

# Sprayers, spreaders at a glance



Cutler-Malone units with air-powered delivery via hand-held spray wand

"A 1,000-gallon sprayer is easier on the truck full than it is three-fourths full," says Chuck Kolenut, General Manager of North-eastern Arborists. "A three-quarters tank starts sloshing — boom, boom, boom — and the material moves front and back and starts to throw the truck around. You hit the brakes harder and still feel the truck step forward." The result is either a heavier foot on the brake at intersections or a lot of wear on the clutch even when the truck is stopped. Given a choice, Kolenut says he would use up his brakes because they can be repaired in a morning. Lose a clutch and the truck is out of service for a day or two.

Be careful of total weight, too. A 200-gallon tank is a lot for a one-ton pickup. Sure, there's only 1,700 lbs. of water in the tank, but don't forget the weight of the material, the pump, the frame, and tools in the bed.

The sloshing problem will also show up if the truck has to swerve in traffic or take a steep curve. Be sure to use a solid frame and torque down on the mounts. Don't go cheap on the frame. "If the frame twists and the tank cracks and leaks, you'll end up paying more in fines than you'll ever save," Kolenut says.

BY CURT HARLER /  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

**C**ommercial sprayers are manufactured using stainless steel, fiberglass, polyethylene or brass. Each material has its place, and each has its cost. Brass, for example, is limited almost exclusively to fittings. It's too expensive and heavy to use anywhere else.

If weight is the major consideration, engineers look to poly tanks. It's great for backpack units; it's cheaper, too. However, there is a cost. Poly only lasts around 10 years — and truck-mounted poly tanks can become brittle in the sun. If they leak, there is a whole array of problems to be faced.

Fiberglass takes impact better than poly. Also, it can be shaped to any form and therefore can be mounted on a pickup truck and removed easily.

Stainless steel is used in top-notch products that last a long time. The trade-off is in weight. Landscape professionals in the market for a larger spray truck or a dedicated spray vehicle prefer stainless or fiberglass tanks.

## Vehicle considerations

The most common spray equipment in the business is the pickup-mounted tank. But it's a spray tank, not a Sherman tank, so don't drive it like one. Tanks can wreak havoc with a pickup's mechanics, especially the clutch and brakes.



Agri-Fab tow & push models

## AGRI-FAB

217-728-8388

[www.agri-fab.com](http://www.agri-fab.com)

Full line of tow-models with 100-175 lb. capacity and push models with 100-125 lb. capacity. Tow models have 32-52 in. widths. The 42-in. poly Pro

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Spiker/Spreader aerates while spreading 175 lbs. of material in 40-in. swath.

Circle #260

**BARRON & BROTHERS INTERNATIONAL (BBI)**

800/282-3570

[lbrothers@barron-bros.com](mailto:lbrothers@barron-bros.com)

New from BBI: the Cricket, a 2-ton fertilizer, 3-ton lime spreader; the Skeeter, a 2- or 5-ton fertilizer spreader; MagnaSpread truck-mounted fertilizer and lime unit. Provide more efficient coverage with less time and fuel use.

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**HERD SEEDER CO.**

219/753-6311

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

Seven seeder models, including GT-77 (pic-



Herd unit mounts on ATVs, small tractors

tured). 12-volt DC motor spins fan to spread variety of seed, fertilizers, slug baits. Mounts on ATVs, lawn tractors, etc. Specific mounting brackets assure proper mounting.

Circle #262

**BRANDTEK**

407/656-1088

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

ZT Ranger's one-hand steering makes it very maneuverable. 74-gal tank, 10-ft. stainless

steel breakaway boom cover 6,500 sq. ft. per minute without drift. MTH centrifugal pump with solid brass housing, stainless impeller produce 350 psi pressure to reach tough spots.

Circle #263

**C&S TURF CARE**

800/872-7050

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

Low-profile tree, shrub and lawn care spray unit has 450 gallons total capacity (300-100-50). Unit is built with fiberglass tanks. Multi-pump, multi-reel design. Will build unit to LCO's specifications.

