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Millennials are lawn-and-gardening more than ever, and this Tech Startup is ready to grow with them

Canadian tech startup is uniquely positioned to capitalize on the rapidly growing interest in the lawn and garden category.

- The lawn and garden industry is booming, and data suggests that millennials are driving the surge.
- With millennials leaving the city for the suburbs, along with growing interest in natural products and sustainability, there has been increased investment into lawn and garden supplies during the pandemic.
- Models show the landscaping market is estimated to grow at a CAGR of 4.5% from 2020-2025¹.
- The OtO[™] Lawn smart sprinkler blends the convenience of connected smart home devices that millennials have come to expect with the added benefit of conservation and environmental sustainability.

TORONTO, ON – As more people take up gardening during the pandemic, long-time lawncare empire Scotts Miracle-Gro is make the most of this increased demand by airing its first ever Super Bowl Commercial this past weekend.

This should come as no surprise. With more people working from home and upsizing from their condos to suburban homes, it makes sense they are also investing in their outdoor spaces. According to the US Census Bureau monthly report on sales for retail and food services, sales in building materials and garden equipment increased by 14% in 2020¹.

Data suggests¹ that millennials are driving the surge in lawn care as they enter home buying years and move out of the city into single-family homes with lawn and garden spaces for the first time.

¹ https://www.census.gov/retail/marts/www/marts_current.pdf



Toronto-based OtO Inc. is also on track to capitalise on this trend with their new OtO[™] Lawn smart sprinkler.

"Despite the challenges of launching during a global pandemic, the timing of the launch couldn't have been better," says founder Ali Sabti. "Millennials are moving into their first home with a yard for the first time and unsure how to take care of it. OtO makes taking care of their lawn in an environmentally responsible way effortless using the same cloud-connected technology they're accustomed to using inside the home.

It's exactly what I would have wanted when I first moved into my house."

The OtOTM Lawn smart sprinkler is a smart device that connects to the user's garden hose and runs a weather-intelligent watering schedule that the user can program from their phone. The user can also use their phone to control the water stream and set custom shaped zones, skipping sidewalks and patios.

It can also apply naturally sourced fertilizers and other solutions, a task that homeowners often avoid due to lack of expertise and the inconvenience of applications.

Despite pandemic-related logistical challenges in 2020, OtO Inc. has been rapidly growing, adding multiple roles. They have already generated a lot of excitement around the product and are in discussion with major retailers and distributors across the nation.

"We wanted to create a solution to the major pain points of traditional lawn maintenance like scheduling and applying safe and natural fertilizer. The result is an automated device that not only saves our customers time and money, but also decreases their environmental footprint without changing their behaviour. It's a win-win.

We are looking forward to seeing how OtO can help many of these new homeowners in 2021."

The OtOTM Lawn is available for pre-order from <u>otolawn.com</u> and is already flooded with reservations from customers coast-to-coast. This production model will be shipped in spring 2021, whereas their line of naturally sourced fertilizers and pest control solutions will hit the market shortly afterwards.

About OtO Inc.

The OtO[™] Lawn makes sustainable lawn care and conserving water effortless.

Founded in 2019, OtO Inc. is a rapidly growing startup with a mission to make lawn and garden care easier through technology and excellence in engineering. Ultimately, their vision is to unite technology with nature to design a better, more sustainable future for all.



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