New partners 'delighted'

CHESHIRE based Toro Distributor, Turf Irrigation Services has assumed all irrigation sales marketing and service responsibilities previously handled by Golf Landscapes Limited of Brentwood.

This move established Turf Irrigation Services as the largest Toro Area Distributor in the UK. By absorbing the former Golf Landscapes sales territory covering London, S.E. counties and East Anglia, TIS now represents Toro Irrigation products in England from the South Midlands northwards. They are also responsible for Scotland and Wales.

Commenting on this important change, Bob and Peter Dunning, founder directors of Golf Landscapes said "We are very happy with this new arrangement - the growth in both landscape and golf course construction contracts has been so dramatic during the past five years that we need to concentrate our experts and energies in those markets.

"We will continue to provide irrigation system installation and maintenance services but we shall be working hand-in-hand with TIS, whose presence in our area will ensure that Toro customers will be given an even better sales advisory and after-sales service."

Speaking on behalf of Turf Irrigation Services, Robin Hume, director, said "I have known and worked with both Bob and Peter Dunning for many years. We were all involved in the recent Penina (Portugal) Golf Course contract and as a result of this close contact, I identified the advantages of pooling our resources and business interests in consolidating our efforts in the UK turf irrigation market."

Both the Dunning brothers and Robin Hume stress that this new arrangement offers increased benefits to the end user. "Between us, we shall have more experienced people out in the field providing regular customer contact, a much larger stock of spares to draw upon and, of course, a much more flexible and mobile installation and service team line-up."

Delighted with the way both companies have come together, Peter Roberts, General Manager, Toro Irrigation Limited commented: "This is the opportunity I have been waiting for to help all of us consolidate our UK market penetration, especially in the development of golf course irrigation". Bob, Peter and Robin are dedicated professionals in the sports turf business, between them, they will provide the 'tools' to take us into the nineties and maximise Toro service to the end user - our fast growing numbers of customers!"

UPON reaching the age of 65, Ransomes much travelled grass machinery technical representative, Bill Palmer, retires after giving 42 years valuable service to the company. He is well known to Ransomes UK dealers and many of the company's overseas distributors for his extensive knowledge of grass machinery and also for his dry and quick wit, which he put to good effect when taking service training courses.

Bill Palmer joined Ransomes after war service with the Royal Navy as a Leading Radar Operator. He served on an anti-aircraft cruiser and minesweeper prior to being attached to an 8th Army Long Range Desert Group, the equivalent of today's SAS, during the North Africa Campaign. Upon his safe return to Egypt, Bill Palmer vowed he would never volunteer for anything again!

Among his many tasks was to help UK dealers and overseas distributors to solve technical problems and to train their service engineers. The latter became increasingly important as greater use was made of hydraulics as well as electric and electronic controls in Ransomes grass machinery.

During the past six years he made yearly visits to Israel and, like anybody going there for the first time, he was surprised to see such well maintained grass areas under irrigation, particularly in the Kibutzine.

During his retirement, while not admitting it, because he plays golf purely for the fun of it, Bill Palmer vowed he would secretly pleased to see a drop in his handicap on the board at Rushmere Golf Club in Ipswich.
ROYAL ASCOT'S stable complex was once again the venue for Andrews Professional Grass Machinery Show. In beautiful surroundings, and with an abundance of grass on which to demonstrate the large variety of equipment they handle, Andrews entertained some four hundred people over two days. Many suppliers contributed to the day with demonstration teams, and prospective customers were able to use the machinery for themselves. Ransomes, Hayters and Kubota had many large machines working throughout the day, amply demonstrating how easily large areas could be cut. Bob Andrews Ltd had their latest Scarifier, The Turf Doctor, on show for the first time and Allen Power Equipment were demonstrating their new Safeway Mowing System. Sisis and Twose were showing their turf conditioning equipment and Saxon their large range of trailers. Stihl, apart from chainsaws and stone cutters, displayed their range of professional brushcutters and the new DynaJet High Pressure water cleaner was very much in evidence, quickly cleaning the machinery in use as well as cars and the patio area.

Charles Chance, Andrews' sales manager, expressed his delight with support he received both from suppliers and visitors and hoped that next year's show would be even bigger.