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**CUTLER-MALONE**

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200, 600 1800-pounder for vehicle, 3-pt. hitch, or own trailer; 300, 125-pounder, fits utility trailer, trucks; Model 400 for aquatic materials, 125-lbs., fits most boats to apply Sonar, Aquathol Super-K.

Circle #265

#### EARTH & TURF

888/693-2638

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

MultiSpread 300 features a 27 cu. ft. hopper and four tires for low ground pressure. Choose either a brush or beater spreading system for a spread pattern of 34 to 72 in.

Circle #266

#### FIRST PRODUCTS

800/363-8780

[www.1stproducts.com](http://www.1stproducts.com)

Seed-a-vator has 6.7 cu. ft., stainless steel

hopper sides and bottom. Requires 30-hp 3-pt. hitch tractor. Neoprene flow-control rotor. Uses electric or ground drive. 22 seed outlets.

Circle #267

#### JRCO

800/966-8442

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

30-gallon boom sprayer fits zero-turn mowers. Powered by 3.5 hp B&S engine with Udor di-



JRCO boom sprayer with ultra-low drift

aphragm pump. Has 3-section breakaway boom, 5, 8, 11-ft. zone control, ultra-low-drift nozzles, spray gun with 10-ft. hose. Also, electric broadcast spreader fits commercial mowers. 2.2 cu. ft. (or 130 lb.) polyethylene hopper. Choose foot-operated gate or push/pull cable to cover 5-24 ft. spread.

Circle #268

#### GANDY COMPANY

800/443-2476

[www.gandy.net](http://www.gandy.net)

Option of either semi-pneumatic, or for greater flotation, pneumatic tires. 24-in. Model 24 is push handle only. 36- and 42-in. units come with either push handle or trailer hitch. Other pro models feature height-adjust handle, easy-set rate control, flow direction closures, fine mesh screen.

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~ Tom Jessen

Perma-Green Supreme President and 27-year lawn care owner, 20-year sprayer manufacturer, owner of 3 patents, and fellow dreamer

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[ride-onspreader.com](http://ride-onspreader.com)

Circle 118

**GNC INDUSTRIES**

**800/462-2005**

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

25, 50 and 100-gallon poly and 100- or 200-gallon fiberglass sprayer with GNC Diamond Pump, 2-year warranty. Skid design allows easy access to pressure regulator, dump valve, fuel tanks. Jet Agitation standard, Air-Gap backflow prevention optional.

Circle #270

**KROMER CO.**

**800/373-0337**



**50-gallon Kromer unit can line fields, spray**

AFMM with 50-gal. tank for lining paint or water on ballfields to dust control. Can be used with spray bar for chemical or fertilizer, with a boom for spraying 60-180 in. Spray gun, 25-ft. hose to reach areas normally hit by backpack units.

Circle #271

**THE LELY CORP.**

**252/291-7050**

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

Full line of pto and trail broadcasters offer capacity from 566-5,250 lbs. Popular model is the Model W, ground-driven, hitch-mounted unit with 52-in. swath, side spreading, 805-lb. capacity. Forced feeding system standard, flotation tire kit available.

Circle #272

**MILLCREEK MFG. CO.**

**800/311-1323**

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

Avoid compaction with turf tires on mid-sized topdresser/spreader with fifth-wheel hitch for turf trucks or engine drive on vehicles without pto. The 50TD holds 23.2 cu. ft., requires 20-hp trac-

tor. 75TD holds 33.7 cu. ft., requires 24-hp pto.

Circle #273

**MTD PRO**

**330/273-4550**

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

HWSS80 spreader has cam-operated agitator. Provides 10-ft. swath at walking speed. Durable polyethylene hopper, self-lubricating Nylatron GS drive gears. Shut-off plate has 2 pattern-adjustment slides.

Circle #274

**NORTHEASTERN ARBORISTS**

**800/261-7772**

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

Full line from 50-500 gallons available with variety of pumps. Units are Honda-engine powered, with pumps ranging from 6 gpm, 290 psi to the 21-gpm 725 with Pulsation Damper on the big NAS500PD703. Most offer adjustable jet agitation, skid-style welded frame with reel mount, and suction strainer with shut off, tank drain with plug.

