

Seeders and spreaders 101

BY CURT HARLER / CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

A tight budget kept Jim Cornelius, Supervisor of Maintenance and Grounds at Pennsylvania's West Chester School District, from acquiring labor-saving grounds care equipment. The lack of equipment kept his labor costs high for grounds maintenance jobs such as top-dressing athletic fields.

"There are lots of choices when it comes to specialized equipment," Cornelius says, "but by the time you add up the costs of all the ones you need, you're way beyond what you can afford."

Cornelius needed many answers in one package. "We needed something we could afford, first of all," he says. "Then we looked for something that was the right size and versatile enough for us to use it a lot."

The answer for him was the Millcreek topdresser/spreader (see pg. 76). The 1.5-cu.-yd. ma-

chine has the Power Brush, a 22-in. diameter poly brush which, along with a directional fin mechanism, propels material from the rear of the machine. Operators can adjust the spreading pattern from 3 to 12 ft. wide, depending on the material.

"I don't think we have another piece of equipment that gets used for as many different jobs," Cornelius says. He top-dresses sand and peat mixtures on sports fields, applies infield mix to baseball fields and spreads cinders on the track.

"For general grounds maintenance, we use it to dispose of grass clippings, leaves and pine needles. Instead of making large piles, we disperse them in fringe areas so they'll decompose faster. We've even used it to spread de-icing materials in the winter," he says.



◀ Spyker's Golf Staff Pro-88

Buying tips

- ▶ Make sure spreader is durable
- ▶ Can it be easily calibrated?
- ▶ Can it spread a variety of materials?
- ▶ Check out spread width

ATI CORPORATION 717/354-8721

The 80-in. wide Model 805 Preseeder tiller from ATI Corporation, New Holland, PA, tills, levels and rakes in one operation. Rotor teeth are mounted in helical pattern. Designed for tractors with 25 to 40 hp PTO.

Circle no. 259



Im reports

CUTLER-MALONE INDUSTRIES 954/741-5888

CMI, Sunrise, FL, expanded its Broadcaster line of granular spreaders to include four new models: 200, 300, 400 and 500. An air-powered delivery system distributes granular fertilizers, insecticides and herbicides in areas that used to require hand delivery. The 300 fits most utility vehicles and has a 125-lb. hopper. The 200 and 500 models hold 600 lbs. **Circle no. 260**

EARTH & TURF 888/693-2638

www.earthandturf.com

The MultiSpread 300 is a hydraulically driven topdresser from Earth



& Turf, New Holland, PA. Capacity is 22 cu. ft. Choose brush or beater spreading system for patterns from 26 to 72 in. **Circle no. 261**

FINN CORPORATION 800/543-7166

www.finncorp.com

Handle mid-range hydroseeding with the Finn T170 HydroSeeder. It has a 1,500-gal. capacity. Slurry is mixed thoroughly because of tank profile, larger agitator and variable speed reversible hydraulic agitator drive. **Circle no. 262**

GANDY COMPANY 800/443-2476

www.gandy.net

Owatonna, MN-based Gandy Company offers precision lawn spreaders with snap-on/snap-off stainless steel bottom and sides in 24-, 36- and 42-in. sizes. Rate adjustment to apply seed, fertilizers or chemicals is by a cam gauge mounted on the side. All models are available in tractor hitch models with pneumatic or semi-pneumatic tires. **Circle no. 263**

GROUNDTEK 407/877-7473

groundtek@aol.com

The EBS 100/200 spreader line from Groundtek, Ocoee, FL, mounts on the front or back of commercial mowers, utility vehicles or trailers. The 200 features 200-lb. fertilizer capacity. Both units are fully adjustable to control spread pattern width. **Circle no. 264**

