

Canycom riding mower review by John Nelson, INPC. Jan 2020



Below photo is John Nelson standing next to his mower. Its small size is a selling point.



The design of belly-mounted riding brush mowers have come a long way in the past several years. At first glance, you might think these machines are just glorified lawn mowers, but that would be a mistake. I get a lot of comments from people about how strange/funny it looks, but this machine has allowed me to mow at sites without having to haul a big skidsteer nor any need for a CDL.

The Illinois Nature Preserves Commission purchased the Canycom CMX2401 in early 2017 at a cost of \$14,150. It features a 25hp Mitsubishi gas engine, AWD, locking differential, flail blades, disc brakes, direct drive transmission and mower blades, and adjustable 6-inch high-max mower deck.

PROS: The powerful motor and AWD have allowed for cutting on steep terrain. The side bar handles are definitely needed to help keep you in your seat. It cuts brush very well – up to 2-inches diameter. It is most useful for establishing and maintaining grassland firebreaks, but I have used it in woodland settings as well. It has proven useful for “surgical” mowing of tall goldenrod patches in young prairie plantings. It easily “gobbles” up small brush and cuts right up to fence lines. Easy transport and high maneuverability over rough terrain make this machine useful for management at small remote sites.

CONS: This machine is not for “Initial” restoration efforts such as removal of invasive brush....it should be considered only for secondary restoration steps and maintenance of restored sites. Annual service/tune-up cost is ~ \$650. Rocks can be a big issue for this machine. The blades are very tough and have taken severe “hits” without issue, but one time I hit a rather big rock and it broke the blade in half. Cost for repairs, including new blades was ~\$1200. Riding this machine on rough terrain might be a challenge for some – it’s like a bucking bronco sometimes. And you should wear protective clothing and safety glasses while driving.

Some links for more information:

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=canycom+brush+mower&docid=608053375750113891&mid=9791428729B4460150809791428729B446015080&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>

<http://www.canycomsales.com/products/cmx-series/cmx2402/>