

# Jacobsen Manufacturing

**Jacobsen Manufacturing** produced lawn mowers and light-duty tractors in the United States from the early 1920s until around 1959.

## History

Jacobsen Manufacturing was founded around the turn of the 20th century as a pattern-making shop by Knud Jacobsen, a Danish immigrant who came to Racine, Wisconsin, in 1891. A skilled woodworker, Jacobsen made patterns for automobiles, agricultural machines and electrical equipment. Jacobsen restructured his business as Thor Machine Works in 1917. In 1921 it released the 4-Acre mower, a gasoline-powered reel mower marketed through Jacobsen Manufacturing. The company continued to produce mowers for estates and golf courses throughout the 1920s and 1930s, and was not damaged by the Great Depression. Knud Jacobsen retired in 1939 and was succeeded as president by his son, Oscar Jacobsen.<sup>[1]</sup>

In 1945 Jacobsen Manufacturing purchased the Worthington Mower Company of East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, known for its gang mowers for golf courses, parks and airfields.<sup>[2]</sup> In 1949 the new subsidiary began making Model G tractors using Ford tractor components, mostly for use in parks and golf courses.<sup>[3]</sup> The company introduced new products, such as a tractor-mounted compressor in 1955.<sup>[4]</sup> It continued to make lawnmowers in Stroudsburg for golf course maintenance and for residential use until it closed around 1959.<sup>[2]</sup> Jacobsen manufactured under the Worthington brand until the mid-1960s.<sup>[3]</sup>

The company had purchased the Johnston Lawn Mower Company of Ottumwa, Iowa, and used this division to enter the residential mower market, offering reel-type and rotary-type mowers for this market in the 1950s. The Javelin riding mower came out at the end of the 1950s, and the Jacobsen Chief garden tractor was launched in 1961 with the 100A which was electric start with 7hp Kohler K161 and the 100B which was rope start with 7hp Kohler K161.<sup>[1]</sup> In 1965 Ford entered the garden tractor market with their two models, T-800 powered by an 8hp Kohler K181 and the T-1000 powered by a 10hp Kohler K241. In 1966, Jacobsen Chief Tractors started using a Peerless 2300 and steering was improved as well as a style change. Jacobsen made tractors for Oliver, Ford, Minneapolis-Moline, and White. Jacobsen also made light tractors aimed at the farm market, with innovative attachments to make the tractors more useful and to make them qualify for tax breaks.<sup>[5]</sup> Textron purchased Jacobsen around 1975, but continued to produce Jacobsen garden tractors into the 1990s.<sup>[1]</sup>

## References

### Citations

- ↑ *Will 2009*, p. 55.
- ↑ *Maurer 1999*, p. 2.
- ↑ *O'Clair 2012*.
- ↑ *Tractor-mounted compressor...* 1955, p. 355.
- ↑ *Will 2009*, p. 56.

### Sources

- Maurer, Joe (September–October 1999). "C. C. Worthington and the Worthington Mower" (<http://www.gasenginemagazine.com/tractors/c-c-worthington-and-the-worthington-mower.aspx?PagelId=1#ArticleContent>). *Gas Engine Magazine*. Ogden Publications, Inc. Retrieved 2013-10-26.

### Jacobsen Manufacturing

Industry	Lawnmower manufacturing
Fate	Acquired by Textron
Founded	c. 1900
Founder	Knud Jacobsen
Defunct	c. 1975
Headquarters	Racine, Wisconsin, United States
Products	Tractors, lawnmowers
Website	<span>www.jacobsen.com</span> ( <span>http://www.jacobsen.com</span> )

- O'Clair, Jim (February 2012). "1952 Worthington Model G" ([http://www.hemmings.com/hmn/stories/2012/02/01/hmn\\_feature11.html](http://www.hemmings.com/hmn/stories/2012/02/01/hmn_feature11.html)). *Hemmings Motor News*. Retrieved 2013-10-26.
- "Tractor-mounted compressor offered by Worthington Mower" (<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/BF02898433>). *American Potato Journal*. **32** (9): 355–356. September 1955. doi:10.1007/BF02898433 (<https://doi.org/10.1007%2FBF02898433>). Retrieved 2013-10-26.
- Will, Oscar H. (2009). *Garden Tractors: Deere, Cub Cadet, Wheel Horse, and All the Rest, 1930s to Current* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=ITg7npppD9sC&pg=PA55>). Voyageur Press. ISBN 978-1-61673-161-8. Retrieved 2013-10-27.

## External links

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- Official website (<http://www.jacobsen.com>)
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