

**ORDER: AUTHORIZE THE ABI DRAGMASTER AS00 A SOLE  
SOURCE ITEM, TO PURCHASE FOR THE MULTI-PURPOSE ARENA**

Motion was made by David Rikard, duly seconded by Chad McLarty, to authorize the ABI Dragmaster as a sole source item to purchase for the Multi-Purpose Arena.

The vote on the motion was as follows:


Supervisor Kevin Frye, voted yes  
Supervisor Jeff Busby, voted yes  
Supervisor David Rikard, voted yes  
Supervisor Chad McLarty, voted yes  
Supervisor Mike Roberts, voted yes

After the vote, President Busby, declared the motion carried, this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019.



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Jeff Busby, President  
Board of Supervisors



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Sherry Wall, Chancery Clerk



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## SOLE SOURCE LETTER

12/14/2017

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to confirm that the ABI Dragmaster, referenced in the included quotation, is a sole source product, manufactured, sold, and distributed exclusively by ABI Attachments, Inc.. No other company makes a similar or competing product. This product must be purchased directly from ABI Attachments, Inc. at the address listed above.

There are no agents or dealers authorized to represent this product.

Competition is precluded by the existence of proprietary product engineering and trade secret manufacturing processes and techniques which enables the ABI Dragmaster's purpose and function. Additionally, a method of arena footing preparation and arena base preparation utilized by the ABI Dragmaster is patented: US8944176B2. This patent is owned by ABI Attachments, Inc..

There is no other like item or product available for purchase that would serve the same purpose or function and there is only one retail price for the ABI Dragmaster base unit, per size, and available associated options.

The ABI Dragmaster is a commercial scale hydraulic and PTO operated pull-behind equestrian arena working tractor attachment that can simultaneously apply water to arena footing for dust abatement, increase moisture levels in arena footing material, level material to grade, fracture material compaction, vertically agitate and airfy each square inch of material, remove inconsistent compaction above the arena base layer, compact the arena base layer, and harrow material to a smooth and consistent finish with variable operator control from the seat of the tractor. While other products may perform some of the above functions, no other product performance each of these functions in one product with simultaneous operation for commercial scale. (When equipped with available options as quoted) The above referenced purpose and function is the reason why many major event facilities, around the world, will only use the ABI Dragmaster to manage the footing material of the arena during discipline specific events.

In addition to simultaneous use of 6 unique stages of arena footing management, the ABI Dragmaster is also specifically designed for large scale commercial operations. The physical size, weight, and

incorporated functions enables far more efficient footing management during events. This is a critical requirement as time between runs is very limited. The ABI Dragmaster's functions also enables, event facility footing material to be adjusted for a variety of equestrian disciplines during the same event. Because of this, the ABI Dragmaster creates safer and more discipline specific arena footing for both single discipline and multi discipline events, which contributes to reduced injuries to competitors and their horses and increases in competitor performances. This makes facilities and events that use the ABI Dragmaster a preferred venue for events.

The ABI Dragmaster water system offers significantly more water capacity than any other arena working equipment on the market. While others offer only a maximum of 120 gallon systems, the ABI Dragmaster offers 300 or 500 gallon capacity systems, which minimizes the need to refill between runs and enables greater water application as desired. Due to this massive water capacity and the extreme weight of water, the ABI Dragmaster is engineered to structurally handle this incredible weight and the drag is carried by 4 large tires to minimize footing compaction and drag sink/lift as water weight increases or decreases.

All of the ABI Dragmaster's ground engaging components are independently adjustable from the main frame. This provides the operator with unmatched control of arena footing conditions. Specifically, the leveling blade is hydraulically controlled from the seat of the tractor and is upgradable to an available laser grading system.

#### ABI Dragmaster Arena Grooming Tool Description:

- 4 Flotation Wheels & Hydraulic Axle Location - The axle and wheels on the ABI Dragmaster enables transport and controls ground contact depth in the footing material. The axle location keeps the tool level and creates, in combination with the distance from which the tool follows the tractor, a land planning ability to level the arena better than any other arena equipment available. This axle is hydraulically controlled and has the ability to manage the depth of the ground engaging components within an 1/8" with the industry unique stop collars and depth nut system to return to an established set point or depth each time the equipment is used.
- Hydraulic Leveling Blade - The hydraulic leveling blade may be operated from the seat of the tractor to ensure consistent footing depth around the arena. The front of the blade is concave in design, forcing the footing material to roll forward instead of over the leveling blade. This blade has side-to-side adjustment for creating a crown in the arena. The hydraulic control allows for on-the-fly collection of large or small amounts of material to be moved.
- Hydraulic Scarifier System - The available hydraulic double row of scarifiers breakup the hardest compacted footing material. Hydraulically adjustable from the seat of the tractor, this system is used to loosen heavy compaction in the arena footing material or to change the depth of the material for a variety of equestrian disciplines. The replaceable tips are made from a hardened, wear-resistant steel.
- Adjustable Grooming rods - The grooming rod design and placement were positioned to incorporate water into the footing that is applied by the PTO watering system on the Dragmaster. Most importantly these rods vertically agitate and airify the footing to groom every inch of material. These grooming rods are independent from the frame allowing the operator to set them lower than the profile blade to establish a "grip" on the base if desired.

- Adjustable Profile Blades - The Profile Blades clean compaction from just above the arena base while simultaneously compacting the base beneath it. They loosen 100% of the arena footing profile with every pass. The operator no longer must make multiple passes to loosen all the footing. Profile Blades slice through the footing material like a "sod cutter" loosening the footing material from the bottom up, not the top down. This eliminates ALL ridges in the footing worked, allowing the footfall of the horse to be flat. An additional benefit of the Profile Blades is that, at what ever depth the Profile Blade is working, it is re-establishing the base. So this makes the DragMaster the only arena drag on the market that can adjust the depth of the footing, both deeper and shallower, with every pass.
- Finishing Drag Bars - The finishing drag bars follow the tool and create a very smooth non-furrowed finish while filling in any "left-over" low spots. These bars can be adjusted to apply the perfect amount of pressure to the footing depending on the footing consistency and moisture level.
- Massive PTO Driven Water System - The available water system delivers 300 or 500 gallons of water to the arena footing for dust control. It is designed to deliver the water forward of the grooming rods so that the moisture is evenly mixed into the footing. This system also has an available spray hose.
- Available Wall Blade - The wall blade provides the ability to pull footing build-up away from the walls/rails of your arenas.

If you desire additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me at (574) 850-8708 at any time or visit our website at [www.ABIattachments.com](http://www.ABIattachments.com) or [www.ABIdragmaster.com](http://www.ABIdragmaster.com). Thank you for your interest in our products.

Sincerely,



Jim Catalano

Vice President  
ABI Attachments, Inc.