the Scag S series and Toro Proline series mowers. These blower attachments are designed especially for out-front rotary mowers. New for 2000 is the ProBlow Max line of high output walk behind debris blowers available in several engine styles.

Circle #274

SCHWARZE INDUSTRIES **800/879-7933**

www.schwarze.com

The S348-LE from Schwarze, Huntsville, AL, is a powerful, easy-to-operate sweeper that comes with a 5-year factory warranty. Standard equipment includes a 52-hp diesel auxiliary engine, 30-in. diameter WhisperWheel blower, cab-operated tilt gutter broom, heavy duty 116-gal. plastic water tank, easy access screen wash-down and large capacity toolboxes.

Circle #275

SOLO, INC. **757/245-0800**

www.solousa.com

A pair of SilentBlower units from Solo, Newport News, VA, both offer padded back support, adjustable and padded carrying straps and quick release buckles. Both German-made units feature a 52.6 cm, 2-cycle engine.

The newer

470-02 has 1,100 cubic

Solo unveils two new SilentBlowers.

meter per hour air volume; the 470-01 is rated at 900 cubic meters. Both units weigh about 20 lbs. and come with a 2-year unlimited warranty.

Circle #276

STEINER TURF EQUIPMENT **330/828-0200**

www.steiner-turf.com

The PB-200 turbine power blower from Steiner, Dalton, OH, develops 8,000 cfm airflow and windspeed of 114 mph. Features 360° continuous nozzle rotation by a hydraulic motor and axial flow turbine design. Airflow can be directed to either side or the front of the machine from the operator seat. Sound level is 91 dBA.

Circle #277

TANAKA **253/333-1200**

www.tanakapowerequipment.com

Both the TBL-4600 and TBL-505 backpack blowers from Tanaka, Kent, WA, feature 2.5-hp engines with hard chrome plated cylinders and Walbro carburetion.

The 4600 pushes air at 200 mph at



Tanaka TBL-4600

a volume of 500 cfm. It weighs just under 21 lbs. The 505 has air velocity of 218 mph at 540 cfm. It weighs 22 lbs.

Circle #278

TRAC VAC **800/872-2822**

www.trac-vac.com

A full line of vacuums, from the 5-hp, 8-cu. ft. trailing 385; to the 11-hp, 50-cu. ft. 1080 is available from Trac Vac, Thorntown, IN. Three mounted versions are PTO powered. Units come with hose diameters ranging from 6 to 8 in. Typical of the line is the 880 with its 50-bushel capacity all-steel container. An 8-hp turbine mounts on cart drawbar and is fed from the mower deck by an 8-in. intake hose.

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