



Report & Pics
by Peter Webster

Yamaha is the biggest selling, single brand outboard in Australia, with the biggest range of 2-stroke and 4-stroke engines. **The release of the F100A 4-stroke** lifts Yamaha's game even further, and with a new 40 hp 4-stroke on the way, Yamaha is doing a really good job of staying ahead of the pack, and setting the pace.

Yamaha's Silky Smooth **F100A 4-Stroke**

Once again, with the help of the Haines Signature factory, we were able to secure another 540 F for this ongoing program, wherein F&B is progressively testing all the new release, high tech 2-stroke and 4-stroke engines on an identical boat to boat.

In the real world, it's virtually impossible to get all the engines together on the same boat on the same day. In our opinion, several manufacturers would refuse the opportunity in any event, as a couple of the outboard manufacturers are proving to be very coy about having their products formally tested either by F&B magazine or any one else - especially if they have accurate instrumentation ready to measure the result.

Not so the Yamaha team - they couldn't wait to get their new F100A 4-stroke bolted on the back of the

Haines Signature 540 F, and we were very pleased they had the professionalism to do so.

As noted, we can't get all the boats together on the one day, but by using a brand new Haines Signature 540 F each time, we're able to get pretty close to a true boat to boat comparison.

The difference between the different 540 F weights, or load, is minuscule. On each test occasion, Greg Haines has been the skipper, the writer and Ruth Cunningham have been the crew, and the load of test equipment has been constant.

Further down the track, we will publish the full results of the competitive brands, but we are still waiting for a couple of the obvious models (including the FICHT 90 hp V-4) to bolt on the transom of a 540 F so that it too can be put under the comparative microscope.

The New F100A: This time, Haines Signature let us use one of the boats allocated to JV Marine, their popular Melbourne dealer who has been a Yamaha stalwart from a long way back.

John and Steve Stav are very excited about the new 100 hp 4-stroke Yamaha. It has a very wide application to many boats in the Haines Signature and Quintrex ranges they so professionally package out of Melbourne.

In this case, the Haines Signature factory had set the Yamaha up for the test in Brisbane, so we could access the boat on the Gold Coast with all our instruments and gear.

Typically, it was beautifully set-up, with Greg Haines going to no end of trouble to make sure he had the best propeller for the day, thoroughly tested, long before we came into the picture. Although he still wasn't

Fisherman & Boatowner FIELD TEST