

EQUIPMENT

Covering the territory

New 2005 Apache sprayers feature sleek design. ■ By Tom J. Bechman

Check out a new Apache sprayer, and the dealer may make an unusual request. “Go ahead, walk under it,” he’ll say. “Look underneath.”

It’s what you won’t see that has Apache dealers daring farmers to walk underneath. There are no complicated, intertwined electronic parts.

“We pride ourselves on producing a simple, easy-to-repair machine,” says Kevin Covey of Equipment Technologies, Mooresville, Ind., makers of Apache sprayers. Mechanical drive makes simplicity possible.

“It’s been a mainstay since we started,” Covey says.

ONE-STOP FILL-UPS

Many other features are new or beefed up on Apache’s 2005 models. Choose from the 1200, 1000, 850 or 500, and tank size in gallons tells you the model number. The 1200 comes standard with a stainless steel product tank. Stainless steel tanks are optional on other models. Even poly tanks feature a vee-shaped power sump for complete emptying.

While integral components including hydraulics have been beefed up, it’s more basic new features that catch your eye. For example, engineers created a one-stop platform for all fill-ups. Standing near the ladder, you can fill any tank on the sprayer without moving.

The fuel tank is bigger, and there are more work lights, including two front lights. Four rear lights deliver up to 120 feet of lighted width.

And you won’t need to see a chiropractor after a long day. Even though it reaches 35 mph on the road, the sprayer and cab deliver a smooth ride.



New features such as a one-stop, easy-fill work station add convenience to 2005 Apache sprayers.

POISED FOR FUTURE

You can’t order auto-steering as a factory option, but that doesn’t mean you can’t use auto-steering in Apache sprayers. Three companies, Raven, Mid-Tech and Outback, have installed auto-steer systems in Apache sprayers already sold to customers.

The Apache design makes auto-steer installation relatively easy, engineers say. After-market light bars also can be easily installed.

While Equipment Technologies engineers have looked at auto-steering, the company has yet to announce if it will add auto-steering as either a factory or dealer option.

Visit www.apachesprayers.com or call (800) 861-2142 if you would like to learn more. ♦