

NEW 2010 BIKES POPPING UP!

DIRT RIDER

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HEART & DESIRE

WHAT PROPELS THE PROS?

MX SCHOOL
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WILD BIKES TESTED:

- Aprilia 450 MXV Twin-Cylinder MXer
- BBR 150 Adult Mini
- Husky WR300 Two-Stroke
- Service Honda Aluminum-Frame Conversions

Justin Barcial
Geico Powersports
Honda



YZ250F (BLUE)



YZ250F (WHITE)

TEAR OFFS

The latest in the news

Quickies

• Need a summer vacation, Montana style? Big Sky Resort, located just north of Yellowstone National Park, is hosting a weekend-long, family-friendly racing experience on September 18-20. More info on the Hare Scramble event can be found at www.bigskyxc.com. Trust us, this is going to be one amazing place to race!



• Everyone who knows anything about motocross is a huge fan of Doug Henry. Although his career was halted by a serious injury, Henry has been making progress lately, including doing light walking with the help of specially made leg braces. To read more about it, head to www.dirttrider.com and check out Pete Peterson's blog from a recent Yamaha media event.

• Want to inspire even more friendly competition between you and your riding buddies? Go to www.fantasyracer.com and check out the Fantasy Motocross League based on the 2009 Lucas Oil AMA Pro Motocross Championship.

TOP STORY

2010 in Blue And Green!

New bike season is upon us, and official information on the 2010 machines has finally begun to trickle out of the manufacturers. As of press time, the first new model 250F four-stroke introduced to us is the 2010 Yamaha YZ250F, a bike that looks substantially different than the previous year's model and boasts some pretty significant changes. The first major revision is an all-new, aluminum bilateral beam frame that is said to alter the shock absorption character of the frame and better allow the suspension to do its job. With the next-generation frame comes a host of other changes to the YZ-F chassis, from revised engine mounts and repositioned radiators to a new airbox, gas tank and completely redesigned plastic. Is it an intermediate step to further changes in the future? On the outside, the machine has a wildly different appearance than the 2009 and sits on a shorter wheelbase with a longer, flatter cockpit. In terms of the engine, the 2010 Yamaha 250F features a redesigned carburetor, new cam profile, taller third and fourth gear ratio and a longer, quieter exhaust. Of course, Yamaha was still extremely hush-hush about any information pertaining to the 2010 YZ450F, but it's safe to say that the revisions on the 250F are indicative of major changes to bigger blue. Check the top story at www.dirttrider.com on September 8 for

the facts. Yamaha also brushed off any questions surrounding the 2010 YZ85, YZ125 and YZ250 two-strokes, but blue would in fact confirm that these machines would indeed be available in 2010.

From the green camp, word recently came that the Kawasaki KX250F will receive numerous revisions to both the engine and chassis, but will not be fuel-injected. It does get a new piston, raised cylinder height and wider big-end bearing. Larger, stronger radiators and a beefed-up transmission also grace the reigning *Dirt Rider* shootout winner. For 2010, the KX250F will also get revised suspension settings, a new steering stem and an updated front fender. The new 2010 KX450F also gets a new piston along with revised cam timing and ECU settings. Additionally, a new exhaust pipe connected to a large-volume silencer will hopefully cut down on the awful sound output delivered by the 2009 model. The major engine refinements are rounded out by a lighter, more durable clutch and final drive chain. Suspensionwise, the Kayaba fork receives a new spring rate and damping settings, while the shock gets similar upgrades. New radiators and one-piece shrouds round out the most significant changes to the bike. Kawasaki's KX85 two-stroke sees no major upgrades, but the fact that the bike is still on the market is a good sign. No word yet on how these new 2010 machines work out in the dirt, but we should be riding many of them by the time you read this. Look for first impressions of the 2010s in *Dirt Rider* soon!



KX450F



KX250F



U.S. \$6.99 CANADA \$7.99 SEPTEMBER 2009



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