

Robotic Mowers: A Cost-Saving Revolution



GREENSIGHT

A typical 18-hole course: **36.5 acres** of rough, surrounds and practice range, over a 38-week season. All figures are **per year** unless marked.



TRADITIONAL MOWING

Groundsmaster 4500 (2) + trim mower (1)

Cost per acre per year	\$3,272
Total annual operating cost	\$119,415
Per acre per week, over 38 weeks	\$86.10

*2 rough mowers and 1 trim mower cut the same 36.5 acres twice a week. Includes 1,058.5 crew hours at \$40/h.

FLEET OF ROBOTIC MOWERS

Kress mixed fleet (12)

Cost per acre per year	\$1,584
Total annual operating cost	\$57,807
Per acre per week, over 38 weeks	\$41.68

*2 KR238G, 2 KR236S, 7 KR286 and 1 KR237 cut every zone every 48 hours. Includes tax, install, site work (5-yr write-off) and staff oversight.



SAVINGS

by using a Kress robotic fleet on the same 36.5 acres

\$308,040

Total savings over 5 years

\$61,608

Saved annually

\$1,688

Saved per acre per year

2.0 years

Payback, mowers retired
(5.2 yrs counting crew, fuel & parts only)

\$36,260

Labor reallocation per year
(906.5 crew hours, ≈24 h/week)

\$616,080

Total savings over 10 years
(both fleets replaced at year 5)

Analysis Provided By



GREENSIGHT

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Why Robots. Why Now.

The straight story on what a Kress fleet is, what it does, and why it pays for itself.



THE PROBLEM

Good help is hard to find and harder to keep. Rough mowers run \$110K apiece, burn fuel every day and need a winter rebuild every year. Your best people spend their mornings riding laps on rough instead of working on the details golfers actually notice.

WHAT IT IS

A fleet of Kress robotic mowers, each matched to the job. KR238G on the big open rough. KR236S in the tight, bunkered spots. KR286 around greens, tees and bunkers. KR237 on the range. They mow off-hours, dock and charge on their own, and run off RTK GPS, no wires in the ground.

WHAT IT DOES

Every acre gets cut every 48 hours, not twice a week. That means a consistent playing surface, NO clippings, NO noise during play, NO fuel, and NO call-offs. The robots show up every day.

WHAT IT SAVES

On a typical course (36.5 acres, 12 robots): about **\$61,600 a year** and **\$308,000 over 5 years**. Roughly \$1,700 an acre a year back in your budget, and about 900 crew hours a year back on detail work. Payback is about **2 years** if the old rough mowers go, about 5 if you keep them.

HOW WE DO IT

GreenSight handles all of it. We map your course, design the zones, size the fleet, plan power and charging pads, install and commission every unit. Then we stay with you on service and support.

NEXT STEP

Let us walk your course. We build a site design with your real acres and your real costs, so the numbers are yours, not a typical course.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Same acres. Better cut. Less labor. Robots that pay for themselves in about two years, then keep saving every season after.

Annual Operating Cost:

Groundsmaster 4500 and Sidewinder



Conventional mowing of the same 36.5 acres: 2 rough mowers and 1 trim mower, twice a week, 38 weeks.

Machine Cost =

2 × Groundsmaster 4500-class rough mowers at \$110,000 = \$220,000
 1 × Sidewinder-class trim mower (est.) = \$45,000
 \$265,000 ÷ 5-yr depreciation

\$53,000.00/year

Crew Labor =

(29 crew h/acre/yr) × (36.5 acres) = 1,058.5 h/yr
 (1,058.5 h/yr) × (\$40.00/h loaded) ≈ 27.9 h/week over 38 weeks ¹

\$42,340.00/year

Fuel Cost =

Rough mowers: (5 gal/day each) (2 mowers) (190 days/yr) (\$4.50/gal) \$8,550.00
 Trim mower: (2 gal/day) (190 days/yr) (\$4.50/gal) \$1,710.00

\$10,260.00/year

Maint & Repair Costs =

Blades: (3 sets/yr) (\$132.00/set) (2 mowers) \$792.00
 Filter kits: all oil/hydro/air filters for the year (2 mowers) \$792.00
 Motor oil: (6 qts/change) (3 changes/yr) (\$6.50/qt) (2 mowers) \$234.00
 Hydraulic oil: (1 pail/change) (2 changes/yr) (\$80.00/pail) (2 mowers) \$320.00
 Grease: (1 tube/week) (45.7 weeks/yr) (\$10.00/tube) (2 mowers) \$914.00
 Trim mower: blades, filters, oils, grease (est. ½ a rough mower) \$763.00

\$3,815.00/year

Avg Winter Service =

Rough mowers (\$4,000 each × 2): roller, planetary, rear end, steering, bushing and mower deck service, HOC hardware replacement \$8,000.00
 Trim mower (est.) \$2,000.00

\$10,000.00/year

Total Annual Operating Cost

2 rough mowers + 1 trim mower

\$119,415/year

\$3,272 per acre per year

(\$86.10 per acre per week)

¹ Crew hours: GreenSight's crew model, about 29 crew hours per acre per year. That covers mowing (two 4500s cut 37 acres of rough twice a week in about 15 hours), plus trimming, transport, turnaround and cleanup. Labor at a loaded \$40/h. Season 38 weeks; mowers run 5 days a week (190 days). Depreciation is 5-year straight line with no salvage value. The 4500 lines are from the original GreenSight analysis (the motor oil line is corrected to \$234 for two mowers). Trim mower figures are estimates; use your own fleet's numbers where you have them.

