

Less is more with zero-turns

BY CURT HARLER / CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Speed. Power. Cutting quality. Durability. Balance. Comfort. Accessibility to maintenance. These are all of the things landscape professionals look for in a zero-turn mower. Manufacturers know what their commercial customers want, and they're constantly improving models that are already at the top of their line. Here are some of the latest and greatest zero-turns out there.

BOB-CAT 414/637-6711

www.ransomes.com

The Bob-Cat ZT-200 Series zero-turn riding mower from Textron, Racine, WI, now includes a 20-hp Yanmar diesel, which provides up to twice the fuel economy of gas engines. The ZT200s come available with 19-hp or 23-hp Kawasaki V-twin engine or 25-hp Kohler Command. Units have lever-type steering that controls independent power to each wheel. Unit can reach speeds up to 8 mph.

Circle no. 257

CUB CADET 877/835-7841

www.cubcommercial.com

The newest in the Cub Cadet Commercial line is the M60 tank mid-mount zero-turn mower with 25-hp Kohler Command V-twin OHV engine or 23-

hp Kawasaki V-twin OHV engine and a 60-in. Command Cut System deck. Marbane blades give 1.7-in. overlap for a cleaner cut, especially in tight turns. It's built with 7 gauge skirt with welded steel bars, and 10 gauge top double reinforced at spindle area. The front axle lock-outs prevent pivoting and provide greater stability on slopes. Comes with dual 5-gal. fuel tanks.

Circle no. 258

JOHN DEERE 800/537-8233

www.deere.com

Excellent traction and maneuverability in tight spots are features of the 1400 series mowers from John Deere, Research Triangle Park, NC. The 1400 Series — 1420, 1435 and 1445 — are powered by liquid-cooled Yanmar engines. Units feature hydraulic PTO and 14.5-gal. fuel tanks for productivity. They are made of tubular, heat-treated, nodular-cast steel frames with iron front and rear axles.

Circle no. 259



Grasshopper 721D

Buying questions

- ▶ Does unit turn without scuffing turf?
- ▶ Do I want diesel or gas power?
- ▶ Is fuel-saving fuel injection available?
- ▶ Is the steering comfortable? (The whole purpose of a zero is making lots of tight turns)



Im reports



DIXON INDUSTRIES / 800/264-6075

www.dixon-ztr.com

The ZTR-8000 series from Dixon Industries, Coffeyville, KS, offers a 25-hp Kohler Command or 26.5-hp B&S-Daihatsu engine. It has White wheel motors and Hydro-Gear BDU pumps. Fuel capacity is 11.5 gal. and cutting widths are 60 or 72 in. "Big rig" seat suspension and fully adjustable seat reduce fatigue. Broom, grass blower and catcher, snow blade and snow blower attachments mount to mower with automotive-type receiver hitch.

Circle no. 260



GRAZER

920/582-5000

The Grazer line of zero-turn mowers is available in 18- to 22-hp models. The 52-, 62- and 72-in. side discharge decks are fully floating with a tilt-back feature for easy service. They can be converted to mulching decks with addition of a kit. Other attachments include a grass collector, snow blower, cab and ROPS. Grazer, a division of Ingersoll Equipment, is in Winneconne, WI.

Circle no. 265

continued on page 75

EXMARK

402/223-4010

www.exmark.com

Cut up to six acres per hour with the 27-hp liquid-cooled LazerZ from Exmark Mfg. Co., Beatrice, NB. Unit has 60- or 72-in. UltraCut deck options. Quick-lift deck assist is standard on the 72-in. model. Electric start Kawasaki V-twin engine runs quieter with less vibration than single-cylinder engines and simplifies on-trailer starts.

Circle no. 261

THE GRASSHOPPER CO.

316/345-8621

www.grasshoppermower.com

The complete line of true zero-turn power units from Grasshopper, Moundridge, KS, feature horizontal crankshaft OHV engines and 14- to 28-hp, liquid- and air-cooled gas, dual fuel LP/gas or diesel engines. Straightaway mowing speed is 10.5 mph. Extra-deep 5.5-in. DuraMax decks offer even dispersal of high-volume clippings. Out-front mowers have optional SL FlipUp decks that rotate 90 degrees. Cutting widths of 52, 61 or 72 in. are available.

