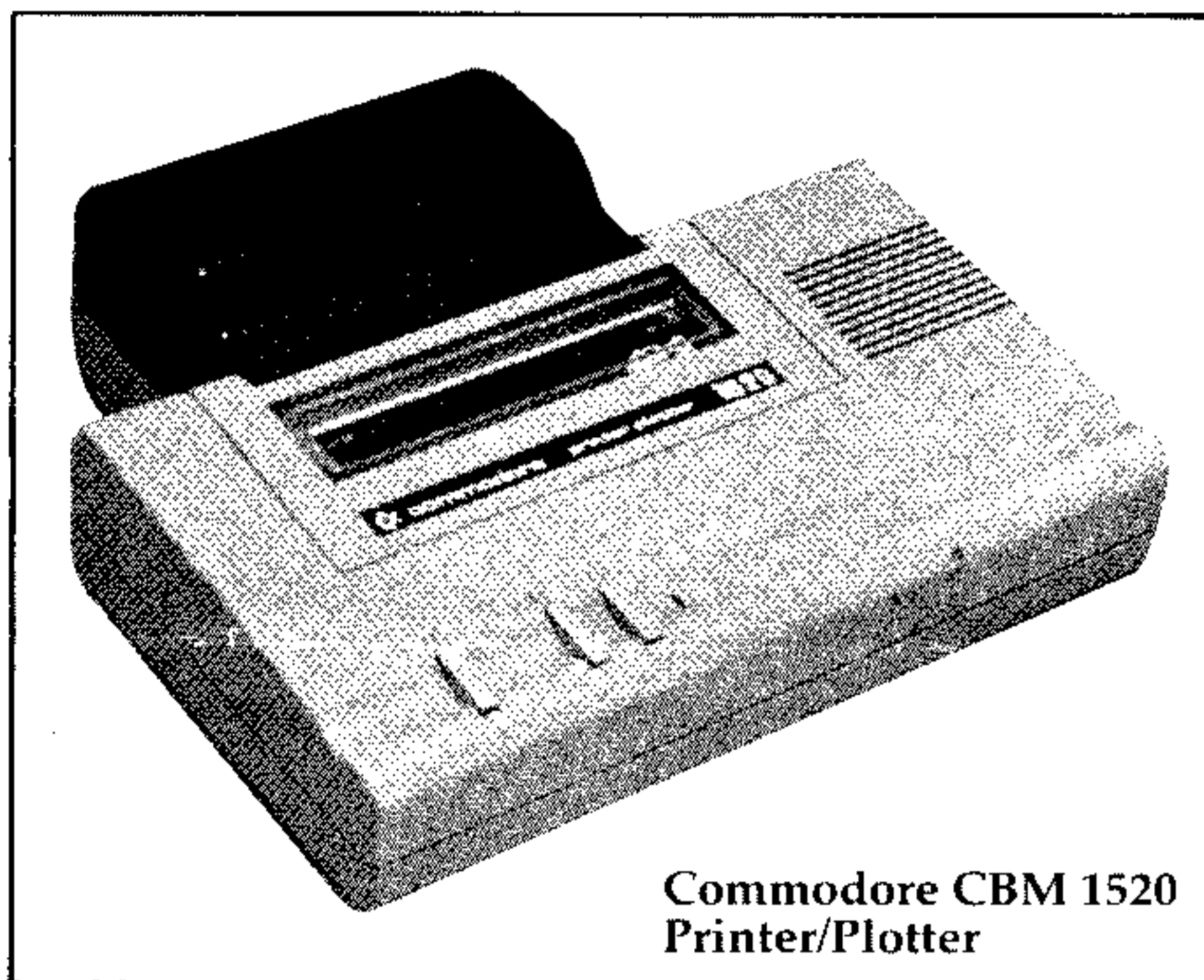atop its case.

Under program control, the printer/plotter can draw to any vertical/horizontal coordinates with its four-pen print head. The standard colors are black, red, blue, and green. Eight other colors also will be available. Four buttons on the plotter control the power, pen color, pen change, and paper feed.

Atari says the 1020 should be available this spring for $299.

Commodore CBM 1520

The CBM 1520, announced at the Winter Consumer Electronics Show (CES), uses standard 4½ inch-wide roll paper in a 5-inch carriage. Prototypes had a four-color print head with black, purple, green, and red pens.