Andrews of Sunningdale cover the area of Surrey, Berkshire, a large part of Hampshire and most of London and any professional user seeking advice or equipment should contact Charles Chance at Robert H. Andrews Limited, the Garden Centre, London Road, Sunningdale, Berks SL5 OJJ. Telephone Ascot (0990) 27651

The Dynajet high pressure water cleaner in action

A NEW 200-page Master Service and Repair Manual, covering Jacobsen's Greens King IV and TF-60 triplex mowers, is now available from Jacobsen's Turf Distributors. All models and major accessories for both machines are covered in the manual. Trouble-shooting instructions, test equipment procedures, service and repair instructions, adjustments, and proper disassembly and reassembly procedures are covered with step-by-step instructions and complete, easy-to-follow diagrams.

BRIAN HURTLEY, previously director of marketing, has been appointed vice-president and director, Kubota UK Ltd.

John Woodward, previously national sales manager, construction machinery, has been appointed to the main board as construction machinery sales director.

A statement by Keith McKee, Turf and Amenity Adviser, Fisons Horticulture.

IN considering the use of an IBDU based, slow release N, fine turf fertilizer, there are two factors which must be borne in mind. Firstly, the proportion of slow release to rapid release N source and, secondly, the actual quantity of the product the application rate will provide.

IBDU releases nitrogen slowly, over an extended period of time. If it is not present in sufficient volume when spread, its N release will be at too low a level to derive any visible, sustained response. In other words, your time and money will have been wasted.

Statements of IBDU percentage in fine turf fertilizers, whilst a valuable step towards fair trades description, must not in themselves be taken as a product endorsement. For example, fifty percent of not very much released over several weeks does not contribute any discernible improvement to a playing surface.

A hypothetical example of 8:0:0 formulation with 50% as IBDU, for instance, is definitely inadequate - providing only four units of slow release nitrogen over the long release period.

Our trials and experience show that at a standard application of 35g fertilizer per square yard, at least 10 units of IBDU are required in the product formulation to achieve truly extended turf growth and colour response. We have also found that the fraction needs to be supplemented with an equal proportion of more rapidly released nitrogen to start the process close to the time of application.

This research went into the formulation of Fisons Greenmaster Super-N, a 24:0:0 + 2% Fe fine turf fertilizer of which 50% of the N is derived from IBDU.
**Fulford's greens voted the best**

The greens at Fulford Golf Club, near York, are the best of all the courses on the European circuit, according to a poll of the tournament players. The club itself gives much of the credit for the award to the continuous programme of drainage maintenance and renovation which it carries out. Ever since 1971, Fulford has been the venue for the Benson and Hedges Championship, the longest running tournament at the same venue in Europe. Last year, asked to assess the courses on which the official European Tour events were held, the professionals gave Fulford's greens top marks in a field which included such names as Muirfield, Wentworth and Royal Birkdale.

Fulford was opened in 1935, having been reclaimed from heathland and scrub. Clay tiles were mainly used for drainage, with ash as backfill, although in some places ash was used on its own. In both cases, the drains were often only one foot deep. This system is constantly being renovated by the club in order to maintain optimum playing conditions. Like any golf club, Fulford has to have a drainage system which removes surface water as quickly as possible. To meet this need the club now uses clay pipes at a depth of at least 2ft, back-filled with a minimum of 12in of hard stone, and with falls wherever possible of around 1:20. Trenches are hand-dug by the greenkeeping staff. For laterals, 3in. pipes are used feeding into 4in. or 6in. mains. "We need a very free-draining system to get rid of surface water", explained club secretary John Gledhill. "Clay is a natural material - there is nothing like it for absorbing water and drawing it out of the ground."

**Kawasaki's good news!**

Over the last few months, Kawasaki have been embarrassed by their KLF185 ATV - or rather by their lack of stock. For this well-proven workhorse has proved such excellent value for money that they had completely sold out, while still waiting for the replacement model. The good news is that the new model not only still provides superb value for money (it retails for £1,899 plus VAT), but also incorporates many worthwhile advantages.

Designated the KLF220, this gives an indication to the most obvious change: the enlarged engine capacity gives a worthwhile boost in torque to this reliable four stroke engine, which retains both electric and recoil start systems. Next major update concerns suspension: the KLF220 retains independent swingarms with dual shock absorbers for the front suspension, but at the rear there is now Kawasaki's refined Quad-Link system that offers a progressive, rising-rate action.

Previously, stopping was via a single rear drum brake, now this is supplemented by drum brakes for each of the front wheels.

