

**“IT’S AN ASTONISHING LITTLE
DOG WITH A LOT OF GRIT”**

“Texas Terrier”: A New Dog Breed For Hunters

“As a dog breeder with more than 50 years of experience, I think my new Texas Terrier is the ultimate breed for hunters,” says Richard Guthrie, Brownwood, Texas.

Guthrie, who hunts and traps in the Big Bend area of southern Texas, spent more than 20 years crossing various Terrier breeds with other breeds. The new dog is bobtailed like a Terrier and is very alert and eager to hunt. An adult dog stands 12 to 15 in. high at the shoulder and weighs 20 to 30 lbs. The color pattern is solid red or black and tan.

“It’s a small hunting dog that’s easier to handle than any dog I’ve ever used,” says Guthrie. “The Texas Terrier is well-muscled, wire-haired, thick-skinned, and has an undaunting desire to catch and bite. It will fearlessly trail, bay, and fight any predator from foxes to bears. It doesn’t know that it weighs only 20 to 30 lbs. It’s an astonishing little dog with a lot of grit. One of my dogs caught a red fox by the throat and wouldn’t

let go. I had to carry both the fox and the dog back 100 yards to my house.”

The breed got its start after an accidental cross. The original dam was a small “Treeing Walker” that was bred to Guthrie’s neighbor’s purebred Schnauzer. “The pups of that cross were found to be good hunters with the scenting abilities of the Treeing Walker and the agility and alertness of the Schnauzer,” says Guthrie. Later he bred the dogs to Fox Terriers and Patterdale Terriers. To give the dog more muscle mass, he then crossed to an American Staffordshire Terrier. The result was the finished Texas Terrier.

“My dogs are much superior to popular Terriers that sell for \$1,500 and up. I want my dogs to be affordable to an average hunter so I sell weaned pups for \$200 apiece. The customer picks up at my place,” says Guthrie.

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Texas Terriers are said to fearlessly trail, bay, and fight any predator.

Collector Specializes In Garden Tractors And Implements

Interest is booming in garden tractor restoration and collecting, says Brandon Pfeiffer, Mt. Vernon, Ind., who has one of the biggest collections around.

Pfeiffer has 42 garden tractors in his collection, most of them not restored but in generally good condition. Most of his tractors are Deere 110 and 112 models made from 1963 to 1974. He also owns three multi-colored Deere Patio Series tractors, as well as three early 1960’s Cub Cadets.

His oldest model is a 1963 Deere 110 equipped with fiberglass fenders and a handlaid deck. “It was the first year Deere came out with garden tractors and this was basically a prototype model to test the market. Only 1,000 were ever made,” says Pfeiffer. “Today it’s worth anywhere from \$3,000 to \$5,000.”

His rarest model is a 1965 Deere 110 tractor equipped with a trip rope front-end loader. “As far as I know, it’s the only one known in existence. The company also made hydraulic dump front-end loaders for a short time and there are only about 10 of those known in existence.”

He says his favorite model is his 1965 Deere 110. “I bought it in 1995 for \$300. It isn’t a particularly rare garden tractor, but it was the first one I restored.”

Pfeiffer started collecting lawn and garden tractors in 1989. “At the time I didn’t know of any other garden tractor collectors.”

Why are lawn and garden tractors so hot? It’s a matter of price, size, and memories, says Pfeiffer. “The collectors include not only farmers, but also people who live in town and have memories of these tractors when they were growing up. Garden tractors have gone up in price, but they’re still more affordable than farm tractors. And because of their size they’re easy to store and haul to shows.”

Pfeiffer has started his own company selling a wide variety of authentic replacement parts for garden tractors, including decals and steering wheel center caps.

He also collects implements for garden



This 1965 Deere 110 garden tractor was restored with reproduction parts sold by Pfeiffer.

tractors. They’re popular because they make a garden tractor look more like a farm tractor. People are surprised to learn how many different implements were made for garden tractors. In fact, almost anything made for farm tractors has also been made for garden tractors, including disks, plows, planters, cultivators, tillage tools, 540 rpm pto adapters, post hole diggers, loaders, and cabs. Some implements are very rare, such as my Deere front-mounted air compressor. It wasn’t a big success with Deere, which scrapped them out. There are fewer than 10 known in existence.”

Pfeiffer recently started a newsletter for garden tractor collectors, with the first issue scheduled for publication this August. The subscription price is \$26 per year.

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Brandon Pfeiffer has 42 garden tractors in his collection.



His rarest model is a 1965 Deere 110 equipped with a trip rope front-end loader. A model equipped with a hydraulic dump loader is shown at right.

Here’s A List Of Popular Garden Tractor Shows

Little Guys Show - Manchester, Penn. April 28 and 29, 2001 (ph 717 266-4490).

Second Annual Deere Lawn & Garden Restoration Club Show - Paris, Ontario. June 8 and 9, 2001 (Skip Dean; E-mail: gdean@sprint.ca).

Little G Expo 2001 - Dyersville, Ohio. August 4 and 5 (Rick or Mary Herbers ph 319 875-7448).

Lawn & Garden Tractor Show - (in conjunction with the Summer Toy Show), Dyersville, Iowa. June 8, 9, and 10.

Garden Tractor Show & Swap - Rochester Minn. May 13. (E-mail: NGCADET@msn.com)