Circle no. 262

FERRIS INDUSTRIES

800/933-6175

www.ferrisindustries.com

Ferris Industries, Munnsville, NY, has a new line of mid-mount Zs from 48 to 72 inches. The new

1000-Z comes with a 48- or 52-in. deck that adjusts in 1/4-in. incre-



ments from 1.5 to 4.75 in. The 61-in. IS3000Z and the 61- or 72-in. IS4000Z come with two suspension options: 4-wheel independent suspension for the IS4000Z and 2-wheel independent suspension for the IS3000Z.

Circle no. 263

GRAVELY

800/472-8359

www.gravelly.com

The 260Z zero-turn mower from Gravelly, Brillion, WI, features stay-sharp Tungsten carbide-coated blades and XL Spindles which reduce time spent greasing. Air-Flo deck expels clippings faster using a 21-in. wide discharge tunnel. A 9-gal. fuel tank keeps the mower going all day long.

Circle no. 264



EXMARK LazerZ



Husqvarna

continued from page 70

GREAT DANE
814/218-7100

Simple design marks the zero-turns from Great Dane, Jeffersonville, IN. The Super Surfer is available in widths of 48, 52, and 61 in., each with either Kawasaki or B&S engines. All models have dual hydrostatic pump and motor, electromagnet cutter blade clutch, 6-gal. fuel tank and dual wheel parking brakes. Floating cutter deck follows contours on rough ground.

Circle no. 266

HUSQVARNA
704/597-5000

www.husqvarna.com

Increasing the ground speed up to 10 mph and increasing fuel capacity to 11.4 gal. (in two 5.7-gal. tanks) greatly increased the productivity of the ZTH6125 from Husqvarna, Charlotte, NC. This unit and all of the new zero-turns feature three engine types: air-cooled, liquid-cooled and fuel injection.

Circle no. 267

KUBOTA
888/4KUBOTA

www.kubota.com

Introduced in February 2001, the 360-degree ZD Series TurfMower from Kubota, Torrance, CA, is built on a unitized chassis that incorporates the transmission as an integral part of the sub-frame. The ZD18 and ZD21 are powered by a liquid-cooled 3-cylinder E-TVCS diesel engine. Front suspension uses a pivoting front axle to follow ground contours. Deck lift allows front of mower deck to be raised easily while built-in jack system allows for servicing without removing the mid-mount mower deck.

Circle no. 268

LASTEC
800/515-6798

www.lastec.com

The Model 412D is an 82-in. wide unit with a 38-hp, 4-cylinder water-cooled Kubota diesel. This zero-turn from LasTec, Indianapolis, IN, features four 21-in. articulating mower decks. Side discharge mulching plate is standard. Three 21-in. blades (high-lift, low-lift or mulching) work at deck heights from 1 to 4.5 in. Roll bar is standard.

Circle no. 269

LESCO
800/321-5325

The latest Viper model from Lesco, Cleveland, OH, is a midmount zero-turn with a 48-in. cutting deck, adding to the current line of 54- and 60-in. mowers. Designed with one-piece welded square tubular steel frame, the newest model is powered by a 19-hp Kawasaki twin-cylinder OHV power plant. Cut height ranges from 1.5 to 5.5 in., adjustable with a new foot pedal. Each deck has four adjustable wheels and front and back rollers to prevent scalping.

Circle no. 270

HOWARD PRICE TURF EQUIPMENT
636/532-7000

The Blazer 360Z leads the line of zero-turns from Howard Price, Chesterfield, MO. Units are available with 52-, 60- and 72-in. cuts, and decks are offset to the left for better trimming around trees. Extra-wide throat allows even grass discharge. Floating front axle provides superb cutting flotation, operator comfort and reduced frame breakage. Units are powered with either a 22- or 25-hp Kohler engine or 23-hp Kawasaki engine.

Circle no. 271

RICH MFG.
765/436-2744

www.convertiblemower.com

Whether you want to walk or ride, the Convertible is one machine that lets you do both. This hydro walk-behind from Rich Mfg., Thorn-town, IN, converts to a zero-turn rider just by

continued on page 76



HUSTLER
800/395-4757

www.excelhustler.com

The new Hustler Z from Excel Industries, Hesston, KS, offers a wide stance with low center of gravity and outstanding machine balance. The 23-hp Kawasaki engine powers a 60-in. deck. Unit has integral park-brake system incorporated into the steering system. Foot-operated, spring-assisted deck lift makes trailering and height changes simple. Optional mulching kit available.

Circle no. 272

1-800-THE-YARD

www.power-trac.com

Equal Cost

Did you Know

You can buy an entire Power Trac Trailer Package complete with tractor, trailer, and 10 attachments for about the same amount of money as just 1 compact loader (no attachments) from the other guys?

