

Faith:

Perhaps what I am about to tell you is not going to support what you would like to accomplish, if that is to show that low noise blowers do not meet the performance needed to move wet leaves. But let me tell you what I know about blower performance and offer an alternative point of view. Attached is a chart I put together for you today that shows the performance of all ECHO leaf blowers.

It has always been the bench mark in the industry for high performance leaf blowers to have a minimum air velocity of 200 miles per hour (MPH). Lately, manufacturers have tried to acquire a marketing edge by increasing that value as much as possible without lowering air volume significantly. In order to do that, engine horsepower usually must be increased and that in turn adds to the noise level.

The reason air velocity is so important is that it is the velocity that dislodges material from the ground and makes it airborne. Once it is airborne, it is the air flow volume that keeps it suspended and carries it away from the blower. Now in the case of wet leaves, once airborne, they act as would any other airborne material, wet or dry. So in the case of blowing wet leaves, performance depends on air velocity.

With respect to the RedMax EBZ8500RH, the largest blower in their product line, the air flow velocity is definitely greater than our PB-760LNH or T, but their air velocity is actually lower at 206 miles per hour. The ECHO PB-760LNH is 214 miles per hour. For comparison sake, the Stihl BR 500, which is also 65 dB(A), has an air speed of 207 miles per hour per the graph you sent to me.

Is it easier and quicker to move dry leaves? Of course it is, but as I mentioned on the phone earlier today, I have personally tested the ECHO PB-760LNH blower on wet leaves and had no problem moving them from a paved driveway. I expect it would be even easier to move wet leaves that are lying upon grass.

If your associates are arguing that they cannot get by without their loud leaf blowers, in my mind that is not likely to succeed. One has to wonder if the old argument that "loud means powerful" isn't playing a part in this argument. As you know from your own negotiations, something will be done about noisy leaf blowers due to the serious movement toward banning them. Maintaining that only loud blowers can do the job just won't work anymore.

Keep in mind that accepting quiet blowers is far better than using a rake or broom forever more!