

“Cyclone” Blows Like A Hurricane

“The Cyclone debris blower keeps man hours lower in the barn and does a better job with biosecurity,” says Guy Gabbey, agriculture sales representative for Buffalo Turbine. And, because it’s lightweight, it works on compact tractors with as little as 20 hp.

The New York company has been making blowers since the 1990’s. Their most recent model has been upgraded with a gearbox and electronic nozzle control that rotates 360 degrees in both directions, says Hawk Horschel, sales representative for Buffalo Turbine. Because of the jet turbine-style engine, it is 3 times more efficient at producing air than other blowers, without requiring bigger equipment with higher horsepower, he notes.

Popular for municipalities and construction customers for clearing everything from leaves to aggregate, it also meets rural and agriculture needs.

“The poultry industry is using it for disease concerns,” Gabbey says. For example, after turkeys are removed from a barn, producers use the blower to clean off the ceiling and

walls before scraping out the barn and disinfecting it.

It’s just as useful for cleaning out cattle feed bunks and facilities, for moving leaves in a yard, and blowing rocks and debris off a cement pad or hard surface driveway.

One farmer used the hurricane-force winds of the Cyclone to windrow his hay when his haying equipment broke down. It can also be used to clear up to about 4 in. of snow and is often used in testing products to see how they would hold up in a hurricane.

With pto, hydraulic and gas engine models, the Cyclone adapts to a variety of equipment. At 239 lbs., the pto-powered blower is easy to handle, yet built with heavy-duty steel construction with a 10-year warranty. A couple of optional rectangular nozzles can be added to the 12 1/2-in. blower for additional power to move aggregate and heavier debris.

Cost for the Cyclone pto version is \$5,555 through dealers throughout the U.S. and Canada, as well as overseas.

Videos on the company’s website show it in action in a variety of situations. Buffalo



Cyclone blower comes with a jet turbine-style engine and a big nozzle that can be electrically rotated 360 degrees in both directions.

Turbine also sells tow behind, front-mount and larger blowers along with dust and odor control, insect control, and crop maintenance equipment.

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Accumulator “Cross Stacks” Bales

The 10-bale Hay Accumulator from Parrish AgriTurf packs bales for a trailer-wide load. The patented accumulator is like no other, turning 2 bales sideways before adding 2 sets of 4 bales lengthwise. With other accumulators, 2 bales have to be repacked by hand to cross-stack or tie the stack.

“By alternating the 2 odd bales when loading the trailer, the load is more stable for the long haul to the barn,” says Spike Parrish, Parrish AgriTurf. “Each set of 10 bales fills the width of the standard 8-ft. wide trailer without any manual labor, saving time and money.”

Parrish got the idea for his accumulator nearly 25 years ago while doing custom hay baling. When a client asked him to put up small squares instead of his normal big round bales, Parrish looked for a way to save labor.

“I found really good equipment for mechanical handling, but it was for large operations and not feasible for me,” recalls Parrish. “There were a couple of small systems, but they weren’t very dependable looking.”

Parrish had learned from his father, a

sheet metalworker and part-time farmer, that when it wasn’t feasible to buy, you build. With the help of family members who were in the metalworking and welding industry, he tackled the project. He came up with an 8-bale, drag-type accumulator that required no hydraulics, timing, adjusting, or maintenance.

“We started building accumulators for ourselves in 1996,” says Parrish. “At the end of each season, we would sell the old one and improve the design. Sometimes we would custom-build one for another farmer.”

In 2005 the business changed from custom baling to building equipment and Parrish came up with his 10-bale, cross-stacking design.

“I realized I had something no one else did and got it patented,” he says. “Once it was protected, I started building them for sale.”

Today Parrish AgriTurf builds the 10-bale model, as well as 8 and 12-bale models without the cross-stacking. All 3 models can be used to gather bales already laid on the ground by the baler, or hooked directly to the baler. The company also builds grapples



The 10-bale Hay Accumulator turns 2 bales sideways, then adds 2 sets of 4 bales lengthwise. Alternating the 2 odd bales makes trailer load more stable.

to match.

“Our suggested price for a 10-bale accumulator and 10-bale grapple is \$9,500,” says Parrish. “Dealer price depends on transportation costs from the factory. We’ve sold accumulators from Texas to Virginia and are now getting responses from the upper Midwest.”

While Parrish no long custom bales, he

stresses that he still raises and bales hay for himself. “Baling our own hay allows us to work with and improve our accumulators and grapples every year,” says Parrish.

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Portable Generator Built To Last

“Our new ReGen portable generator doesn’t have a lot of bells and whistles, but it’s built to last and affordably priced,” says LeRoy Riehl, Riehl Equipment, Ickesburg, Penn.

Riehl is a distributor for Kohler and Honda generators, and also services and repairs them throughout Pennsylvania. Most of his customers are in the construction business. He saw a need for a low cost, simple portable generator, so he started manufacturing the ReGen 2 years ago. Three different models are available, all powered by Honda engines.

“The ReGen is designed and built to be jobsite tough,” says Riehl. “We buy the generator head and engine, and then build the frames and put everything together in our shop. Our goal was to build a simple and very dependable generator that doesn’t have all the extra features found on other brands, such as automatic controls. It’s designed for the farmer who needs a generator only occasionally, and

just wants a generator he can throw on back of a utility vehicle and take with him anywhere. He can operate the ReGen all day long and maybe have to refill the gas tank once.”

According to Riehl, the ReGen works great in off-grid solar applications. “It’s a challenge to use most conventional portable generators with solar back-up power, because they’re not designed to produce a continuous 20 amps. As a result, the breaker gets hot and trips.”

The company sells 2,800, 4,500, and 5,500-watt models. The 2,800-watt model sells for \$1,349 plus S&H; the 4,500-watt for \$1,679 plus S&H; and the 5,500-watt for \$2,149 plus S&H. An optional wheel kit is available.

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Heron equipped his Cub Cadet with an external alternator off an SUV, replacing the alternator pulley with a sprocket that’s chain-driven off the transmission driveshaft.

Cub Cadet Electric Fix

After the stator on the engine of Michael Heron’s 582 Cub Cadet burned out, he had trouble removing the flywheel to get access to it.

“I tried several pullers, breaking two of them. I finally gave up and decided to solve the problem by equipping the tractor with an external alternator from an old Chevy Tracker SUV,” says Heron.

“I replaced the pulley on the alternator with a chain sprocket so I can chain-drive it off another sprocket that I attached to the

transmission driveshaft. The only reason I used a chain drive was because that’s what I had on hand.

“Any alternator with a regulator will work. It was relatively easy to find information on the internet to adapt the wiring. It worked out just fine, solving the problem.”

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