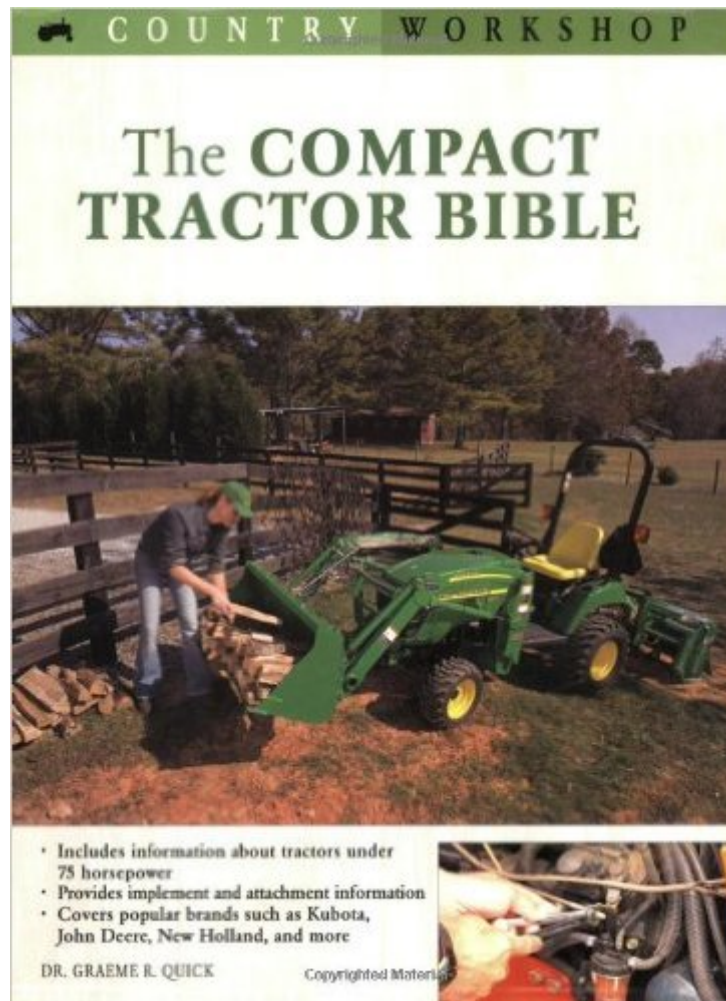


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# The Compact Tractor Bible (Country Workshop)



## Synopsis

Anyone looking to buy a piece of compact power equipment is faced with a bewildering array of choices—more than 80 brands of compact tractors offered in North America, not to mention the profusion of models within those brands. Written by an unbiased expert for residential and small-farm owners, contractors, and professionals who work with compact tractors, this book makes sense of these choices with clear, objective evaluations of the price, power, parts, and performance of particular machines. To save the buyer and user money, time, and trouble, this fully illustrated guide addresses such considerations as defining job requirements; identifying necessary attachments; matching today's compact equipment to the job; objectively measuring performance; assessing operating costs before purchase; fun and safety aspects of ownership and operations; and knowing when it's better to lease, rent, or contract out the job. In addition, the author includes a useful reference and glossary section.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was misled by the title and believe that this book should more accurately be called the Compact Tractor Primer instead of "Bible". The scope of info is large but the depth is shallow. The writing is excellent and the material is presented in a very readable manner, but being new to owning a tractor I was looking for an in depth reference that went well beyond my owners manual. I was disappointed that this book spent most of it's pages exploring an extremely wide variety of small farm, landscaping and construction machinery and less time examining the maintenance and use of

what most people consider a "compact tractor", i.e.: a mini tractor with a PTO and 3 point hitch. If you don't know what's available or exactly what you need for your small scale task you may find this book helpful. This thin book took me an evening to skim the relevant paragraphs and will end up at the local book store for sale.

I bought this book thinking it would help me figure out what kind of compact tractor I need for my business. What a mistake! It is badly written, and vast majority of the book is aimed at golf-course mowing. Despite the many promises, consumer/homeowner vs. commercial machines is not touched. And I really don't care about the "prestige" factor, something in which this author takes an inordinate amount of interest. However, if you want some nice pictures of lawnmowers, go ahead and buy this book. A pet peeve on mine is when illustrations do not match text - as happens a great deal in this book. And speaking of illustrations, you would think there are only three companies that make lawnmowers (sorry, "lawn tractors") - John Deere, New Holland and Kubota, and only one skidder worth mentioning - Bobcat. What happened to the other 85 companies? Not worth the trouble, even for enthusiasts.

Superficial coverage of a number of subjects. No reviews, opinions, or specs of individual models or product lines. Seems to have a somewhat UK slant, with some tractors and similar vehicles mentioned or pictured that I'd guess never reach the US. Somewhat useful for beginners, and it's interesting to see some pictures of some of those exotic machines (a Ferrari tractor!?). Covers not just tractors, but skid loaders, mini-excavators and so on. Interesting, but not what I'd expected.

This is a well written small tractor book. It discusses how small tractors can be used and cautions that you should take. It looks at the capabilities of modern small tractors and other small utility vehicles. It does not provide reviews of modern or antique tractors. There are many photos of assorted modern tractors but none of antique tractors. It provides advise on features found in modern tractors but does not promote one manufacturer over another. It's a nice buyers guide, especially for someone buying their first small tractor. It covers lawn and garden tractors as well as other powered utility vehicles that the homeowner or small business might use. I'd buy it again and also recommend it.

This book is not much help. It is just a group of advertisements placed on slick paper and bound together. There is not any technical or practical information included. If this is a bible, I sure would

not waste my time studying it for any reason other than to gain knowledge of what is available in the market place.

Very disappointing. Very little info on compact tractors, lots of glossy pictures of (some) tractors and accessories and lots of non-tractor task equipment. Rather lengthy academic discussion of tractor based economics (rent or buy? cost to operate? etc), but NO REAL info on how to choose or use implements. For the potential compact tractor buyer, some but insufficient information to sort out capacity, need, and merit among the myriad of choices, but this would not help one make that final decision. As a tractor owner, I found little merit in this book. Recommend looking elsewhere if you are wanting to get more use from your existing tractor.

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