HERD SEEDER 219/753-6311

www.herdseeder.com

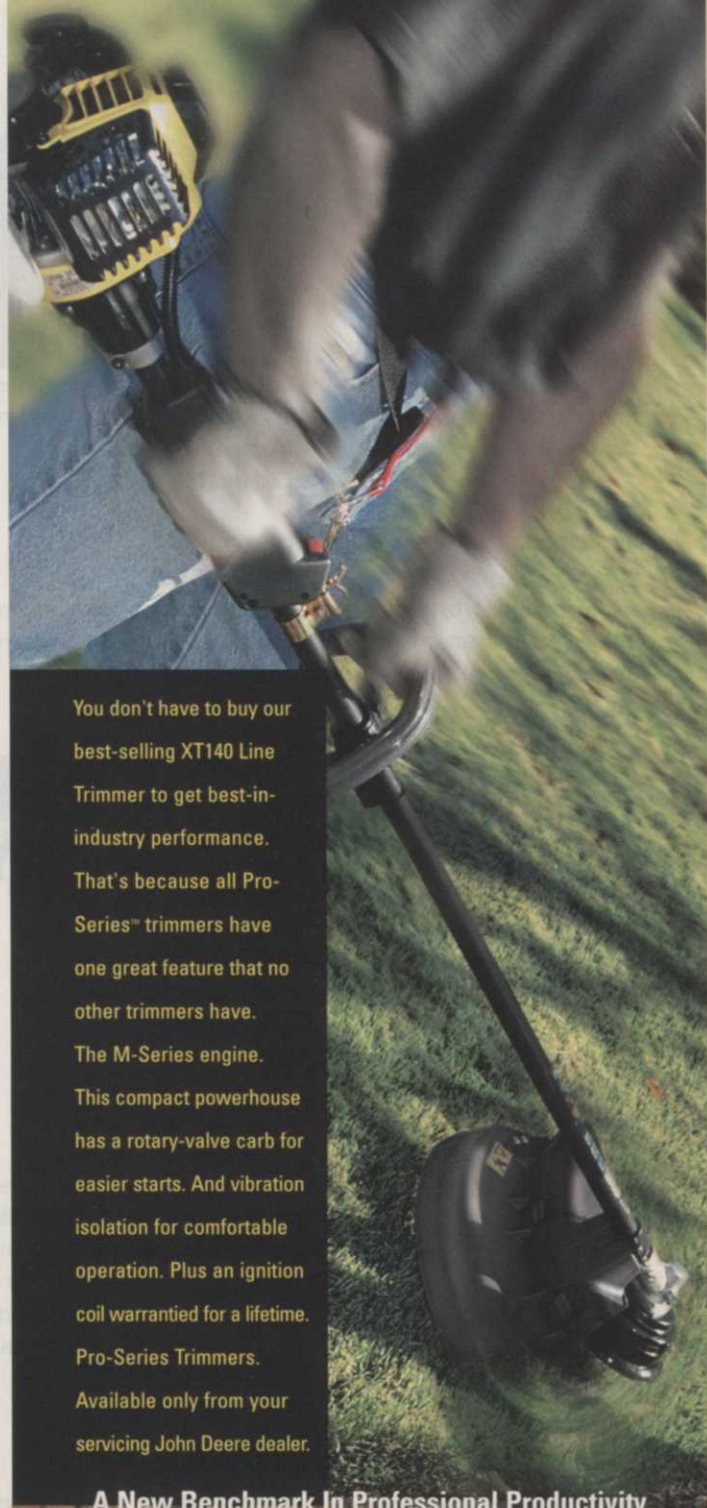
The Model 750 seeder/spreader from Herd, Logansport, IN has a 750-lb. capacity hopper for fertilizer or 10 bushels for seed. Built to



mount onto tractors with a Category I 3-pt. hitch, it's powered by the tractor PTO. It spreads fertilizer up to 36 ft. wide. **Circle no. 265**

John Deere Pro Series

Majority Whip



You don't have to buy our best-selling XT140 Line Trimmer to get best-in-industry performance. That's because all Pro-Series™ trimmers have one great feature that no other trimmers have. The M-Series engine. This compact powerhouse has a rotary-valve carb for easier starts. And vibration isolation for comfortable operation. Plus an ignition coil warranted for a lifetime. Pro-Series Trimmers. Available only from your servicing John Deere dealer.

