THE VERTIRAKES

P.V.R. (*Pedestrian Vertirake*)
- for Golf greens, Bowling greens, Cricket pitches and Tennis courts.

J.V.R. (*Junior Vertirake*)
- for Golf course greens, Bowling turf, Fine lawns etc.

T.V.R. (*Tractor Vertirake*)
- for Golf course fairways, Municipal Parks, Sports pitches.

These three machines have been designed to remove all the thatch, thus stimulating recovery and growth of strong healthy grasses. You will find that each machine will clear the difficult, dead, matted, fibrous grass that is so often so difficult to get rid of.

We have a machine for every purpose from the small golf green to the largest Municipal playing fields. One great labour saving device we have fitted on our P.V.R. model is the very large glass fibre collecting box which saves an enormous amount of time and energy that would otherwise be wasted in sweeping up afterwards.

Start your New Year off well by writing for full information on VERTIRAKES to:

H. PATTISSON & CO. LTD., STANMORE HILL WORKS, STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.
The British Golf Greenkeeper

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE
No. 351 New Series AUGUST 1974

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SECTION NEWS

Front Cover Picture

The Moor Allerton Golf Club, near Leeds, is now using a Toro Sandpro hydraulically-driven ride-on mechanical rake for care of sand traps. There are 128 bunkers on the 27-hole course—some up to 400 square yards in area. Seven men were previously involved in raking on two days a week. One man can now do the lot in a day with the Sandpro giving his colleagues the opportunity to keep up with other aspects of course management.

EDITORIAL AND SUBSCRIPTION OFFICES: Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Addington, Croydon, Surrey. Telephone: 01-657 0281. SUBSCRIPTION RATE: £1.85 for 12 issues post paid. Published during the first week of each month. All rights reserved. Reproduction of original articles and photographs in whole or in part is prohibited. This Magazine shall not, without the written consent of the publishers first given, be re-sold, lent, hired out, or otherwise disposed of. Contributions and photographs of interest are invited.
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Printed by Oliviers Printing Works (Battle) Ltd.
The Parkamatic has been designed to provide a completely automatic method of high speed, efficient and even watering at pressures of 40lb p.s.i. over Greens and Fairways.

No staking wires or other elaborate preparations are necessary. Hose pipe is simply laid out straight or in curves, on a pre-determined course and the Parkamatic will do the rest.

The machine travels 140ft per hour pulling ½in hose pipe.

Full details from: T. PARKER & SONS (Turf Management) LTD.
WORCESTER PARK, SURREY KT4 7NF
Tel: 01-337 7791 . 337 0861 (10 lines)
The natural beauty of a golf course such as the site of this year’s U.S. Open Championship, Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, N.Y., is not achieved by nature alone. In recognition of his exceptional efforts and achievements at Winged Foot, golf course superintendent Ted Horton was awarded a “Citation of Performance” award by his professional association, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

President of the international association, Charles G. Baskin, presented Horton with this distinguished award during the traditional ceremonies at the conclusion of the tournament. Also participating in the presentation were Winged Foot President Edward Schneider and United States Golf Association President Horton Semple.

**PAN BUSTING**

The benefits of pan-busting to improve drainage and therefore the grass growing, has been admirably demonstrated in an A.D.A.S. experiment on a Cornish farm, according to the Farmers Weekly.

Mr. Jack Bolitho of Commonmoor, Cornwall has a 1,000 acre hill farm with an iron oxide pan under much of it, which stopped water flow through the peat soil.

The A.D.A.S. team sub-soiled 20 acres. Now, while most of the 33,500 acres of moorland carry the usual poor-quality, stunted growth, the treated area has grass 12 inches high.

Three sub-soiled plots, compared with three controls, gave the following grass production.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>lbs. of Dry matter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control 1/</td>
<td>Fertilised/Sub-soiled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68 units N.</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91 &quot; &quot;</td>
<td>180</td>
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<tr>
<td>150 &quot; &quot;</td>
<td>450</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Dr. David Hughes, A.D.A.S. soil scientist, also estimated that resistance to poaching (and golfers cause that just as well as cattle) had increased by 40%.

Gordon West, Head Greenkeeper at the Auckland Golf Club, Middlemore, New Zealand had similar ideas when he inserted five sticks of gelignite in one of his fairways. It was just bad luck that he was next to a hospital instead of Bodmin Moor. But he got the results he wanted and the hospital is still there. He only rattled it.

F. W. Hawtree.

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**CANNOCK Granular Fertilisers**

**IDEAL FOR FAIRWAYS AND APPROACHES**

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[Image of advertisement for Granular Fertilisers]
Now May & Baker introduce their NEW systemic turf fungicide ('Mildothane-Turf') for the prevention and control of disfiguring fungal diseases such as Fusarium, red thread and dollar spot.

Here is a turf fungicide which combines extremely effective systemic action with simplicity of preparation and ease of use.

The publication illustrated above gives full details of this new application of the already well-known 'Mildothane' formulation which can help you to maintain your fine turf in the finest condition.
HON.
SECRETARY'S
NOTES

A.G.M. Isle of Purbeck Golf Club, Studland, Swanage, Dorset.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the fifty-seventh Annual General Meeting of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association will be held at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club, on Monday 30th September 1974 at 2.30 p.m. Notice of resolutions must be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary TWENTY-ONE DAYS before the date of the meeting. Under Rule 29 proxies may be voted at all general meetings. A Form of Proxy may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary and returned not later than the first post of Wednesday 25th September.

