Windsor's sunbaked swan song

Windsor's final IOG Exhibition was blessed with three days of glorious sunshine, in contrast to many of the previous mud clinging September shows. This time the essential green "wellies" remained firmly locked in the boot of the car.

Once again the race course show ground hosted a growing number of exhibitors much broader based than the first Windsor Show as evidenced by the number of stands competing in the play ground industry and general sports ground maintenance.

Next year the IOG will be taking the exhibition to the East of England Show Ground adjacent to the A1 outside Peterborough and although there was initially a degree of opposition to the plan, it now seems to be generally accepted and most of those who have supported the Windsor venue have agreed to continue supporting the event.

The Lely (UK) company, distributors of Toro Machinery, lifted the gold award for the best large stand, putting an extra broad smile on the face of Sales Manager, Graham Dale, particularly satisfying as Toro International Chief Executive, Ram Kumar, had flown in from the USA to support the Lely team.

Ransomes, who recently announced the acquisition of the Cushman organisation, which includes Ryan and Brouwer, introduced a new hydraulically operated Verti-Groom units which collected up to three times the amount of material after cutting a green, picking up moss and thatch, which has produced a noticeable increase in putting speeds.

Because the Verti-Groom is mounted ahead of the front disc roll it does not throw top dressing into the cutting cylinder as it floats independently. Adjustments for height of cut and cylinder to bottom blade are simplified by hand operation. The depth control can be set and locked in position before the operator sets out to cut the greens.

A similar Verti-Groom unit is also available for the Ransome's Super-Certes.

Pride of place on the Jacobsen stand was a superb four-wheel drive version of the fairway mower, the LF-100, to give the finest control to the professional, who wants the best out of his machine.

The new Jacobsen Lightweight Fairway Mower is unique in this country for its light compaction, extreme manouevrability and very easy servicing access. It is a durable machine for the greenkeeper who wants a full return for his investment.

The LF-100 four-wheel drive has been on trial for the past six months at the new East Sussex National Golf Club, where the Golf Course Grounds Manager, Ken Siems, who has been responsible for developing the course, says "There has never been a better machine on the market. Compaction-wise it is good, it cuts well and it is more durable than any of the others".

The greenkeeper can now skillfully cut with the new facility by changing to and from 4-wheel drive, while in motion, by one simple movement, allowing him to keep a perfect cutting level whatever the terrain.

Jacobsen's LF-100 is a 5-gang out-front mower with a 100" cutting width and 5 mph mowing speed which gives it higher productivity and more economical lightweight mowing.

Its low set design and wide front tyres give the LF-100 the lowest ground pressure of any out-front 5-gang at 6.7psi which means less compaction and healthier turf.

The five 22" seven bladed cutting heads of hardened, high manganese, carbon steel, are Jacobsen's own design and are fully floating and steerable, making striping easier.

The 3-cylinder diesel engine saves up to 50% in fuel costs, while the use of diesel fuel is a contributory factor in longer engine life and reduced maintenance.

With a network of backup Service Agents for servicing the machines and a fully comprehensive range of spare parts at their King's Lynn Headquarters, Jacobsen say they provide a customer service second to none.
NEW PRODUCTS

The Charterhouse Turf Machinery stand at Windsor, grows year by year as David Jenkins adds more products to the range of equipment.

The Verti-drain, now recognised as the finest piece of deep aeration machinery that any golf course can use to break compaction and improve both root growth and drainage, is still the company's principle product.

This year CTM introduced their pedestrian model, bringing to the golf market an affordable piece of equipment, ready to be used at any suitable time for 365 days in the year.

This must be a major breakthrough for CTM, whose tractor mounted greens and fairway Verti-drain was either hired or only purchased by the major and mainly commercial clubs in Britain.

The Pedestrian Verti-Drain has a width of only 750mm (30") and a working width of 600mm (24"). It will sink twelve 12mm (½") solid tines into the turf up to 150mm (6") deep or 12mm (½") hollow tines to a depth of 137mm (5½") at 50mm (2") spacings. The heaving action of the tines can penetrate any pan or break up compacted soil and subsoil increasing drainage, and root development, so top dressing will penetrate deep, creating an environment ideal for stronger and invigorated grass growth.

A 7hp motor gives plenty of power to cover a good sized green within the hour. A brush to sweep the cores clear to one side for later collection is available as an optional extra.

Backed with a network of Dealers, the Charterhouse Pedestrian Verti-Drain is obtainable throughout the British Isles and coupled with an efficient Spare Parts Service will keep the machine on the turf working for the improvement of fine grass areas.

The price - £2,500. Catalogues and further details from CTM, Pinks Yard, Church Road, Milford, Surrey. Tel: 04868 24411.

ISIS introduced two new seeders, the first called the Contra-Seeder is pto driven and combines the SISIS principle of contra-rotating knives with the Auto-Seeder principle of accurate placement.