Circle #275

**PSB COMPANY**

**614/228-5781**

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

Assure accurate spreader calibration. The Prizelawn Bigfoot Accurate calibrator fits all Bigfoot, CBR-II, Scotts R7X, R8, R8A, SR-1, AP2000, SR2000; Lesco Low Wheel, High Wheel and MKII spreaders. Reduces turf-damaging mistakes, allows label compliance.

Circle #276

**RANSOMES CUSHMAN RYAN**

**800/228-4444**

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

Vicon 888401 holds 700 lbs., has built-in rotary agitation, fits all Turf-Truckster models. Variety of spouts allows special applications. Non-corrosive hopper of glass fiber reinforced polyester.

Circle #277



**MTD Pro's 10-ft. swath**

**SCOTTS**

**800/543-0006**

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

Patented helical cone assures uniform, consistent spread pattern with the AccuPro 2000 with 13-in. TurfSaver-2 pneumatic wheels. Extended push handle has tuff-foam grips, front and rear lift handles.

Circle #278

**PERMA-GREEN SUPREME**

**800/346-2001**

[www.ride-onspreader.com](http://www.ride-onspreader.com)

Convert spreader to ride-on unit. Or add spray kit to a spreader in 15 minutes. Spray kit is 12-volt unit, comes completely assembled.

Circle #279

**SHINDAIWA**

**503/692-3070**

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

RS575 rotary spreader with welded steel frame has 75-lb. capacity. Frame is welded stainless or steel coated with epoxy riding on 13-in. tires. Delrin axle bushings, removable gear cover. Hopper cover, side deflector optional.

Circle #280

**SP SYSTEMS**

**800/457-3440**

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

SP Duster and Granular Spreader applies most



**Models from 2-5.4 gal. spray capacity**

dust and granular material. Several YardTender commercial models available in 2-5.4 gallons. The 189 is 4 gallon backpack sprayer with internal piston pump giving 168 psi. Viton/Nytril seals.

Circle #281

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#### SISIS

864/261-6218

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

The Variseeder from SISIS has studded roller, opening soil for better seed contact. 3.62-cu. ft. hopper covers 7,022 sq. yds. at 3 mph speed, dropping 50-in. swath. Works with most tricksters, lawn tractors over 15 hp.

Circle #282

**Toro's Topdresser  
2500 with 25 cu.  
ft. hopper**



#### TORO COMPANY

800/803-8676

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

Topdresser 2500 is self-contained, all-wheel drive unit designed for towing behind utility vehicle.

25-cu. ft. hopper, oscillating axles for consistent drop in uneven terrain. Belt and broom design gives precise control of wet, dry materials including sand.

Circle #283

#### TURFCO

763/785-0556

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

Mete-R-Matic LA 4 works as broadcast spreader, large area top dresser or material handler. Has 4-cu. yd. hopper and 60-in. spread width. Applies material 1/32 to 4 in. deep. Runs with hydraulic pump off 40-hp tractor pto.

Circle #284

#### SNG EQUIPMENT

614/873-3719

Lawn Caddy Pro is combination spread and spray machine with a 180-lb. dry fertilizer capacity with 6-25 ft. spread; or 50-gal. liquid tank that sprays 4, 8, 12, 16 ft. with 22-hp Kawasaki motor. Units can be operated virtually hands free.

Circle #285

#### VANDERMOLLEN CORP.

973/992-8506

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

Windmill C510 spreader/seeder holds 400 lbs., spreads 40-ft. swath. Made of 2mm seamless steel, requires Cat-1 pto hitch on 16-28 hp tractor. Accessories include one-sided discharge, agitator for spreading powder, swath regulator to reduce width. Larger models available.

Circle #286

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• 4pm-6pm  
Thurs., Mar. 7 • 9am-1pm

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*General Session & Keynote Speaker*  
Wed., Mar. 6 • 9-11am / 2-4pm  
Thurs., Mar. 7 • 8:30-11am  
*Post Conference Seminar 1-5pm*



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