Commodore CBM 1520 Printer/Plotter

Prototypes also appeared to have two different-sized text modes. High-resolution figures are possible with the plotter's ability to "step" up to 480 positions horizontally and 999 positions vertically. The plotter has a power switch on the side and three topside buttons for paper feed, color change, and pen change.
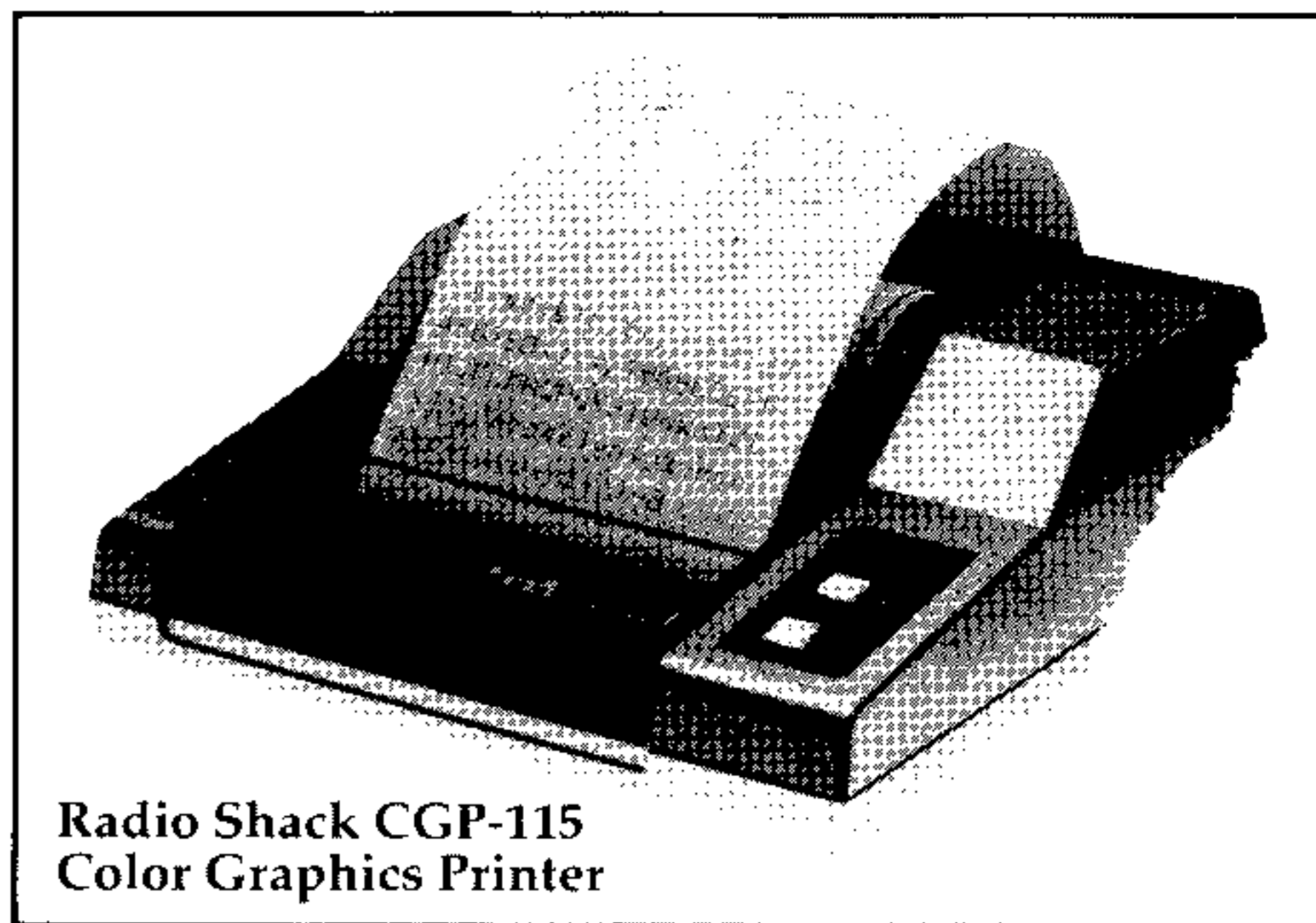
The 1520 is designed primarily for the VIC-20 and Commodore 64 computers, but could be interfaced to other models as well.

Commodore says the 1520 should be available this spring for $199.95.

Radio Shack CGP-115

The CGP-115, already on the market, uses standard 4½ inch roll paper and comes with red, blue, green, and black pens in its four-color print head. Like Commodore's CBM 1520, the Radio Shack plotter can step up to 480 positions horizontally. However, there is no limit to the vertical steps.

There are two text modes – 40 or 80 columns at 12 cps. Under program control, other size characters can be drawn and even rotated. Topside buttons control the power, paper feed, and color

Radio Shack CGP-115 Color Graphics Printer

selection.

The CGP-115 sells for $249.95.

Texas Instruments HX-1000

The HX-1000 differs from the other printer/plotters in that it is portable and uses narrower 2¼ inch-wide roll paper. In the text mode, it can print up to 18 standard characters or 36 compressed characters per line, but eight other sizes are available as well. It prints at 12 cps.

The four-color print head comes with black, blue, red, and green pens. Ten control codes sent from the computer control various functions of the plotter. There is also an on-off/reset switch and a paper feed button.

The HX-1000 is powered by five AA-size (penlight) batteries or an AC adapter/charger. It is designed to work directly with Texas Instruments' two newest computers, the under-$100 TI-99/2 and the portable Compact Computer 40. The plotter also works with the TI-99/4A if connected through a $59.95 Hex-Bus Interface.

Texas Instruments says the HX-1000 should be available this spring for $199.95. The Hex-Bus Interface should be available shortly thereafter.

Texas Instruments HX-1000 Printer/Plotter