



Mini Skid-Steer Loaders Deliver Big Performance

NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.) — ABC Groff, located here, has announced the availability of three new Ramrod mini skid-steer loaders, models 550, 750, and 900.

These hydraulic self-propelled mini skid-steer loaders deliver big performance in small places. Machines are driver-friendly with an unobstructed view of all working conditions.

The mini skid-steer loaders are equipped with self-centering controls which stop dead all drive, lift, or leveling movements when the operator's hands are removed from the controls.

Machines are easily transported in a trailer or pickup truck.

According to Bill Beck, sales manager at ABC Groff, two of the models share a 16 hp air-cooled gas engine. One has both a 16 hp gas or 16 hp diesel engine. One has a 20 hp air-cooled gas or diesel engine.

The 550T has a 550-pound load capacity with a lift height of 65 inches with a 16 hp gas engine.

Standard on the 550T is 4-wheel hydrostatic drive, single-handed steering, tropical air flow, and rubberized shields. Electric start and quick attach are also standard.

The 750T-G uses a 16 hp gas engine with a 750-pound load capacity with a lift height of 65 inches. It uses a 16 hp gas engine, and four-wheel hydrostatic drive, single-handed steering, tropical air flow and rubberized shields, and electric start and quick attach are all standard. The 750T-D is a 16 hp diesel engine with all the features of the 750T-G.

The 900-GT has a 20 hp engine air cooled gas engine (the 900T-D is a 726 cc diesel engine) with a 900-pound load capacity.

Lift height is 65 inches. Four-wheel hydrostatic drive, single-handed steering, tropical air flow and rubberized shields, and electric start and quick attach are all standard.

Ramrod is a division of Leon's Manufacturing Company, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Cochran Places First

BOONSBORO, Md — James G. Cochran, CEO and head auctioneer of J.G. Cochran Auctioneers and Associates, Ltd., placed first in the 1999 Maryland State Auctioneers Bid Calling Championship, sponsored and conducted by the Auctioneers Association of Maryland, during the Maryland State Fair in Timonium.

Auctioneers from throughout the state participated with judging by representatives of other auction firms in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Cochran has been in business for more than 26 years, conducting about 300 auctions yearly.

Dwayne Flook, also with the Cochran firm, placed third in the state championship.

Packard Joins White Oak Mills

ELIZABETHTOWN (Lancaster Co.) — White Oak Mills, in its continuing effort to provide quality service to its dairy customers, has added Amy Packard, Troy, to its professional dairy team. Packard will serve as a full-time White Oak Mills dairy feed formulations programmer/purchaser.

At White Oak Mills, Packard will be responsible for overseeing dairy computer formulating and assisting with commodity purchasing. Her new duties include providing technical support to White Oak Mills' dairy specialists and customers, updating feed formulas, purchasing ingredients, generating ingredient spreadsheets, monitoring grain and feed contracts, and maintaining feed quality control measures.

Since her graduation from Pennsylvania State University in December 1997 where she earned a bachelor of science degree in dairy and animal science with a dairy production/management option, Packard has been employed by Nichols Agway, in Nichols, N.Y. as a part-time customer service representative. In addition, she served as a research data collector for Penn State University's agronomy department and assisted with the farm management

Amy Packard, Troy, recently joined White Oak Mills' dairy team as a dairy programmer/purchaser.

for Pack-Herd Holsteins, a 100-head registered Holstein herd located in Bradford County.

Last summer, Packard completed a dairy research internship in Northern Ireland with the Northern Ireland Agricultural Research Institute. During this internship, she assisted with various grazing trials as well as with a 12-week dairy cow experiment which compared various protein supplementation levels with grass pasture.

Packard replaces Staci Barnett, of Quarryville, who has served as a White Oak dairy programmer since June 1997.

Roundup Ready Corn Weed Control Plots Planted

DEKALB, Ill. — The debut of Dekalb brand Roundup Ready® corn allows more than 10,000 growers to do something they've never done before — apply Roundup Ultra™ over the top of their corn.

And what's happening now in corn fields all across the United States has growers and researchers looking closely at this new product.

While the traditional chemical application window has slammed shut on many growers across the Corn Belt, Roundup Ready corn customers have been able to maximize the benefits of this new product. Early indications show that Roundup Ready corn weed control systems are more effective than traditional programs.

In many parts of the country, unfavorable weather conditions early this spring have had a toll on conventional herbicide systems. In dry areas of the Corn Belt, pre-

emergence herbicides have allowed weed escapes. While in other areas, good growing conditions combined with frequent early season rainfall have prevented timely applications of several postemergence herbicides.

"These contrasting weather conditions have not been a concern with Roundup Ready corn," said Tracy Klingaman, Dekalb's agronomic trait manager. "The new Roundup Ready corn system is not affected by these weather conditions and is showing strong performance throughout the Corn Belt. Crop safety also is an advantage as Roundup Ready corn is showing little to no stress when compared to other corn that was subjected to ALS and growth regulator herbicides."

