

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## Lawn Tractors Can Be Versatile And Agile

(NAPSA)—Now that you've moved to the countryside, you find yourself with new challenges. For example, your new home probably has more grass than you're used to—possibly more than you've ever seen. Not only that, but the job of taking care of it is all yours. When you now have three, four or even five acres, the walk-behind mower that used to do a fine job on your smaller suburban lot just isn't going to cut it.

In searching for a solution to this challenge, a growing number of rural homeowners have turned to a tool that lawn maintenance professionals have used for years: the highly maneuverable, highly productive zero-turn-radius mower. That's why they're the single fastest-growing equipment segment in the outdoor power equipment industry.

Many homeowners see the zero-turn as a fast and fun way to mow large lawns. They've seen contractors use these machines and they say "I want to mow like the pros." What most homeowner customers don't realize, though, is there are significant differences between the commercial zero-turn mowers they see the pros run and the residential zero-turn machines priced for their budgets. While large commercial models offer a lot of stability on hillsides, smaller residential mowers are more susceptible to drifting downhill when on an incline. That means you have to



**A riding lawnmower is a good investment for a homeowner with a lot of grass to cut.**

make slight corrections to keep the mower on a straight line—the first time you experience that drifting sensation it can be more than a little disconcerting.

In addition, the purchase of a zero-turn mower is an investment in a pure mowing machine. However, if you've chosen to live out in the country, chances are you'll have a lot more chores than simply mowing your lawn. If you want one machine that offers you the flexibility to blow snow, do blade work, pull a utility cart, or perform a variety of other tasks, then a lawn tractor or garden tractor is going to be a far better option.

Thanks to innovative design and engineering from John Deere, you don't have to sacrifice the agility and maneuverability of a

zero-turn mower for the flexibility and multipurpose functionality of a lawn tractor. You can find four-wheel steer on several models of Select Series Tractors. These machines have been designed and built to perform a variety of light- and heavy-duty tasks for customers who have larger properties of up to seven acres with more landscape features and challenging terrain. These tractors come in a range of 17 to 27 horsepower, both air- and liquid-cooled engines, depending on the model. Other features include:

- A unique combination of engine features and an exclusive hood design to deliver greater lugging ability and longer engine life.
- Mower decks that provide a high-quality cut over a range of cutting heights. The Edge™ Mulch deck is fitted with unique removable gates that allow the operator to mow even if the grass has grown to a longer-than-normal cut height. Wide-gauge wheels provide improved functionality on rough ground and a four-point mount is more resilient to abuse and tough terrain.
- The John Deere Heavy Duty CargO™ Mount, Quick Hitch and Click-N-Go systems to accommodate a wide range of heavy-duty attachments.

Visit a John Deere dealer when you're considering the equipment that's right for you and your property, or go to the Web site, [www.johndeere.com](http://www.johndeere.com).

!

*Editor's Note: This is the third installment in an ongoing series that provides helpful tips and advice to rural homeowners who are first-time equipment buyers.*