

Start your rotors: Honda's 1,000cc machine can reach speeds of 130mph

Mower that's a cut above



At the sharp end: Honda's Mean Mower has been designed by a touring car team
PICTURE: SWNS

A SEDATE Sunday cutting the grass is not usually associated with the roar of a 1,000cc engine that shoots flames from the exhaust.

But this beast can mow your lawn in record time – while giving the neighbours a scare.

Honda's Mean Mower boasts a top speed of 130mph and goes from 0-60mph in four seconds – faster than a Porsche 911. The £50,000

by **SAM SMITH**

lawnmower has been designed by the Japanese carmaker's touring car partner, British engineers Team Dynamics, in collaboration with Top Gear magazine.

It has been tested by British touring car champion Gordon Shedden – and The Stig.

Team manager Pete Crolla said: 'Retaining the look of the mower and the ability to still cut grass were the biggest challenge.'

Engineers fitted a Honda HF2620 Lawn Tractor with a lightweight chassis, bespoke suspension, a paddle shift six-speed gear system and wheels from an all-terrain vehicle. Two electric motors turn a steel cutting cable

at 4,000rpm to cut grass at up to 15mph. But Honda has said it has no plans to challenge the official lawnmower speed record of 96.5mph.

Kate Saxton, head of its British corporate affairs team, said the one-off machine highlighted the company's range of products, its sporty heritage and reputation for innovation. 'Above all, we love a challenge,' she added.

DEBENHAMS
 THE BIG SUMMER
SALE

Up to **70% OFF***

THOUSANDS
 OF LINES

NOW ON

*Selected lines. Debenhams Retail Plc.