

Tree tools go high tech

BY CURT HARLER /
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Tree management has gone high tech. While the old standbys like tree trimmers and tree spades remain important parts of the landscaper's toolbox, the business has changed.

Injectable and sprayable materials are making it easier for landscapers to keep trees healthy in an environmentally friendly manner.

The environment gets a boost from new mulching products, too. One product contains at least 80% recycled tire rubber. The recycled material forms protective decoration for trees and shrubs in areas where cypress mulch or bark chips are unavailable or impractical.

Of course, there are plenty of traditional tools available as well. Check them out below.

BANDIT INDUSTRIES

800/952-0178

www.banditchippers.com

Chip whole trees, tops, limbs or gnarled material with limited need to trim. Reduce an 80-ft. whole tree to dimensional chips in under a minute with the 1850 Track Bandit from Bandit Industries, Remus, MI. It will produce a 25-ton load of chips in an hour's time. Units are available in 14-, 18- and 19-in. models, towable or self-propelled.

Circle #283

BENNER'S GARDENS

800/753-4660

www.bennersgardens.com

If deer are a problem, check out the Deer Shield system from Benner's Gardens, Conshohocken, PA. Combining motion detection, physical barriers and low voltage elec-

tronics to keep deer from entering through driveway openings, it's a good alternative to gates or cattle grates. It detects the presence of large animals and deploys a physical barrier to keep them out.

Circle #284

BIG JOHN

800/643-8039

www.big-john.com

Truck-mounted tree transplanters from Big John, Heber Springs, AK, can handle tree trunks from 3 to 12 in. in diameter. The 12 to 15 gpm hydraulic system on the Model 45 can handle a root ball up to 42 in. wide, 38 in. deep and 1,500 lbs. The Model 90 can handle a root ball up to 90 in. wide, 60 in. deep and 11,800 lbs.

Circle #285

continued on page 58



▲ Tree Toad can move trees up to 3 in. in diameter

Buying questions for chippers

- ▶ Does it have enough horsepower?
- ▶ Is it towable or self-propelled?
- ▶ How much material can it handle?
- ▶ How quickly can it do the job?
- ▶ What size models are available?

lm reports

RECENT

John Deere's CS62 heavy duty chain saw ▶

continued from page 57

FINN CORP.

800/543-7166

www.finncorp.com

Specially designed for tree work, the Tree Fork from Finn Corp., Fairfield, OH, features a hydraulic fork which grabs trees and large shrubs for accurate placement. Hydraulically operated, it handles tree balls up to 36 in. in diameter. The company also has a line of adjustable forks that can carry or maneuver fence posts, plant materials, pallets and other bulky supplies. Either unit will attach to the Finn Eagle compact skid steer loader.

Circle #286

GROWTH PRODUCTS

800/648-7626

www.growthproducts.com

ArborCare 15-8-4 with 40% slow release nitrogen plus micros is one of several professionally formulated tree care products from Growth Products, White Plains, NY. The full line is made up of a microbial inoculant, high-analysis liquid fertilizers, chelated micronutrients, a natural biostimulant and rooting compound, and a pH reducer. Companion microbial inoculant restores beneficial microbes to the soil.

Circle #287

HUSQVARNA

704/597-5000

www.husqvarna.com

The 325P4 pole trimmer from Husqvarna,

Charlotte, NC, weighs just 10.4 lbs. but is powerful enough to do most jobs. Its 24.5cc engine develops 11,000 rpm at 1.2 hp. It has a reach of 13 ft., 1 in. Unit comes standard with 12-in. bar, but a 10-in. bar is available as an option.

Circle #288

JOHN DEERE

800/537-8233

www.johndeere.com

The line of professional grade chain saws from John Deere, Research Triangle Park, NC, includes the CS36 and CS40 lightweight professional saws, the CS56 and CS62 (pictured) heavy duty professional saws, and the CS71 and CS81 professional saws. The lightweights have 32.5cc and 39cc engines with 2.1 and 2.4 hp and bars from 12 to 18 in. The CS56 and CS62 develop 4.1 and 4.7 hp respectively and offer bars from 16 to 24 in. The CS71 and CS81 come with 20- to 32-in. guidebars and 3/8-in. chisel chains.

Circle #289

LEBANON TURF PRODUCTS

800/233-0628

www.lebturf.com

Just drop and stomp any of the tablets in the complete line of Woodace products by Lebanon Turf, Lebanon, PA, designed specifically for the professional who maintains landscape plants. Products range from the ACRE 12-3-6 fertilizer tablet for foundation plantings to the 14-14-14



flowering and the 18-5-10 long term formulation. All feature IBDU (isobutylidene diurea) slow-release nitrogen. Products come in tablet form, packed in a re-sealable bucket.

Circle #290

LITTLE WONDER

877/596-6337

www.littlewonder.com

Lightweight but rugged, the family of trimmers from Little Wonder, Southampton, PA, pack power to cut growth from shrubs and hedges up to 1/2 in. thick. All units have two reciprocating, hand-finished blades made of high-carbon steel. Single-edge blades are available on 19-, 24- and 30-in. models. Double-edgers, suitable for right or left-handed use and making cuts in any direction, are available in 19-, 24- and 30-in. models. Company claims units are virtually vibration-free, even at 2,400 cuts per minute.

