

Timber treats

Steven Downes reviews the range of 1:50th-scale replicas of John Deere forestry equipment.

1: The 2954D road builder is known as a forestry swing machine with an excavator-style boom and stick carrying a highly detailed Waratah 624C processing head. The individually linked metal tracks, detailed forestry cab and the addition of armoured hydraulic hosing give the model a realistic appearance, enhanced by the opening side and top engine panel doors that reveal the replicated engine.

2: The 1270 harvester is a very detailed replica featuring opening engine covers that reveal the engine and cooling systems modelled within. The articulating frame and twin front wheels have working suspension, while the fully replicated cab interior is visible through the large windows. The boom can be raised and rotated to each side of the chassis with accurate movement of the linkages, while an extending stick and realistically cast H480 cutting head finish off an impressive model.

3: The 1110E forwarder is an excellent replica of this unusual machine. The articulating steering and working suspension arms demonstrate the excellent mobility while the fully functional loader boom with grapple rotates and extends realistically. The rotating cab, the opening engine cover, fold-down access steps and moveable blade give the model a very realistic appearance.

4: The 648G and 748H grapple skidders feature an articulating chassis with a safety cab, functional front dozer blade and grapple at the rear. The engine panels all open to reveal the replicated 189hp Deere six-cylinder 6068H diesel engine within, which is another great touch on these budget range models.

5: The 843J wheeled feller buncher features a fully replicated FD22B feller head with large rotating disc saw and folding grapple arms. The carrier has articulating steering and the cab features safety mesh panels printed on to the windows to increase the level of realism. The cab can be tilted to the side for servicing and the arms and linkage allow the head to be raised and tilted just like the full sized machine.

6: The 2954D log loader is based on the same chassis and super structure as the 2954D road builder, with opening engine covers and tracked undercarriage. The main differences are the high-rise forestry cab that can be tilted forward for transport configuration, and the loader boom, which has a live heel log grapple featuring accurate boom movement and 360-degree rotation of the opening grapple jaw.



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