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Circle 137

JOHN DEERE
919/850-0123

www.deere.com

Tow-behind unit from John Deere Commercial, Research Triangle Park, NC, is a combination aerator and spreader. Spreader has a capacity of 100 lbs., letting you do two jobs at once: perforate soil with the aerator and drop seed, lime or fertilizer in a 40-in. swath. **Circle no. 266**

JRCO, INC.
800/966-8442

www.jrcoinc.com

Improve productivity by maintaining a constant spread pattern at increased ground speed with the Elec-



tric Broadcaster from JRCO, Minneapolis, MN. Polyethylene hopper has 2.2 cu. ft. (130-lb.) capacity. Mounts quickly with four devis pins. Variable speed drive controls width of spread from 5 to 24 ft. **Circle no. 267**

LAND PRIDE
785/820-8692

www.landpride.com

The Land Pride 48-in. and 72-in. Solid Stand overseeders offer precise placement and seed-to-soil contact. Made in Salina, KS, their straight or curved knives slice into the ground, creating slits to receive the seed. Fluted seed cups meter the desired amount of seed in a broadcast pattern. The solid



cast iron packer wheels finish the job by pressing and firmly packing the seed into the soil. **Circle no. 268**

LESCO
800/321-5325

The 80-lb. capacity spreader from Lesco, Cleveland, OH, has a stainless steel frame and hardware.

Hopper is injection molded polyethylene. Gear set gives superior application performance. On/off helps prevent spills, while rear shelf on hopper helps prevent debris from passing through screen. **Circle no. 269**



MILL CREEK
800/311-1323

The Millcreek topdresser/spreader, made in New Holland, PA, handles compost, not to mention lime and salt. The stiff bristles of its Power Brush break lumps into small particles during the spreading process. Adjust the thickness of the layer spread from 1/4 in. to 2 in. **Circle no. 270**

PROFESSIONAL TREE & TURF
800/237-7785

ptte@worldnet.att.com

Check the list from Dakota Industries' Professional Tree & Turf

Equipment catalog for the latest in spreader technology. The Arvada, CO firm handles both Lesco and Earthway spreaders. Earthway units range in size from the hand-held 3100 to the 100-lb. C2400SS with stainless frame and the C2400P with painted frame.

Circle no. 271

REDEXIM CHARTERHOUSE
570/602-3058

www.redexim.com

The Verti-Seed's unique action provides direct seed contact with the soil which ensures good germination rates, even at speeds up to 6 mph. Redexim Charterhouse, Inc., Pittston

Twp., PA, offers two models — the 804 with a hopper capacity of 3.35 cu. ft. and a working width of 46 in., and the 1204 with a capacity of 5.1 cu. ft. and a seeding width of 62 in. The larger of the two models can seed 12,000 sq. yd/hr.

Circle no. 272

SCOTTS
800/543-0006

www.scottscountry.com

The new and improved SS-2 stainless steel drop spreader by Scotts, Marysville, OH, has a stainless frame, hopper and fastener. Larger, 13-in. TurfSaver-2 pneumatic wheels give an easier push, and the extended ergonomic handle is more durable than past models. Lift handles in the front and back make for easier loading and unloading on the job. Unit drops a 36-in. swath.

Circle no. 273

SPYKER
888/8SPYKER

www.spyker.com

The new Golf Staff Pro-88 spreader from Spyker, Urbana, IN, comes with a stainless steel frame, solid stainless axle and metal gears. Its optional calibration tray allows for the calibration of seed, fertilizer and chemicals in minutes. **Circle no. 274**

THOMPSON SEEDER
219/753-6366

www.thompsonseeder.com

The Model M3B400R spreader from Thompson Seeder Co., Logansport, IN, can be mounted to tractors, pickup trucks, turf trucks or the Thompson 12-300 flotation trailer. Spread width can be varied from 10 to 30 ft. with the optional rheostat to control the 12-volt DC motor that turns the spinner fan. **Circle no. 275**

TORO
800/476-9673

www.toro.com

The 205 seeder from Toro, Bloomington, MN, is a key part of the Toro Turf Cultivation Equipment line. It seeds 18-in. widths, dropping seed at 2-in. intervals. Delta Reed blades open soil slit. Flap on back of machine covers seed with thin layer of soil, providing better germination. Unit has a 5-hp Briggs & Stratton engine and handle-mounted auto safety clutch control. Toro's Topdresser 2500 is a self-contained, all-wheel drive unit towed by a Toro Workman. With a 25-cu. ft. hopper capacity, it features oscillating axles and all wheel drive.

Circle no. 276