TRADE NEWS
by G. R. Young
NEW TURF CARE PRODUCTS
BY FISON'S LIMITED

Messrs Fisons Limited are now marketing two new light-weight, turf care products:—

"Greenkeeper 2" has been formulated for use on golf greens and fine turf by impregnating granular peat with high nutrient fertiliser. With a well balanced NP and K analysis of 14:4:4 it should be applied two or three times between April and August at 1 oz. to the square yard.

"Combined" for feeding and weeding in one operation contains the same organic peat-based fertiliser as "Greenkeeper 2", plus a new combination of selective weed-killer: 2, 4-D and Dicamba (Banvel D). This should be applied at 1 oz. to the square yard from April to September, when weeds and grass are growing strongly.

Both products are packed in heat-sealed, white polythene bags weighing 62½ lbs., which is enough to treat 1,000 square yards.

"Greenkeeper 2" and "Combined" have been developed as a result of the continuing research by Fisons Levington Research Station into fertiliser requirements for sports turf. The makers claim that the products show quick visible results, are easy and economical to handle and reduce scorch risks even in dry weather.

CROSS COUNTRY VEHICLE
The recently introduced GNAT Mark 2 light-weight, cross country vehicle manufactured by Aimers McLean Limited at Kelso, Roxburgh, exerts a ground pressure of only 2½ lbs. per square inch from its three broad tyres, insufficient to damage the ground over which it is travelling.

The 400 lb. GNAT has a payload of 850 lbs. and can tow a further 950 lbs. Rugged and economical, it is able to cover parts of the course too soft or too steep for normal vehicles.

Powered by a 10 h.p. four-stroke engine the GNAT has disc brakes, a three-speed gear box plus reverse and a speed of up to 20 m.p.h. It is 7 ft. 6 in. long, and has maximum width of 5 ft. 1 in. Price £410.

"Exports up" report Sisis

SISIS export sales have risen for the third consecutive year; our despatches in 1968 show an increase of more than 50 per cent on those achieved in 1967.

Litamisas have been sold in Norway, Sweden, Holland, Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy and South Africa.

For the second year we have received an order for a quantity of Aeromain outfits for delivery to the German Army which would seem to underline the acceptance of this equipment to the same extent as in Britain for the maintenance of Sports Grounds of up to six acres.

We have exhibited, either independently or in conjunction with our distributors, in Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Germany and France during 1968 and we aim to extend our exhibition programme to the other countries during the coming year.

NEW BOARD APPOINTMENT

A recent appointment at Ransomes Sims & Jeffries is that of Philip Lawrence Johnson, aged 42, who becomes marketing director, grass machinery and electric trucks. In 1967 he was appointed general manager, truck division, and in 1968 also took over control of the grass machinery division.

Mr Johnson, a Grimsby man, holds a Loughborough College Diploma and an Engineering Cadet Diploma; he is also a Chartered Engineer and a M.I.Mech.E. He secured a commission with the Royal Engineers and served in Germany in 1947-48.
GOLF COURSE CHARGES GO UP IN MAY

Golfers will have to pay more for their golf over the Troon municipal courses as a result of increased charges approved by the town council.

Daily tickets increase from 7s. 6d. to 9s. on weekdays and from 10s. to 12s. on Saturdays.

Single-round tickets increase from 5s. to 6s. on weekdays and from 7s. to 8s. on Saturdays.

Sunday charges: Day tickets increase from 10s. to 12s. The charge for one round increases from 7s. to 8s. and all yearly ticket holders will pay 1s. a round on Sundays.

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BACK TO THE OLD SET-UP

Bakewell, short of a pro-greenkeeper-steward since Richard Bennett moved to Bradway Driving Range, have gone back to the old greenkeeper-steward set-up with W. H. Williamson, the first assistant greenkeeper at Hallamshire, filling the dual post and Mrs Williamson looking after catering. Williamson, who had been at Hallamshire since November 1967, was at one time on the Phoenix staff.

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GOLF BUGGIES

Bad news from Leicestershire. A company at Market Harborough has started production of electric golf buggies to transport the weary or the aged along the fairways of Britain or perhaps in the rough alongside. There are seats for two or four people and four special balloon tyres are claimed to safeguard the course. The hire charge looks like being £2 to £3 a round, but an enthusiast could buy one for between £550 and £700. If they do half the damage the trolley produces it will still be too much.