Roundup Ready technology allows growers to combine the elite germplasm of Dekalb hybrids with the weed control flexibility of Roundup Ultra, which controls

more than 100 grasses and broad-leaf weeds.

"We're proud to be the first and only seed company to offer Roundup Ready corn, and we compliment all growers who quickly adopted the new technology," said Vernon Benes, Dekalb central marketing manager for corn products. "We also look forward to seeing the results at harvest time. Early field plots show Dekalb brand Roundup Ready corn is quick to germinate and is outgrowing competitive hybrids of similar maturities. That should mean big yields this fall."

Benes says Dekalb anticipates releasing an additional five to seven hybrids in 1999, making the total Roundup Ready hybrid selection almost a dozen. These products will range in relative maturity from 95 to 115 days. A top priority will be an expansion of hybrid choices in the southern Corn Belt.

Perennial Ryegrass Booklet Available

OGDENSBURG, NJ — Perennial Ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*) is the highest quality forage grass available today. In many respects it outperforms other grasses.

It is a cool season grass and therefore produces most in the spring and fall. During hot (greater than 90 degree) and dry periods it will go dormant, but will continue to produce as soon as temperature drops again.

People have been trying perennial ryegrass in the past, but the varieties being used were not adapted to the climate of the Midwest and Northeast. Some varieties were brought over from New Zealand and other varieties were developed

in areas with hardly any killing frosts.

Besides that, farmers didn't know how to manage and fertilize Perennial Ryegrass to make it persist. The combination of the above left a lot of farms frustrated, they knew the quality of Perennial Ryegrass, but didn't know how to grow it.

Barenbrug USA and Modern Forage Systems have been importing genetically improved varieties from [continental] Europe. Those imported varieties proved to be winterhardy and farmers have been successful with letting those varieties to persist. Also universities in Wisconsin and New York have seen that those varieties live

through their winters.

Barenbrug thinks now is the time to make farmers aware of the possibilities with these improved varieties. Therefore they have composed a booklet that tells how to grow and manage Perennial Ryegrass in the Midwest and Northeast. The booklet contains articles of experts, but also contains the story of nine farmers who have been successful with growing Perennial Ryegrass for several years.

The booklet is called "The Secret of Their Success" and is available free for farmers and associates. People can order up to three copies by calling Barenbrug at (800) 547-4101

Company Enters Marketing Agreement

TUNKHANNOCK (Wyoming Co.) — PR Pharmaceuticals Inc., Fort Collins, Colo., announces a sales and marketing agreement with Sire Power, Inc. Tunkhannock.

Sire Power, celebrating 60 years of leadership in the artificial insemination industry, has a direct presence in the nation's dairy market.

Sire Power will market the full line of EfferCept products to the dairy industry. Products include EfferCept Vet, a new technology in mastitis control, the SoftGuard series of conditioning additives, as well as other supporting products

EfferCept Vet is a safe high-

ly effective teat dip and spray in an easy-to-use, easy-to-store tablet form. These convenient, concentrated effervescent tablets dissolve quickly in water to give exact strength every time. The active ingredient in EfferCept Vet, hypochlorous acid, offers 100 times the bacteria killing power of bleach, but is far more gentle to the teats and udder, and the hands of the milker. Unlike bleach, which is neutralized quickly in organic matter typically found in dairy environments, EfferCept Vet maintains killing power as an effective mastitis preventative. More than a quarter of a million dairy cows from every region of the country have been effective-

ly treated with the product under real farm conditions

SoftGuard Additives are specifically formulated to provide a moisturizing/conditioning agent for teats when using EfferCept Vet solutions. SoftGuard Aqua-Blue Additive provides a color indicator for visual inspection of proper teat dipping or spraying procedures, in addition to moisturizing and conditioning the teats.

The EfferCept Vet and Sire Power marketing agreement will serve dairy customers by enhancing localized support and service, while accelerating market awareness of this new product introduction.

Kubota Tractor Announces Finance Program

TORRANCE, Calif — Kubota Tractor Corporation (KTC) announced five new finance options on its compact and utility tractors.

The program, a first for KTC continues through Sept. 30, 1998.

All finance options, on approved credit, offers zero down payment and terms that range from no interest on a 12-month contract to 8.49 percent APR for 60 months with interest and payments waived for the

first six months.

Compact and utility tractors include the B-Series, B21 and L35 tractor/loader/backhoes, L-Series and Grand L, and the complete line of M-Series utility tractors including the all-new M6800/8200/9000.

Kubota's new M-Series tractors are equipped with a three liter, 202 cubic inch, ETVCES four-cylinder diesel engine producing 68, 82 or 90 horsepower respectively. Power and performance can be enhanced with

turbo-charging and inter-cooling technologies.

Kubota performance matched implements such as loaders, backhoes, tillers and mowers are covered by the special financing program when purchased with a qualifying tractor.

"We're continually adding new and more powerful equipment to our line up," said Robin Killian, senior vice president, sales and marketing. "By providing more choices and now a greater number of finance options, Kubota customers have more flexibility when purchasing new products."