

Marine **PowerSource**

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Lobstering with reliability

Meet the Percys of Popham

Powerful crew boats



Three engines propel the *Mr. Stewart*



The Percys of Popham Beach

A father and his three sons run their lobster boats with John Deere marine power

At the age of 79, Delbert “Jack” Percy may be one of the most seasoned lobstermen fishing off of the coast of Maine today. Hauling in 300 traps daily, Jack would probably give any young whippersnapper a run for his money.

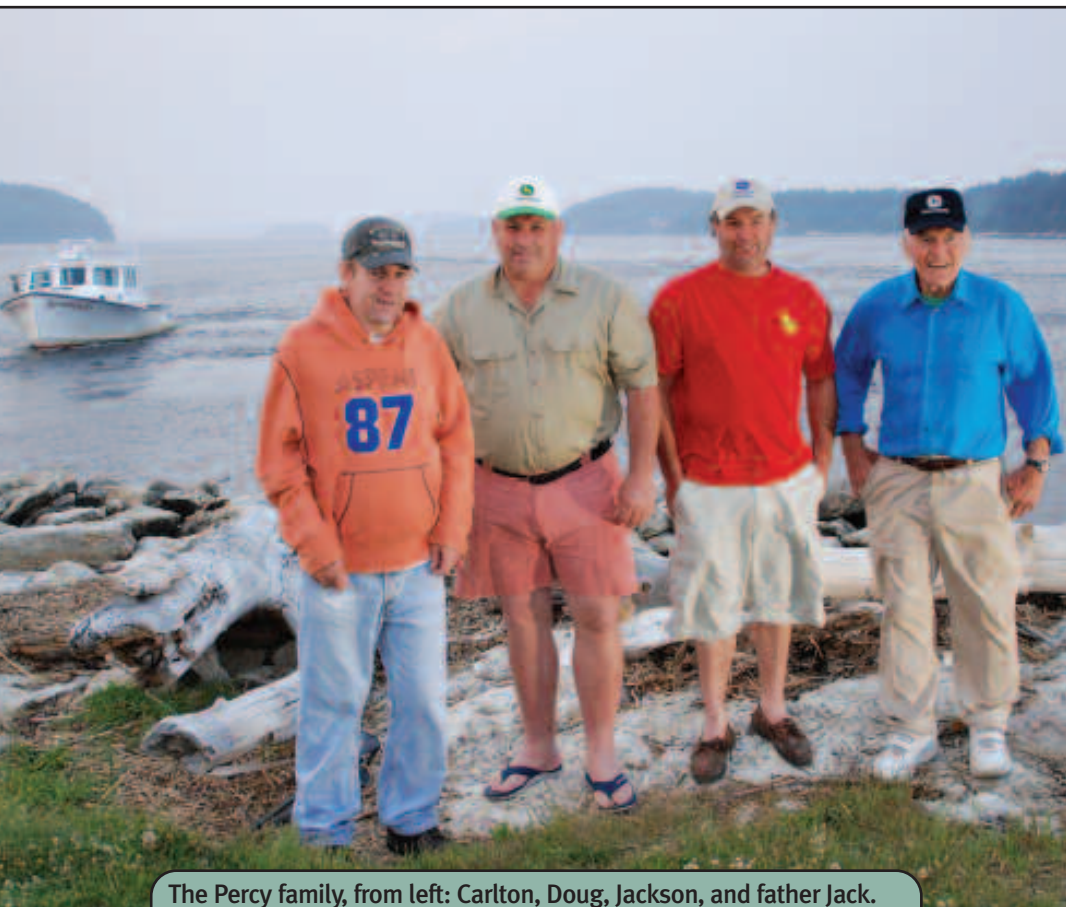
The patriarch of the Percy family, Jack has been a huge influence on his three sons. All have spent most of their lives fishing, either side by side with their father or in proximity to him. And over the years, when it came to selecting engines for their own boats, they looked upon their father’s years of experience with John Deere.



Jack Percy and first-mate Richard Gilmore head out for the daily catch.

“My father was one of the first lobstermen in Maine to power his boat with a John Deere engine,” says son Doug, proudly. “I used to fish with dad. We did multiple fisheries from mid-coast Maine to the Canadian border, and we could always count on that boat and its John Deere engine.”

Thirteen years later, Jack and first-mate Richard Gilmore still fish with that same 164-kW (220 hp) John Deere engine. “Dad’s always been tops on maintenance. That’s his baby. The engine’s never been rebuilt, and it still runs strong,” says Doug, adding that the engine can easily push the 9-meter (30 ft.) Young Brothers hull to a top speed of 48 kilometers per hour (30 mph). “It really gets up and goes.”



The Percy family, from left: Carlton, Doug, Jackson, and father Jack. All four family members lobster fish with John Deere marine engines.



At age 79, Jack Percy hauls in 300 lobster traps a day.

Jack Percy is a pioneer of John Deere marine power in Popham, Maine.



Like father, like sons. Impressed with his father’s engine, Carlton was the first of the brothers to make the switch to a John Deere engine, installing a 224-kW (300 hp) model into his boat, followed by Jackson who installed the same engine in his Mitchell Cove. Wanting more of a good thing, Carlton eventually sold his boat and upgraded to a larger one with a 280-kW (375 hp) PowerTech 6081AFM engine. The most recent installation was Doug’s, who installed a PowerTech 6081AFM75 into a new 10.7-meter (35 ft.) Mitchell Cove.

