The General Electric "Elec-Trak" all electric garden tractors gave owners a variety of advantages. No gasoline was required, they were extremely quiet, there were no smells nor carbon emissions, and they had incredible torque that could out pull even 25 hp gasoline tractors. G.E. offered a wide array of standard pulling and pushing attachments such as reel mowers, Brinly garden tools, and even a V-plow that were available for many tractors. Additionally, due to the large electric battery power pack built into the tractor, General Electric could offer attachments no gasoline based manufacturer could dream of.

Clever engineers used the massive battery power pack on the tractor to replace the PTO and belt driven attachments found on gasoline tractors. This arrangement provided quieter and more powerful attachments on the Elec-Trak. These attachments, which sported their own electric motors, did not lessen the power of the tractor's main drive motor. Only the massive battery pack was shared. An optionally available "auxiliary power pack" added even more run time to the tractors. G.E. offered multiple models of mower decks and snow throwers with separate motors that rivaled and often exceeded the performance of gas tractor offerings.

Not being content with offering only standard garden tractor attachments, the team at G.E. designed and offered a performance shattering electrically powered roto tiller, three different models of forklift attachments complete with overhead guards, and electric versions of the Haben sickle mower, and the Sweepster rotary broom! The engineers were out to prove there was nothing these tractors could not do and they did it pretty darn well!

Not only were the electrical attachments equal or better in performance than gasoline models, G.E. often improved basic attachments well beyond their original designs. By adding electric motors to the Lambert lawn sweeper and the York dethatching...
rake, these attachments performed better than the
or original designers had ever hoped for.

On the E-Z Vac leaf vacuum, G.E. replaced its Briggs
and Stratton gasoline engine with a high performance
electric motor that significantly reduced noise levels
below that of operating gasoline engines. Most all
the motors used on these attachments were the same
as those used to power either their current mower
decks or low-end tractors. This made it possible for
G.E. to standardize the parts used throughout its
product line.

Perhaps the most significant new attachments G.E.
offered were those that could not be offered on
gasoline powered tractors. Believe it or not, G.E.
actually offered an arc welder- something I would
not even want to operate next to a gasoline-fueled
tractor! They also offered a 900-watt rotary inverter
that enabled owners to run standard 120V electrical
equipment off the tractor. Thus, the tractor could
be used as a back-up power supply during power
outages. Preceding the invention of battery powered
hand tools, G.E. offered a drill motor, hedge
trimmer, grass clipper, lawn edger, and even a hand
cultivator that plugged directly into the tractor and
ran on 36V DC from the tractor's battery pack which
more or less guaranteed that they would never run
out of power! One of the attachments most sought
by collectors is the G.E. electric chainsaw. Although
a bit short by modern standards (13" in length),
they are extremely well made and very powerful.
There were even hard surface vacuums and a trash
separator that was offered for the Elec-Trak. Try
plugging a hedge trimmer into a gas tractor!

Finally, G.E. offered a number of attachments for
the Elec-Trak that could only be classified as being
just plain fun! The Elec-Trak may be the only garden
tractor for which the manufacturers actually offered
a complete set of golf cart accessories! Not only
was a rear golf bag carrier available, but a double
seat, and a golf cart style canopy were also offered.
Another fun attachment that could be added was
a "radio bracket." This was no more than a metal
bracket with a strap attached to secure a portable
transistor radio to the tractor. Finally, both six and
nine passenger tow-behind personnel carriers were
available for owners who needed to transport people
in large parking lots or at events. Think of it- the
perfect attachment for tractor shows!

All in all, the electric battery power pack built into the
Elec-Trak offered the ultimate versatility in a garden
tractor. It had all the functionality of a standard gas
machine in addition to the advantages provided by
electric tools and accessories. With the Chevy Volt
and the Nissan Leaf now on the market, can electric
tractors be far behind? ⚡