

FREE TOOLKIT

HOMESTEADER PRODUCT GUIDE

Most first-time tractor buyers make one of two mistakes: they buy more tractor than the property needs because horsepower feels like the safe bet, or they buy too little because anything bigger looks expensive on the sticker. Both mistakes cost you — one in fuel and storage space you didn't need, the other in a second trip to the dealer a year later.

WHAT'S INSIDE

The full guide · A spec comparison chart · A pre-purchase checklist

START WITH YOUR PROPERTY, NOT THE HORSEPOWER NUMBER

Everybody who walks in the door asks about horsepower first. It's an easy number to compare, and it feels like the thing that separates a real tractor from a toy. But horsepower alone tells you almost nothing about whether a tractor is going to work on your ground.

Start with the property instead. How many of your acres do you actually maintain — mow, drive over, move material on — versus how many are woods, wetland, or back corners you leave alone? Is the ground flat, or does it roll and dip enough that stability matters as much as power? Do you have clay that turns to soup every March, or sandy ground that drains fast and holds traction?

Then write down the jobs you'll actually do, not the ones you might do someday. Mowing and light loader work is a different tractor than mowing, loader work, and three feet of lake-effect snow every winter. A long gravel driveway that washes out every spring needs grading capability a small mowed lawn doesn't. Once you know your ground and your real job list, the horsepower number tends to sort itself out.

MATCHING A TRACTOR TO YOUR ACREAGE

Under 2 acres, mowing and light loader work. If most of what you're doing is mowing a couple acres, moving mulch or firewood with a loader, and maybe clearing snow off a short drive, you don't need much tractor. The BX Series is built for exactly this — the BX1880 at 16.6 HP or the BX2380 at 21.6 HP both run a front loader rated to 739 lb, which is plenty for topsoil, mulch, stone, and firewood in normal bucket loads. Both are compact enough to store in a standard shed, and the folding ROPS helps them fit through low-clearance doors.

2 to 5 acres, with loader, snow, and mowing all in the mix. Once you're covering more ground and leaning on the loader harder — more stone, more snow, heavier loads — step up to the BX2680 (24.8 HP, the most power in the BX line) or move into the B Series. The B2301HSD and B2601HSD carry a 948-lb loader capacity, a real jump from the BX, and the B2601HSD's 24.3 HP gives you the PTO power for a wider mower deck or a snow blower that can keep up with a longer driveway.

5 to 10 acres, needing more loader capacity and implement power. At this size you're usually running heavier 3-point implements — a bigger rotary cutter, a box blade, a land plane — and moving bigger loads up front. The LX Series and Standard L Series both make sense here. The LX2620HSD carries a 1,067-lb loader and a Category I 3-point rated to 1,676 lb, enough for real grading and cutting work, and steps up to the LX3520HSDC at 34.9 HP with a 2,535-lb 3-point rating if you need more implement muscle. On the L Series side, the L2502 (24.8 HP, 1,144-lb loader, 1,874-lb 3-point) and L3302 (33 HP, 1,998-lb 3-point) are built for this exact combination of acreage and implement work, with enough hydraulic flow and PTO power to run heavier attachments without bogging down.

Anyone who needs to actually dig. Drain lines, a culvert, a footing, a stump you're tired of looking at — for that, the BX23S is worth a hard look. It's a factory tractor-loader-backhoe package built on the BX platform,

so you get a homestead-sized tractor with real excavation capability instead of renting a backhoe every time something needs to come out of the ground.

THE ATTACHMENTS THAT ACTUALLY GET USED

A tractor is only as useful as what's on the front and back of it. The front loader bucket is what nearly everyone reaches for most — mulch, stone, soil, general cleanup — and it's usually the first thing that gets exercised on a Saturday. Pallet forks are the attachment people don't think they need until they own a set, and then wonder how they ever moved feed totes, lumber, and fence supplies without them.

