

EDITOR MOWING—

My moss is now ready for a top over and I have been down to the stable to see my old favourites.

There is a piece out of the cover of the Flymo and I doubt whether the engine will do for another season. Rotary mowers have to rev so hard. I shall go on to the professional model because this machine is still ideal for sliding under shrubs, and cleaning up round paving stones sunk in the lawn.

The Victa Consul 2 will certainly do another year. I like the air-intake up on the handle out of dust's way, and the

general air of sound engineering. In Australia, where it comes from, most ironmongers have spare parts for it in plastic bags hanging on a display stand. I expect to get two seasons at least before I have to think about an overhaul and I ask and get a lot from it.

The Toro "21" Greensmaster is rather noisy for the garden though the visible oil reserve and plug for washing out the grass hood with the hose are useful for the amateur. Getting rid of the cut grass is the important thing for rotaries.

The Ransomes Antelope gives my moss about as good a "polish" as I am ever likely to need, cuts short or longish, wet or dry, and the blades on its cylinder never seem to mind the odd stone. I also prefer it for mowing fir cones because it stops turning. The rotaries whang them out in all directions and can be painful.

Incidentally do not study the sort of rotary mowing advertising which shows a young lady in sandals operating the machine with a delicate touch. She should be wearing boots with steel toe-caps if she values her toes more than her appearance.

Another season of piling back the cuttings, shaving, and similar abuses should reduce the grass to the stage where I can master it with an occasional snip with the scissors. Until then, grease up, fill up, wind up and let's hope the boys will be home for the week-ends to do the job for me.



FOR HIRE

SISIS AUTOTURFMAN Aerator for hire, £25 per week — Do it yourself. J. B. Burnell, 2 Clarence Road, Eaglescliffe, Stockton on Tees.