The new styling is practical as well as attractive: twin headlamps provide a wider spread of light than the original single unit, while being located under the front carrying rack means that loads do not obscure night time vision. Features that remain unchanged include the five speed gearbox with automatic clutch and reverse gear, shaft final drive, and the use of a vibration-reducing balance shaft in the well proven engine.
Simons awarded Cup for best performance

SIMON LAWSON of Nettelham, Lincoln was awarded the Spartsholt Woman's Institute Cup for the best performance on the certificate course in horticulture (Greenkeeping & Sportsground Management) at the Spartsholt College Hampshire.

Simon, who was awarded his certificate with distinction, also received a prize for his outstanding project. Simon was a former pupil of William Farr School, Welton, Lincoln and was a student at the Riseholme College of Agriculture & Horticulture before coming to Spartsholt.

Prior to the course Simon worked at the Fourseasons Hotel golf course at Dunholme, near Lincoln.

Following his success at Sparsholt, his course tutor, Bob Young, said "Simon has progressed extraordinarily well and I am delighted that he has been accepted on the National Diploma course at the Lancashire College".

Appointments

MAXWELL HART have announced the appointment of two executives to their southern recreation and amenities sales team.

Paul Harper joins the company as regional sales director responsible for business development in the South of England and heads up Maxwell Hart's field sales force. Paul previously spent over eight years with Sinclair Horticulture.

In addition, Alan Roach is the new Hart sales representative for the Eastern Home Counties region and will be servicing the needs of existing and new customers in Sussex, Kent and Essex. Alan joins from Fisons, where he was a horticultural sales representative.

THE DRIVI

The ICI range of turf care products has been developed for professionals. Whether your target is turf weeds, insect pests or turf diseases - whether the location is fine turf or outfield, look to the driving range.

SUPER VERDONE. The effective selective herbicide which controls major broad-leaved weeds in any established turf. Three powerful weedkillers give broad spectrum cover, even to speedwell and yellow suckling clover.

GAMMA-COL turf. Underground pest like leatherjackets and chafer grubs will cause ugly bare patches as they eat grass roots and stems. Gamma-Col turf will kill these pests and remains in the soil to give effective and long term control. The easy to use liquid formulation has contact and fumigant action.

ICI Professional Products, Woolmead House East, Woolmead Walk

Daconil turf contains chlorothalonil: Tornado contains carbaryl: Super Verdone contains dicamba, 2,4-D and ioxynil: Gamma-Col turf contains gamma HCH.
BSH grass is half cut!

BRITISH Seed Houses claim that their new A22 amenity grass mixture needs cutting only half as much as other grasses.

Independent trials at the Long Ashton Research Station have proved that the A22 mixture required only 50% of the mowing requirement when compared with other ordinary grasses in order to maintain a 3" height.

Copies of the Long Ashton trials report will be available on the British Seed Houses stand at the IOG show at Windsor. The theme of this year's stand is 'Save cash with grass' and particular emphasis will be placed on their successful low maintenance grass seed mixture A22. A22 contains the slow growing Lorina Perennial Ryegrass and Logro Creeping Red Fescue which requires 50% less cutting than standard ryegrass mixtures.

A22 could have quite a significant impact on future grass maintenance costs. Estimates put the total annual bill for mowing amenity areas in the UK at something in excess of £300 million. So in cash terms the savings could be substantial.

In the long term savings could well continue to rise. The Long Ashton report states that in addition to the rapid recoup of initial outlay due to lower maintenance costs, A22 was significantly shorter, required less mowing and produced less yield.

For more information please contact Jonathan Franks, British Seed Houses Ltd., 37 Five Mile Drive, Oxford. OX2 8HT.

Video Collection recaptures classic golf

THE golfing season has so far provided some of the most memorable golf ever (and in the UK, the wettest weather too!). Three of the world's four major tournaments have now taken place and each has produced classic golf and nail-biting finishes.

International Sport Showcase has already released a video of Sandy Lyle's unforgettable triumph in the US Masters and on August 19th delivers two more essential items for golf fans - the 1988 British Open and the 1988 US Open.

Both titles will retail for just £9.99 and The Video Collection is confident that they will continue the amazing sales of golf videos to the public.
DIY top dressings much cheaper

REGULAR and even top dressing is considered by many greenkeepers and groundsmen to be one of the most important factors in promoting and maintaining fine turf surfaces in optimum condition.