A box blade earns its keep on gravel driveways and lanes. It cuts high spots, redistributes material, and fixes the potholes and washboarding that freeze-thaw winters cause around here. A rotary cutter, sometimes called a brush hog, is what you run over pasture edges, fence lines, and anything too rough or too overgrown for a mower deck to handle without stalling.

Winter work is its own category. A front snow blade is the simpler option and handles most homestead driveways just fine; a snow blower throws material further and manages deeper snow with less strain on the tractor, which matters if you're clearing before work every morning. And if your property has woods, storm debris, or brush piles that seem to regrow overnight, a grapple is worth the hydraulic upgrade it usually requires — it picks up what a bucket can't hold onto, and it saves your back from hand-stacking brush.

NEW VS. USED, AND QUESTIONS WORTH ASKING

Used equipment can be a smart buy, but go in with your eyes open. Check wear points first — cutting edges, gearboxes, hydraulic hoses, pins and bushings with play in them — before you look at hours or paint. Ask what maintenance was actually done, and don't be shy about asking why it's for sale.

New equipment comes with factory warranty coverage, which matters more than people expect on a machine that's going to work for you, not sit in a garage. But the bigger factor, new or used, is what happens after the sale. When a hydraulic hose fails on a Saturday or a part breaks mid-project, the dealer who stocks common filters, hoses, and wear parts — and can actually get you in for service — is worth more than a slightly lower price somewhere else. Ask any dealer how backed up their service schedule is and what they keep on the shelf. Financing is usually available either way, and it's worth asking about early so it doesn't hold up a decision you've already made.

SPEC COMPARISON CHART

Compact tractor series compared — by acreage and job

SERIES & MODELS	KEY SPECS	BEST FOR
BX Series BX1880, BX2380, BX2680, BX23S	16.6–24.8 HP	Mowing & light loader work under 2 acres; BX23S adds a factory tractor-loader-backhoe for digging.
B Series B2301HSD, B2401, B2401 Narrow, B2601HSD	20.9–24.3 HP	2–5 acres with loader, snow, and mowing all in the mix.
LX Series LX2620HSD, LX2620HSDC, LX3520HSDC, LX4020HSDC	23.3–39.8 HP	5–10 acres needing more loader capacity and 3-point lift.
L Series L2502, L3302, L3902, L4802	24.8–48.4 HP	Heavier 3-point implements and the largest homestead acreage.

Specs shown are published Kubota/Land Pride figures for reference. Current pricing, financing, and trade-in value aren't listed here — call (330) 868-6419 or stop by and we'll run real numbers for your situation.

PRE-PURCHASE INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Bring this along whether you're looking at new or used equipment.

- ☐ Check the hour meter — and ask if it matches the maintenance records
- ☐ Inspect cutting edges, teeth, and blades for uneven or excessive wear
- ☐ Check gearboxes and driveline joints for play or looseness
- ☐ Inspect all hydraulic hoses for cracking, weeping, or soft spots
- ☐ Check pins and bushings on the loader and 3-point arms for wear
- ☐ Start the machine cold — note starting time, smoke color, and any warning lights
- ☐ Cycle the loader and any hydraulic attachments through their full range
- ☐ Ask for maintenance records — what's been done, and when
- ☐ Ask why the machine is for sale
- ☐ Ask about remaining factory warranty (new) or extended coverage options
- ☐ Ask the dealer about service turnaround time and what wear parts they stock locally

WHEN YOU'RE READY

There's no prize for guessing right on the first try, but there's real cost in guessing wrong. If you want to talk through your acreage, your job list, and what actually fits, stop by the dealership at 1115 N. Market St. in Minerva or call (330) 868-6419. Bring your property's rough size, your worst trouble spot, and the jobs you're tired of doing by hand — we'll help you land on the right tractor the first time.

This toolkit includes a spec comparison chart and a pre-purchase checklist you won't find on the web page. If you'd like a written recommendation with real pricing for your property, or want to talk financing or a trade-in, just call or stop by — we're glad to run the numbers with you.