

# YAMAHA

250 YDS 3

HIGH PERFORMANCE



Japan

1964



It all began in 1957 with the YD 1, Yamaha's first 250 twin which, as it was steadily developed, allowed the Hamamatsu company — which had started in 1887 as a maker of reed-organs — to dominate the market for medium-displacement sports two-strokes.

### Two Big Selling Points

In 1964, Yamaha launched a new version of their successful 250, the DS 3, which came on the scene with two unique selling points: firstly, that very year Phil Read had won Yamaha's first 250cc world championship riding a twin-cylinder bike closely related to the production model, while the new Autolube lubrication system eliminated the tiresome need for two-stroke riders to mix oil with their gasoline.

### The Autolube

The Autolube was a mechanical pump whose output varied with the throttle opening. It was a fairly basic system that just ensured that the oil was injected in the right proportions without — as Suzuki would do later — ensuring that oil was fed under pressure to critical points. The engine of the DS 3, still with a horizontally divided crankcase like its

distant ancestor the Adler, was a distinct improvement on the DS 2, launched in 1962, gaining a third crankshaft main bearing. On its introduction in 1964 it developed 24 hp @ 7500 rpm, and by the final version in 1967, power output had risen to 28 hp @ 8000 rpm. As for its performance, it was outstanding for its day. The claimed maximum speed was 90 mph in 1964 and over 96 mph in 1967.

### SPECIFICATIONS

**Engine:** 246cc (56x 50mm) air-cooled twin-cylinder

**Power Rating:** 24 hp @ 7500 rpm

**Valves:** two-stroke

**Fuel System:** two carburetors

**Transmission:** 5-speed; chain final drive

**Suspension:** telescopic fork (front); swinging fork with two spring/dampers (rear)

**Brakes:** twin leading shoe drum (front); drum (rear)

**Wheels:** 18 inch

**Weight:** 350 lb

**Maximum Speed:** 90 mph

*Typical of its day, the dial in the headlamp shell incorporates speedometer and tachometer.*