PT-400 Series Trailer Package

Power Trac

Circle 127

Create nature's music in your own garden pond



Liners, pumps, pond kits & these patented products...

PuriFalls® Waterfall Filter and PondSweep® Skimmer

Los Angeles, CA (877)772-7937
Chicago, IL (888)742-5772
Pittsburgh, PA (888)772-3278
www.pondsupplies.com



Circle 128

Im reports

continued from page 75

pulling a pin. It comes with 48-, 52- or 61-in. deck and choice of Kawasaki or Kohler engines. Grass catcher, sprayer, aerator, thatcher or Convert-A-Barrow options are available.

Circle no. 273

SCAG

920/387-0100

www.scag.com

The Tiger Cub, the latest from Scag, Mayville, WI, is as tough as its big brother the Turf Tiger, but more compact. Decks range from 40 to 52 in. At 10 mph and with a choice of five engines, the newest Tiger can cut up to 23 acres a day. Company offers a three year warranty on the decks and spindles and two years on engines, hydraulic drive systems and electric clutches.

Circle no. 274



SNAPPER

888/SNAPPER

www.snapper.com

The Pro Cruiser line from Snapper, McDonough, GA, has three options. The ZMT2500KH lets those who prefer twin-stick steering over a single joystick find a comfortable option in a zero-turn machine. Its brother, the MZM2200KH, has single joystick steering. Comes

with a 52- or 61-in. mid-mount cutting deck. They're available with a 22- or 24-hp Kohler Pro Command engine. Company's "no tools" belt change and field-serviceable spindle assemblies keep these units on the job. Options for all three models include covered grass catcher, ROPS and Ninja mulching system.

Circle no. 275



Im reports

THE TORO COMPANY 612/888-8801

www.toro.com

The Z-Master Compact Mid-Mount Z286E, with electronic fuel injection from Toro, Bloomington, MN, clips along at 10 mph. Like all Z200 zero-turns, the machine boasts the Z Stand Lift, allowing landscapers to raise the deck without additional tools. Features Super Flow System decks which use blade-generated airflow to transport clippings to the discharge chute without dumping. All models are backed by a 1-year limited, 2-year engine and hydro system and 3-year spindle assembly warranty.

Circle no. 276

WALKER MOWERS 970/221-5614

The Walker Mower 2000 Model MT is available with a Kohler 26-hp electronic fuel injection engine option. Designed by Walker, Fort Collins, CO, the injection offers fuel savings of 30 to 40% over the 25-hp model with carburetor engine. New engine package also offers easier starting over a wide temperature range, less maintenance and improved throttle response. Troubleshooting is easy with built-in, automotive-type diagnostics.

Circle no. 277



WOODS EQUIPMENT / 815/732-2141 www.woodsonline.com

Operator comfort, maintenance-free components and a grass collection system are among the features of the M-series Mow'n Machine line from Woods Equipment Co., Rockford, IL. The M2250 has a 22-hp Kohler engine and a 50-in. deck; and the M2560 has a 25-hp Kohler engine and an offset 60-in. deck. Both offer adjustable-suspension seat, ergonomically designed hand controls for single-handed steering and a variety of positions to reduce operator fatigue. Extended-life spindles are guaranteed to not need lubrication or replacement for two years. Tungsten carbide-coated blades stay sharp longer.

Circle no. 278

INFORM ♦ INTRODUCE ♦ INFLUENCE ♦ INSTRUCT

REPRINTS

Reprints of *Landscape Management* articles, advertisements, news items or special announcements are available through Advanstar Marketing Services. Customized to meet your specific needs, reprints are highly effective when you use them to:

- ♦ Develop direct-mail campaigns
- ♦ Provide product/service literature
- ♦ Create trade show distribution materials
- ♦ Present information at conferences and seminars

Extend your coverage to your website. Custom reprint packages include an E-Print of the same article to post on your website.

ARTICLES
NEWS ITEMS
ADVERTISEMENTS

Landscape MANAGEMENT

ADVANSTAR MARKETING SERVICES
MARCIE NAGY
1-800-225-4569 ext. 2744 • 440-891-2744
Fax: 440-891-2740
Email: mnagy@advanstar.com

We've Built a Better Mousetrap...



... and the world is beating a path to our door! We're not surprised. People have discovered that the new U.S. government, free portal www.FirstGov.gov is online. Just point and click your way to www.FirstGov.gov and instantly search more than 27 million U.S. government web pages. You can find the answers fast if you make your first click www.FirstGov.gov.

FIRSTGOV
Your First Click to the U.S. Government