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Selected Area's

New trends in lawn furniture

(NC)—Summertime. It's almost here. The long winter hibernation is over and Canadians all start extending their living spaces to the great outdoors. And as spring turns to summer, we haul the lawn furniture out of storage and get it ready for the season once again.

Does lawn furniture ever go out of style? Some pieces, like the Muskoka chair, are

classic and timeless. However, trends do apply to furniture, inside our homes as well as outside. And as the summer of 2003 is nearing, we see some trends starting to emerge.

A favourite this year looks to be the classic styling of traditional cast iron outdoor tables and chairs. One big difference is that the new line is built from a cast alu-

minum/iron composite, which is far lighter than a cast iron piece,

but just as durable. Plus, their solid construction means fewer screws or fasteners, which reduces the wear and tear on the furniture, associated with that type of construction.

Kerry House, Product Manager at Home Hardware, cites two colours as

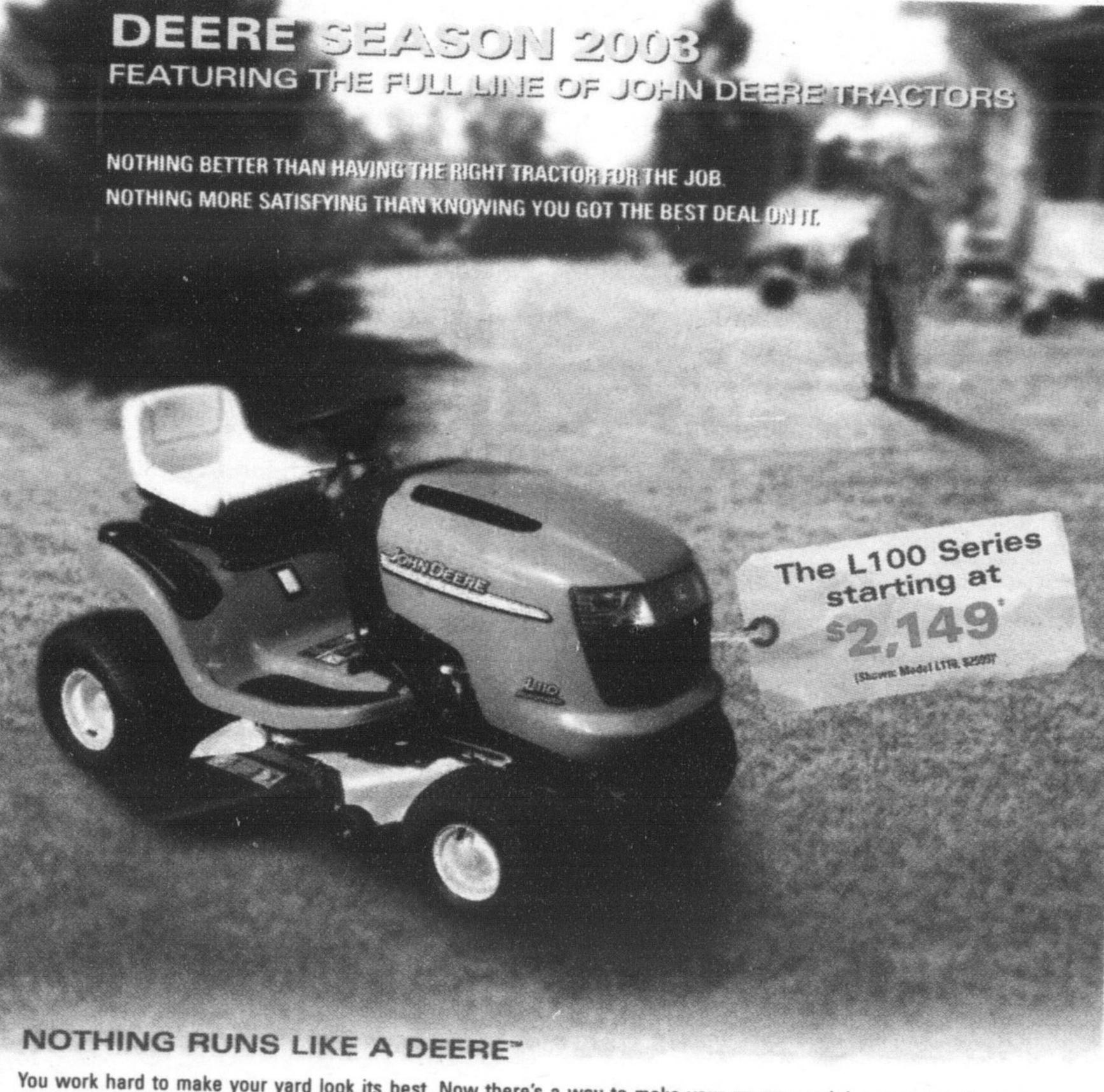
this year's trendsetters in lawn furniture. "We will be seeing a lot of off-white and bronze outdoor sets this year," he notes. "It's a very rich finish on the metal tables and chairs".

The other good news is that furniture is crafted with a heavy-duty finish intended specifically for outdoor use.

If cared for correctly this finish makes it possible to maintain this furniture for many years. The most important part of maintenance is to keep the surface clean of foreign matter and especially free of salt deposits. Occasionally the furniture can be washed with a mild detergent or spray cleaner if stubborn stains show up.

If you'd like to view some of the latest trends in lawn furniture, visit your local Home Hardware or Home Hardware Building Centre, and get ready to enjoy the summer in style!





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