Annual Operating Cost:

Kress Mixed Fleet (12)



Model	Area	Acres	Units	Load ²	Unit price	Line total
Kress KR238G	Wide open rough	19.5	2	86%	\$43,999.99	\$88,000
Kress KR236S	Narrow / bunkered rough	6.0	2	80%	\$14,299.99	\$28,600
Kress KR286	Green, tee & bunker surrounds	8.5	7	86%	\$4,299.99	\$30,100
Kress KR237	Practice range	2.5	1	63%	\$14,999.99	\$15,000
Kress Mega garage (KR238G dock shelter)			2		\$799.99	\$1,600
Hard-surface dock install kit (small units)			10		\$59.99	\$600
Equipment subtotal		36.5	12			\$163,900

Machine Cost =

Equipment (table above, Kress US list)	\$163,900.00	\$41,639.00/year
Sales tax: NY example, Nassau County 8.625% (varies by state)	\$14,136.00	
GreenSight installation: (\$799/robot) (12 robots)	\$9,588.00	
Site work (est.): 3 hub circuits \$10,500; 2 dedicated 20 A	\$18,700.00	
KR238G circuits \$2,400; 7 extra dock outlets \$3,500; 2 garage pads \$800; 10 dock pads \$1,500		
Site-work contingency (10%)	\$1,870.00	
Up-front investment (\$5,704/acre) ÷ 5-yr depreciation	\$208,194.00	

Running Costs =

Blades	\$1,710.00	\$16,168.00/year
Electricity (6,860 kWh at \$0.30)	\$2,058.00	
GreenSight service & winterization	\$2,800.00	
Battery replacement reserve	\$2,920.00	
Connectivity / app allowance	\$600.00	
Staff oversight & blade changes (4 h/wk × 38 wk × \$40)	\$6,080.00	

Total Annual Operating Cost

12 robots, 36.5 acres, cut every 48 hours

\$57,807/year

\$1,584 per acre per year

(\$41.68 per acre per week)

² Load = zone acres ÷ the model's capacity per 48 h when it runs 16 h a day at 85% efficiency: KR238G 11.3 ac, KR237 4.0 ac, KR236S 3.77 ac, KR286 1.42 ac. Every zone stays at or under 90%. Running costs follow GreenSight's site designs (about \$450 per acre per year): blades at about \$47 per acre; electricity at \$0.30/kWh, about 6,860 kWh a season; service and winterization at \$2,000 per site plus \$400 per KR238G; battery reserve at \$600 per KR238G, \$350 per KR237, \$300 per KR236S and \$110 per KR286; staff oversight and blade changes at 4 h a week for 38 weeks at \$40/h. Prices are Kress US list (October 2026) and shipping is excluded. Site work is an estimate until a site walk confirms power at each hub.

Savings Summary



Kress mixed fleet (12)

Cost per acre per year	\$1,584
Total annual operating cost	\$57,807
Up-front investment	\$208,194

*12 robots cut 36.5 acres of rough, surrounds and range every 48 hours



Groundsmaster 4500 (2) + trim (1)

Cost per acre per year	\$3,272
Total annual operating cost	\$119,415
Mower fleet cost	\$265,000

*2 rough mowers and 1 trim mower cut the same 36.5 acres twice a week

SAVINGS

by using a fleet of Kress robotic mowers for mowing the same area

\$308,040

Total savings over 5 years

\$61,608

Saved annually
(\$119,415 – \$57,807)

\$1,688

Saved per acre per year
(\$3,272 – \$1,584)

2.0 years

Payback, mowers retired³

5.2 years

Payback, crew-only³

\$616,080

Total savings over 10 years⁴

Switching from traditional mowers to a Kress robotic fleet cuts labor and operating costs on a typical course by about **\$1,688 per acre per year**. Over five years that is **\$308,040** the club can put toward other areas of the course, and about 906.5 crew hours a year (\$36,260) go back to detail work.

Intangibles: Atmosphere & experience · Consistent playing conditions · No grass clippings · Carbon footprint reduction · Reduced labor burden · Reliability & flexibility · No call-offs · No attitude · Good listeners

³ Payback = up-front investment (\$208,194) ÷ (conventional annual cost – robot running cost of \$16,168). Mowers retired: the club no longer owns or replaces its rough and trim mowers, so it saves the full \$119,415 a year (2.0 yrs). Crew-only: the club keeps its mowers, so only crew labor, fuel and parts count (\$56,415 a year; 5.2 yrs). ⁴ 10-year savings assume both fleets are replaced after 5 years (2 × the 5-year figure).

Assumptions: a typical 18-hole course with 36.5 robot-mown acres (19.5 open rough, 6.0 narrow/bunkered rough, 8.5 surrounds, 2.5 range), in line with GreenSight's site designs; not a specific club. Labor \$40/h loaded at about 29 crew hours per acre per year. 38-week season. 5-year straight-line depreciation, no salvage. Electricity \$0.30/kWh. Diesel \$4.50/gal. Sales tax shown at NY's 8.625% (Nassau County); it varies by state. Kress US list prices; shipping excluded. Planning estimates: a site walk and the club's actual costs firm them up.