With the help of Royer soil processing equipment, supplied by UK distributor, Huxleys Grass Machinry, Stewart McMillan, head greenkeeper at Leatherhead Golf Club in Surrey and his team of four assistants produce all of the top dressings used on the course. So, instead of paying for ready-prepared material at a cost in excess of £30 a tonne, the club is able to buy-in their own raw materials at one-third, or less, of that price and make their own dressing in the quantities and at a time to suit course requirements and workloads.

Little and often has been the key to the success of the top dressing applications to the greens at Leatherhead Golf Club, explained Mr McMillan. The old-fashioned method had been to put on heavy dressings just a few times a year. Now, by applying the mix in small quantities at much greater frequency, the green respond to the treatment much faster and the disturbance to golfers is minimal, with all greens playable again in just a few hours.

Application rates are varied to suit the specific requirements of the surfaces and the season, with approximately 120 tonnes in total applied as a top dressing during a year. Extra is prepared for course repairs and tee rebuilding, with all preparation taking place during quieter periods or poor weather.

Mr McMillan explained that he purchases both fine sand and loam in bulk from local sources ready for processing by his Royer equipment.

Provided the bought-in soil is absolutely dry, the first step is to pass all the soil through the club's Royer Model 30 powerscreen. This machine comprises a vibrating screen (1/4in mesh size) mounted above an elevator-conveyor which simultaneously sieves the soil, removing unwanted and oversize material, before carrying the graded soil away to the storage area.

Having produced a clean, evenly-sized product, the sand and soil are then bulk mixed together at the required ratio before being put through the Royer 112 soil shredder. This machine mixes, cleans and aerates the soil and sand by the continuous raking and tumbling action produced by its high-speed revolving inclined cleated belt.

Processed material is ejected from the Royer shredder beneath spring-loaded steel fingers at the top of the belt while oversize and unwanted product tumbles back for further processing or rejection at the foot of the shredder.

In the case of Leatherhead Golf Club, the processed sand and soil mix is discharged directly into a trailer ready for loading into the top dressing spreader.

Mr McMillan said that the Royer equipment not only helped to reduce the cost of obtaining good, clean and consistent top dressings, but it allowed him to produce the material that he wants, when he want.

"It's not too labour intensive either" said Mr McMillan. "If necessary, all top dressing production could be carried out by one man. Provided the basic materials are dry, we can put up to 20 cubic yards through the machines in a couple of hours"
Ransomes' great expectations

Due to the growth of Ransomes grass cutting machinery business in world markets, and expectations for the future, the company is consolidating the distribution of both spare parts and complete machines into a senior management function. This has led to the appointment of Stephen Drewery as Parts and Distribution Manager. Commenting on the new appointment, Ransomes Sales and Marketing Director, Keir Wyatt said "Stephen Drewery brings to the company 14 years valuable experience gained in after sales service support.

GRADEALL A HIT AT GULLANE

Gullane Golf Club have just acquired a new Gradeall SS100, the revolutionary soil processor which is saving golf clubs labour time and maintaining turf excellence. The new portable unit stormed the soil processing market throughout the world and has recently expanded into the aspect of soil processing for golf clubs.

Many golf clubs such as Gullane have found the unit's innovative system to shred and grade topsoil as a worthy investment. The club is currently using the machine for preparing topsoil for use on fairways and greens and also extracting shells from the sand used in bunkers.

The Gradeall, SS100, known for its versatility, is loaded by a front end tractor bucket. It rejects the 3 1/2" plus material such as stones and wood. The 3 1/2" minus material falls onto a variable feed belt which is controlled to feed the soil through a robust set of shredders. From here the material falls onto the main belt which takes it to an advanced two deck high frequency screen that sizes the material into the three sizes, ready for use.

Bill Robertson, head greenkeeper of Gullane, has tried several types of soil processors in the past. He believes the Gradeall SS100 is a great benefit to the club.

As well as the unit being so robust, the quality of the processed material is more than satisfactory. There is no doubt that the portable unit is saving the club time and helping maintain the quality of its course.

For further information on purchase or hire, contact the sales department, Gradeall International Ltd., 9 Farcough Road, Dungannon BT71 4DT, N.I. Telephone 08687 40484.

FOR those greenkeepers who are asked by their captains to supply 'nearest the pin', 'longest drive' markers, etc., Tacit can supply the complete range. The Tournament Pack comprises 36 Tee Markers, 20 Flags, Longest Drive/Nearest the pin set. All items can be purchased separately. Ring Tacit - 0788 832 166 for further information.
New aerators from Ryan

TWO new Ryan aerators are now available in the UK from the sole distributor, Victa (UK) Limited.

