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Circle No. 127 on Reader Inquiry Card



continued from page 50

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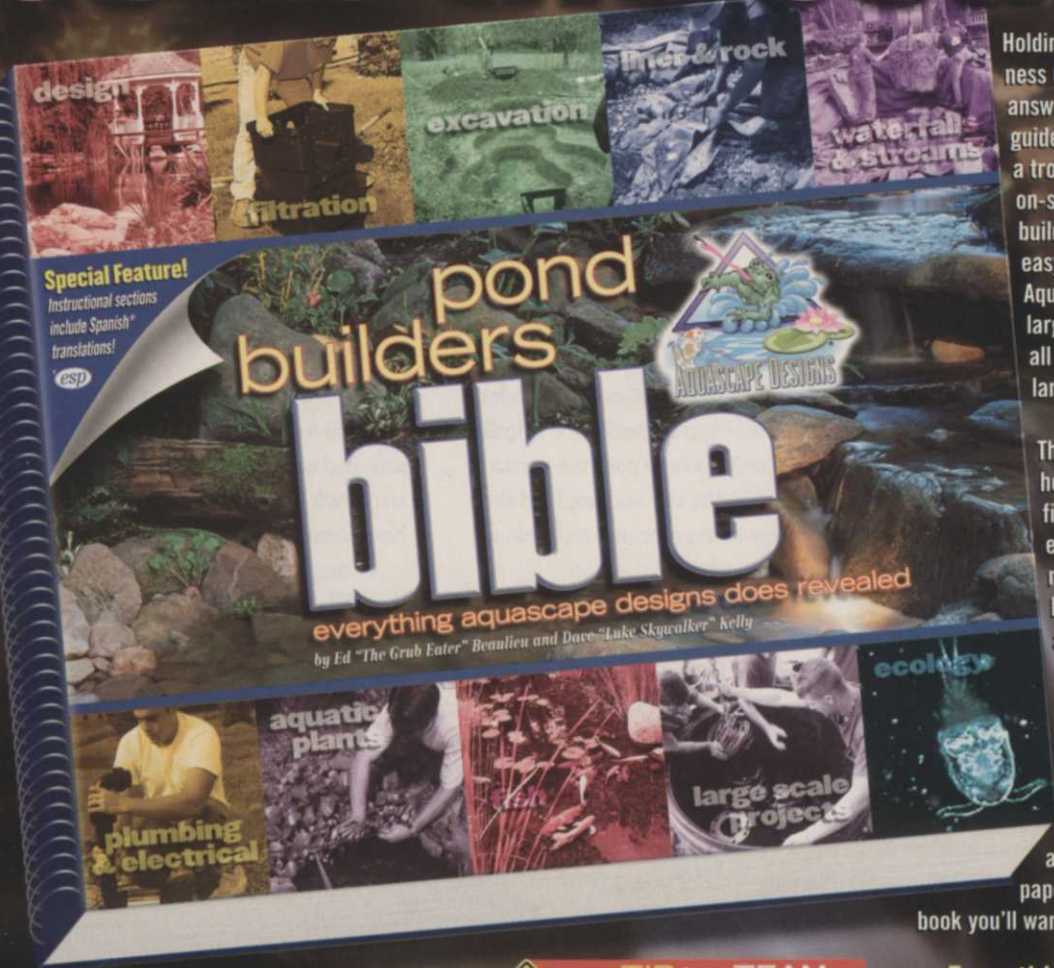
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Why they're special

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BY RON HALL / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Timothy Kilgallen's CSI Landscaping, Scarsdale, NY, does a lot of work in Manhattan. Driving there is tough, never mind pulling a trailer loaded with mowers and trimmers.

That was one reason why he equipped his crews with Super Lawn Trucks. They're not complicated vehicles — a cab-forward Isuzu with an 18-ft. long by 7-ft. high box equipped with customized equipment and tool storage areas.

It is, in some respect, its own lockable maintenance yard since Kilgallen's crews only have to park the trucks at the end of the day and not load their mowers in the morning and unload them at night.