Today, all of the Percy men run with John Deere.

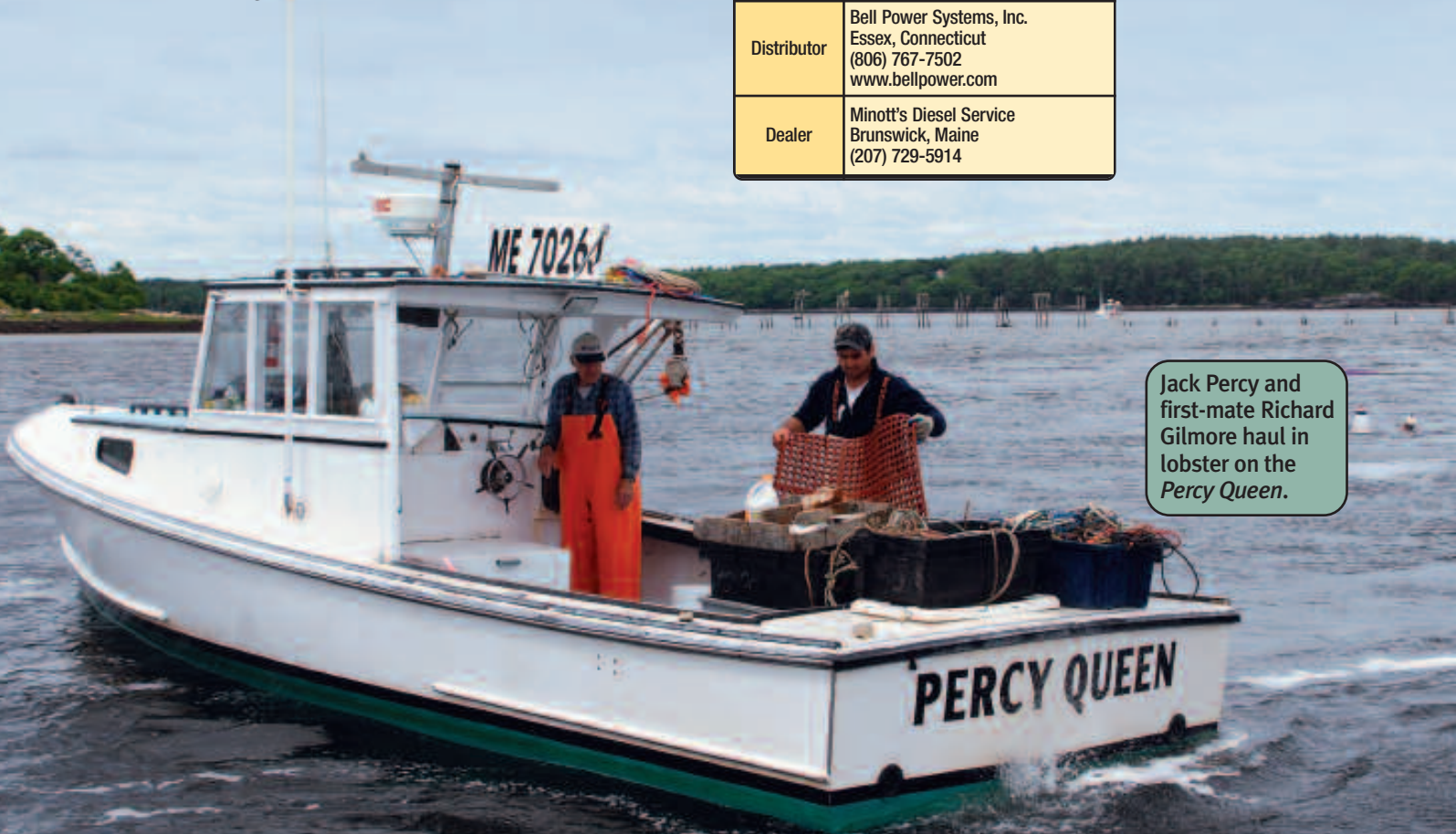
“I can speak for all of us: we are pro-John Deere,” says Doug. “John Deere offers great power along with great fuel economy. In this day and age that means a lot with profit margins shrinking at every turn. Compared with other engines, the John Deere is top of the charts in fuel economy.

“We didn’t do this for a story,” says Doug. “We did it because the price was right and for engine reliability. We had plenty of engines to choose from in Maine, but the John Deere sticks with it,” says Doug. “As commercial fishermen, we face a lot of uncertain conditions. In the middle of winter, in whiteouts and navigating with electronics only, the last thing you want to worry about is an engine problem. You want something that will bring you home, and John Deere engines won’t leave us stranded.”



Jackson installed a 224-kW (300 hp) PowerTech engine into his Mitchell Cove.

Engine Model	PowerTech 6081AFM75
Displacement	6.8L
Rated Power	280 kW (375 hp) @ 2400 rpm
Cylinders	6
Aspiration	Aftercooled
Distributor	Bell Power Systems, Inc. Essex, Connecticut (806) 767-7502 www.bellpower.com
Dealer	Minott's Diesel Service Brunswick, Maine (207) 729-5914



Jack Percy and first-mate Richard Gilmore haul in lobster on the Percy Queen.