The GA30 is Ryan’s first ride-on aerator designed for use on golf courses. It offers the unique facility of variable core spacing combined with the precision vertical action of the Ryan crank and return mechanism.

Greens and fairways can be aerated in one operation without leaving the seat. A coring depth to a maximum of 3 3/4 inches is provided.

For tight patterns on greens, the 2 1/2" x 1" coring pattern yields over 57 holes per square foot up to 5,625 square feet per hour. For broader patterns on fairways, the 2 1/2" x 5" pattern yields more than 11 holes per square foot at over 28,000 square feet per hour.

Any other spacing between can be set, simply by moving the adjustment control. The rate of travel automatically adjusts to the pattern selected.

The six mph transport speed of the GA30 is claimed by Ryan to be faster than any other aerator on the market.

The new Lawnaire 28 is a self propelled, walk-behind aerator specifically designed for lawn care maintenance. With reciprocating, crankshaft-mounted tine arms, it features a vertical coring action similar to the larger Ryan golf course aerators.

It has an aerating swath of 28 inches and can cover up to 24,000 square feet per hour. Coring depth is 2 1/2 inches with 3/4" diameter tines and a core pattern of 3 1/2" x 5". The unit is only 35 inches wide overall.

An easy-to-use dog clutch releases the ground drive so that the machine can be pulled backwards and, with its tricycle front wheel and unique tine linkage, provides exceptional manoeuvrability.

Golf show at Alexandra Palace

THE fourth International Golf Show moves back to London for 1989, taking place at the Alexandra Palace exhibition centre, next February 10-12.

Trade Public Exhibitions Ltd, a subsidiary of a major international business and communications group, are organising the show with co-operation from Golf Shows Ltd., the PGA European Tour and the PGA.

The International Golf Show has enjoyed regular growth over the last three years, and has become an annual event that the viewing public, and both existing and potential players, look forward to. The visitors experience a ‘value for money’ day out, participating in many of the special events and activities.

The show will cover manufacturers of equipment, clothing and course furniture as well as travel, golfing holidays, course technology and maintenance. Popular features to provide visitor participation are also planned: putting and driving competitions, golf antiques ‘road show’, putting with show-business personalities arranged by the Entertainment Artistes’ Benevolent Fund, golf clothes fashion shows and free golf clinics with PGA members.
Colourful brochure from the STRI

A NEW, attractive, highly informative prestige folder detailing the activities, resources and facilities of the Sports Turf Research Institute is now available.

This colourful folder describes in text and pictures the varied activities undertaken by the STRI in their headquarters at Bingley and their team of qualified advisor agronomists operating in the field.

In addition to describing STRI's work in research, education, advisory activity and trials, the folder details the increasingly important area of construction consultancy. This latter activity is seen by STRI as a major growth opportunity and to that end the Institute has developed its own 'Sand Pitch Profile' system specially for sand based sports pitches.

Applications in writing for a copy of the STRI folder should be made to the Secretary, STRI, Bingley, West Yorks, BD16 1AU or telephone (0274) 565131.

Derek wins greenkeeper's tournament

A FIELD of 58 greenkeepers turned out for the Parker Golf Greenkeepers Tournament staged at Cuddington Golf Club. The competition was fierce and the winner was Derek Gould who is pictured receiving the Parker Rose Bowl presented by Maggie Parker, wife of Parker's managing director.

ICI announce new distributorship

ICI Professional Products have announced the appointment of John Lindsay Professional Sports Turf as a main distributor of their range of sports and amenity turf pesticides and industrial weed and grass growth control products in Northern Ireland.

John Lindsay is a very well respected figure in Northern Ireland and his company is based at 40B Charlestown Road, Portadown, Armagh.

DUE to the continuing demand for their Chemical Application Record Book, ICI Professional Products are having to reprint a further 3,000 copies. New books now include an extra column to include windspeed and a comprehensive guide to correct information recording. Over 2000 applications can be noted.

It is now a legal requirement to keep adequate records of pesticides applications.

Copies of the book can be obtained by sending a cheque or postal order for £1.50 each (incl. P & P) to ICI Professional Products, Dept. Carb, PO Box 85, Farnham, Surrey. GU9 7UB.

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