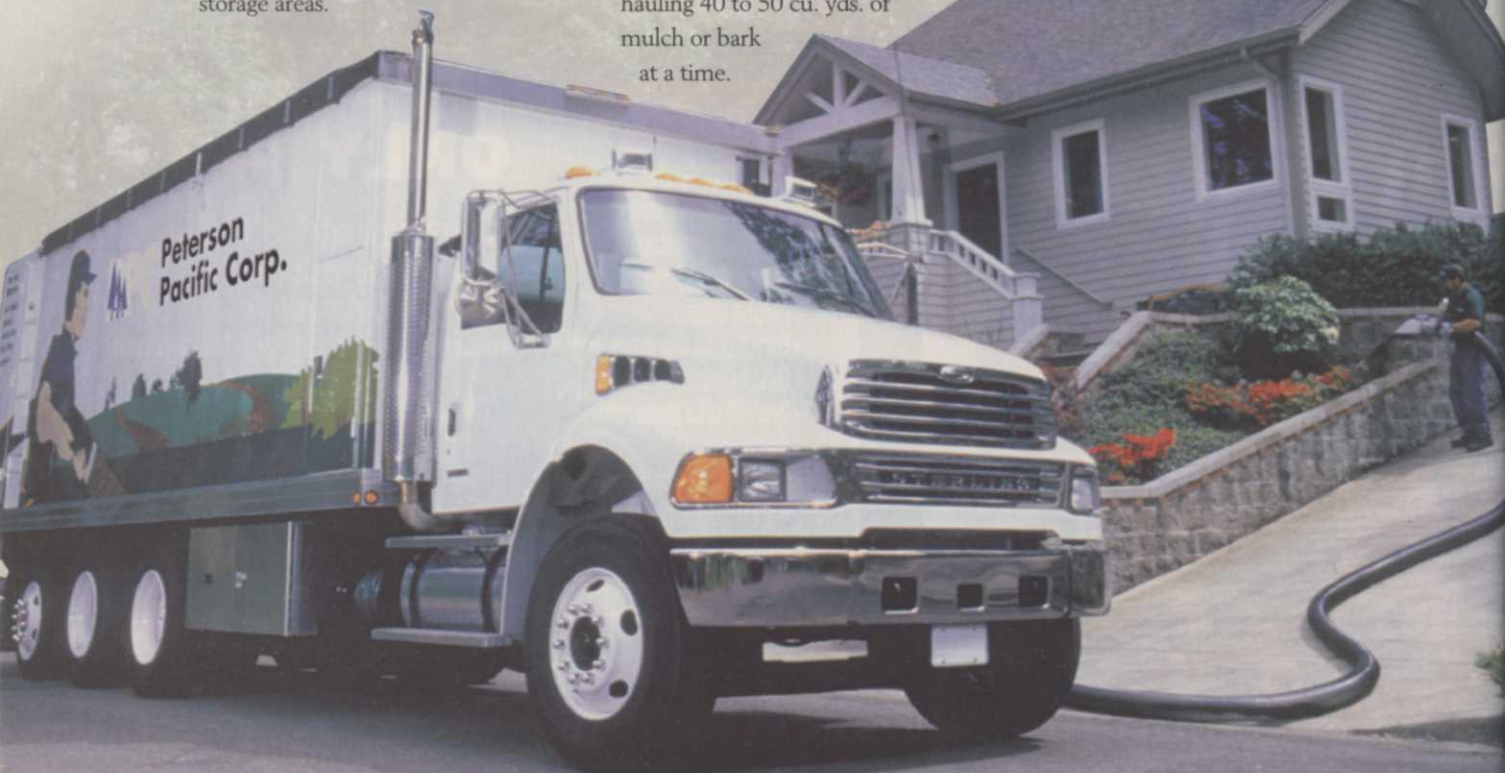
Laurent Girard, general manager of Pacific Topsoil, Everett, WA, knows about trucks. His wholesale landscape supply outfit has a fleet of well over 100, including five huge material blowing vehicles — three Express Blowers and two Blowtechs.

These vehicles are capable of hauling 40 to 50 cu. yds. of mulch or bark at a time.

Pacific Topsoil operates retail stores in addition to being a major supplier of soils and compost. It also provides contract bark blowing for landscapers, homeowners and property managers.

A single operator can dispense more than 50 cu. yds. of material an hour, depending on its particle size, density and moisture content, says Girard.

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- ▶ Bench seat for two people; front hood storage

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- ▶ Fits all full-size pickups
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EB-60 Express Blower

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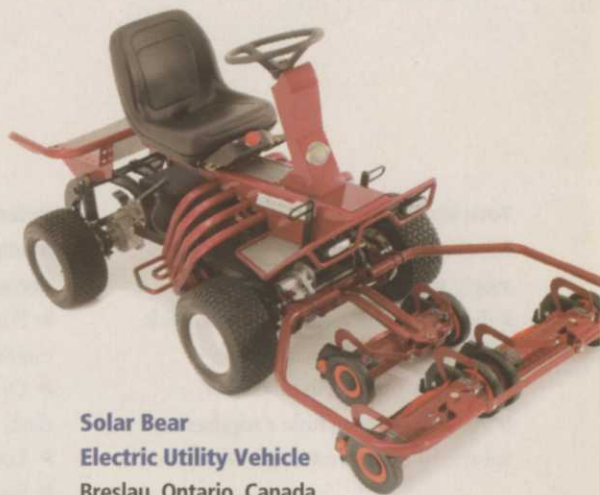
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- ▶ Four-wheel hydraulic brakes, load range E tires



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www.euvehicles.com

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WEED CONTROL

Goodbye

Crabby

Veteran turf manager lets the crabgrass poke its nasty head up before he attacks

BY FRANK ALLEN

With 12 years of experience, Damon Ervie is no stranger to turf management. For the past three years, this director of fields and grounds and his staff of five full-time employees have been maintaining and renovating 87 acres of high-profile sports turf, as well as 230 acres of common areas, for Liberty Public Schools in a suburb of Kansas City, MO.

The problem:
crabgrass on a rampage

As with all maintenance and renovation projects, Ervie had some interesting challenges. One was the crabgrass at the Liberty Soccer Complex, a soccer field that had been renovated and seeded with Kentucky bluegrass. The preemergent herbicide he'd used to control it had been a disappointment.

"The window of application for this herbicide is crucial," Ervie explained. "And we had to have perfect conditions for application." Ervie also said he was disappointed with the product's results. Since he had to apply it in early spring — the same time as seeding — it thinned out the grass.

"About 90% of the time, the roots were thin and came to the surface," Ervie

continued on page 62

Damon's domain

Institution: Liberty Public Schools

No. schools in district: 20

No. grounds employees: 5 full-time, 10 seasonal

No. of acres maintained: 230 common school grounds, 87 sports turf

Herbicide used: BASF's Drive

Equipment: Toro mowers, John Deere tractors



When Ervie and his crew renovated the school's soccer field, they ran into a serious problem with crabgrass.