Annual Tournament
The fifty-seventh Annual Tournament will be held at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 30th September, 1st and 2nd October 1974. Entry Forms appeared in the July Journal.

Programme

Monday 30th September. Morning—18 Holes Stableford. Afternoon—Annual General Meeting 2.30 p.m.

Tuesday 1st October. 36 Hole Medal; News of the World Cup (Scratch). Senior Division (plus to 11) Junior Division (12 to 24); the Jubilee Cup (Team Prize off Handicap); 'The Coming of Age' Cup.

Wednesday 2nd October. Morning 18 Hole Medal; Afternoon—Prize distribution 3 p.m.

Handicaps
Section Secretaries will be asked to verify the handicaps of all competitors from their records before the Tournament. All handicaps must be based on the National Golf Union's handicapping system.

Executive Committee
A Meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club, Studland, Swanage, Dorset on Sunday 29th September 1974 at approximately 5.30 p.m.

Trophies
May I remind all holders of trophies from last year's Tournament who are not taking part this year, to ensure that these are returned to the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club, Swanage, Dorset, before Saturday 28th September, 1974.

The Mommersteeg Seed Company
would be pleased to give a talk with slides on modern cultivars of grass seed for golf courses. Interested sections should contact Mrs. Bradbury, Sports Turf Advisor at Mommersteeg International, Station Road, Finedon, Wellingborough, Northants.

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Have you seen the ‘Jake’?

The Greens King

The Jacobsen Greens King Mower is specifically designed for greens, cutting a complete green to a velvet finish. All the cutting reels can be raised and lowered, engaged and disengaged, and it can be quickly adapted to mow vertically, and brush or spike the green for aeration.

The Mete-R-Matic

The Mete-R-Matic from Jacobsen is the only spreader which drives the top dressing down to the base of the turf. It spreads a full 3' wide - at up to 225 feet per minute. And it spreads evenly, whether dry or moist, with fingertip control of application.

JACOBSEN offer a complete range of turf care products for all Golf Club and Public Authority grass maintenance.

Backed by a national distributor network for first class after sales service and on the spot technical know how.

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For details contact:

ROLFES INTERNATIONAL TURF EQUIPMENT

Winchester Hill, Romsey (78), Hants. Tel: Romsey 513185 Telex 47347
MAINTENANCE MACHINERY AND SURFACE DRAINAGE

TOM MASCARO

Although not introducing anything new I hope to organise your thinking as managers of turfgrass areas how you can alter conditions to grow better grass by the use of maintenance machinery and cultural practices. The five major factors that affect surface drainage are:—Degree of Grade, the Sub-Surface Drainage, Soil Structure, Soil Texture and Thatch.

Degree of Grade & Sub-Surface Drainage

First it should be clear that the degree of grade, or slope, will have a profound effect upon surface drainage. The greater the degree of grade, the more rapid the run-off of excess water. Therefore it is vital for turfgrass areas that both surface drainage and internal drainage be adequate to remove excess water rapidly. The reason, of course, is that grass roots breathe, just as you and I, and all living things on this planet. Excess water, devoid of oxygen, prevents the grass plant from functioning. Severe damage and death of the plant especially at high temperatures will occur.

Degree of Grade is something you cannot alter very much once it is established and by and large you have to live with what has been done from the very beginning. The same applies to the drainage underneath. The tile drains which were installed, the type of sub-surface which exists under the grass you are growing, once it has been established, generally cannot be altered very much unless you go to a tremendous amount of expense. So as Greenkeepers and Golf Course Superintendents you have a very small area to work in, and this is that upper layer we are all familiar with. Much can be done here and we will discuss this area under three headings, Soil Structure, Soil Texture and Degree of Thatch.

1. Soil Structure

By structure we mean how the soil is put together, how the particles are arranged. The sand, silt and clay of any soil is arranged in such a way so that it has 50% solid, 25% for air space and 25% for water. Modern irrigation systems supply the water. What we like to see under turf is a soil in good tilth, one which is made up of aggregates. We have spaces for air, water, fertiliser to move down and also to exhaust gases that are produced by the roots. We say that roots don't grow in the soil, they grow in the spaces within the soil and this is what we like to see under turf areas; this is what the farmer likes to have when he plants his crops.

Unfortunately, water is a lubricant and this can compact the soil quite easily. If you take a feather and stroke a wet soil you can seal it off very nicely. When we were children and made mud pies, we didn't make them by pounding the soil, we made them by patting the soil. So water
The new SISIS Autocrat is the ideal aerator for all fine turf areas — golf greens, bowling green, etc. The Autocrat gives fast coverage because of its great manoeuvrability (turns in its own length) its 3 ft. width and its speed of operation. A 600 sq. yd. golf green can be tined in 30 minutes and an average bowling green in 1½ hours.

All controls are accessible from the operating position behind the machine and a self-release control lever is fitted for maximum safety. Depth adjustment up to 4 ins. is quick and simple without tools. There is a separate control for disengagement of the drive to the tines and quick transfer to the transport position without tools. Standard SISIS Auto-Turfman tines can be fitted giving the choice of slit tining, solid tining or hollow coring.

Ask for a demonstration

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