Circle #291

continued on page 61



PROFESSIONAL GROUNDSKEEPING PRODUCTS

Infield Conditioner Athletic Field Marking Dust
Calcined Clay (Professional Top Dressing Drying Agent)
Mound and Home Plate Clay or Bricks

WHEN EVERY GAME COUNTS

800 228 2987
www.diamondpro.com

continued from page 58

PERMA-SCAPE

800/635-8379

www.fiskars.com

Made from at least 80% recycled tire rubber and pressed into circular mats, Fiskars Perma-



Scape Tree Rings form a protective decoration for trees and shrubs. Rings look like wooden mulch chips, yet are durable and last up to 10 years. They come in 20-, 24- and 30-in. diameter sizes and are priced at \$15,

\$17 and \$25 respectively. Largest model has six preformed cut-out holes that allow staff to modify and plant flowers to meet landscaping needs. Company is located in Middleton, WI. **Circle #292**

PLANT HEALTH CARE

800/421-9051

www.planthealthcare.com

MycorTree Injectable with Colonize is a VAM mycorrhizal fungi stimulant for soil injection treatment of most tree and shrub species. Plant Health Care, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA, says the product allows fungi to colonize plant roots to help their hosts extract water and nutrients from the soil, improve resistance to certain soil-borne diseases, reduce absorption of soil toxins and extend the root system's life. Company also has other inoculants available for trees, shrubs and flowers.

Circle #293

REDMAX

800/291-8251

www.redmax.com

If you believe weight makes a difference to people working in trees, check out America's lightest commercial chain saw. RedMax, Norcross, GA, puts the unit's weight at 6.4 lbs. It's powered by a 25.4cc 2-cycle engine and features

a dual-activated inertia chain brake and dust-free intake system, Oregon chain and 12-in. bar and climbing ring.

Circle #294

REEMAY

800/321-6271

www.reemay.com

Reemay, Inc.'s Typar TreeCircle is a 35-in. diameter landscape fabric circle that keeps most roots out without inhibiting air, water and nutrients. The company says you won't have to use chemicals or perform hand-weeding for years after installing it.

Circle #295

ROOTS, INC.

800/342-6173

www.rootsinc.com

New Transplant 1-Step from Roots, Inc., New Haven, CT, is available in a 4-oz. foil pack. Packed 65 in a 4-gal. pail, it contains 17 species of mycorrhiza, plus water-holding gels to give each planting the best chance to survive. In addition, the company's mycorrhizaROOTS, available as a biostimulant that works well in deep root feeding of trees and shrubs, now has 17 species of mycorrhiza in it. Each 16-oz. bag provides a broad spectrum application of mycorrhiza for increased nutrient uptake, enhanced root systems and plant stress management.

Circle #296

STIHL

800/467-8445

www.stihlusa.com

A whole series of 19 hand-held cutting tools crafted for the professional is available from Stihl, Virginia Beach, VA. The line includes five pruning saws, three pole pruners, three loppers, one hedge shear, four pruners and three axes. Saws come in sizes from 6 to 13 in. All offer blades that can be sharpened or replaced, strong lightweight handles, comfortable grips and computer-designed cutting teeth or blades. Pole pruners offer adjustable pole length, bark cutter and hook.

Circle #297

TREE STAPLE

877/873-3749

www.treestapleinc.com

Tree Staple of Berkley Heights, NJ, says its below-grade tree and shrub stabilization system is safer, stronger and more cost effective

than stake and wire. It's also more aesthetically pleasing since it's below ground. The company claims that it takes one man with one sledgehammer two minutes to pound the stake into the rootball of the tree to stabilize it.

Circle #298

TREE TOAD

800/479-3099

www.treetoad.com

Transplant a tree in three minutes with the Tree Toad, made in Long Lake, MN. Available in 20-, 24- and 32-in. trailer models and 20-, 24- and 32-in. 3-pt. hitch versions, it's made for smaller trees up to three in. in diameter. Unit's spades tap around the tree, jack the tree and root ball out, and allow it to be moved to a new location. The 32-in. model makes a 32-in. ball 21 in. deep. All are made of 3/16-in. CorTen low-alloy steel.

Circle #299

VALENT

800/898-2536

www.valentpro.com

Control glassy-winged sharpshooter on ornamental plants, shrubs, trees and non-bearing fruit trees with Tame 2.4 EC spray from Valent, Walnut Creek, CA. This insecticide/miticide has a 2(ee) recommendation in California where it was approved to keep glassy-winged sharpshooters from migrating from trees to grapes. It is labeled for application at 10.66 fl. oz. per 100 gallons.

Circle #300

VERMEER

888/837-6337

www.vermeer.com

Designed for large volume wood and yard waste disposal, the TG800 tub grinder from Vermeer, Pella, IA, delivers 800 hp into a gear-reduction, transmission-driven hammermill. The Cat 3412E is an electronic, fuel-injected, twin turbo-charged aftercooled engine. At 11 ft., tub has largest inside diameter in the industry, with a top flare of 13.6 ft. Belly conveyor, a 60-in. belt, operates at 744 ft. per minute. Debris exclusion shroud diverts spillage away from the machine.

Circle #301