Final testing of the Contra-Seeder was carried out at leading Manchester soccer grounds with the complete end-of-season re-seeding of their pitches. The operating width is 70ins. and the hopper capacity 12 cu.ft. Controlled seed application with minimal disruption of the surface ensures re-use of the seeded area in the fastest possible time. Price £2,750 plus VAT.

The multi-purpose Quadraplay is proving to be one of the most popular maintenance outfits in the SISIS range and the development of the Quadraplay Seeder has extended its use to include grass seed application.

It is of value where an existing grass sward needs to be upgraded with a meagre application of high quality seed, without disturbance or interference to play.

The Seeder is mounted onto the Quadraplay frame in any combination with the existing range of rakes, brush, lute, slitter or roller. Seed application rates can be altered by simple change gears. The seed metering mechanism, driven by ground wheel, provides a constant seeding rate irrespective of travel speed. The operating width is 70ins. and hopper capacity 5 cu ft.

Price £660 plus VAT.

the Golf Course

Future issue of the Golf Course will feature:

* "Golf Course Europe '89" the recent highly successful conference/exhibition held in Wiesbaden

* Advice from an English Course Manager on taking a job in Germany

* A special report from one of Europe's new courses

* Machinery that moves earth

For more information and details about how to advertise in these issue contact Michael Coffey on 0255 507526 Fax. No: 0255 508483 or write to 129a High Street, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex. CO12 3AX
Rolawn, Britain's largest fine turf suppliers, launched a new specialist sports turf at the Institute of Groundsmanship show in Windsor and announced that they have virtually doubled their number of direct selling outlets with the opening of ten new depots.

They also announced orders from St Andrews and Muirfield golf clubs for their poa-free greens turf, Advantage, launched earlier this year. "This turf is unique, because of the seed mixture made exclusive to ourselves which means we can guarantee it free of all annual meadow grass as well as other weed grasses" said marketing director Rachel Semlyen. "We feel there is no higher accolade for the turf than the orders placed and taken by these prestigious clubs", she added.

As well as continuing to increase its distribution network of depots, the company is also taking steps to concentrate and streamline production. "We are committed to maintaining our reputation and to further improving product quality in an increasingly sophisticated market", said Ken Dawson founder and managing director of the company. "To this end we are taking steps to ensure uniformity of turf, soil and sward, so that the name Rolawn will always mean a standard of quality as well as the name of our turf".

Cyto-Turf is a new biological treatment introduced by supaturf Products Limited for the promotion of healthy growth and appearance of turf on greens and tees. Non toxic and easy to apply, "Cyto-Turf" improves the appearance, vigour and health of turf and other landscape vegetation whilst helping plants and grass withstand stress, particularly in areas where traffic is heavy, such as on greens and tee surrounds. "Cyto-Turf" will also improve water retention, creating a better growing environment. Results have shown that where "Cyto-Turf" has been applied, turf is thicker, healthier and improved in colour. The product has the ability to aid the decomposition of thatch, turning thatch into compost and therefore releasing nutrients into the soil.

John Deere sharpened its cutting edge in the lawn and grounds care equipment markets with the introduction of the new F525 compact front mower. The F525 mower achieves excellent trimmability, boasts an exceptional 8 inch turning circle and enjoys the high quality finish and safety features which are hallmarks of the John Deere range. The launch of the new 33hp 955 compact has brought more power to the top of the utility tractor range. The range of lawn and garden tractors exhibited included the new STX 38, the hydrostatic 185, the 170 launched this year, the 285 and diesel 322 together with the RX75.

Also at Windsor for the first time was the 1200 bunker rake with exclusive drive system and the E35 lawn edger for a perfect finish. The magnificent 3325 professional turf mower, the F935 front mower, 1950 turbocharged tractor and AMT 662 transporter were also on view. Pedestrian mowers were represented by the silver painted 14 SB and the 22 inch greensmower.

**NEW PRODUCTS**

The all new petrol trimmer designed especially for professional use has been launched by Allen Power Equipment.

Known as the Reciprocator, the new machine features two 20 tooth reciprocating blades that dramatically reduces the danger of debris becoming flying projectiles and prevents kickback if a metal blade strikes a fixed object.

Powered by a 22.5cc Zenoah engine with electronic ignition, the Reciprocator has a gear reduction drive to a twin gearbox driving the two blades through an arc of 2-3°. The blades do not rotate 360 degrees, providing the durability and performance of a steel blade but the safety and versatility of a nylon head. This revolutionary new addition to the Allen range won the best new product award at the recent EXPO Show at Louisville.

The trimmer can also be used under water, and can trim vertically around trees, golf bunkers etc. without the danger of flying debris. The Reciprocator is available now, priced at £373.00 plus VAT.
NEW PRODUCTS

For the first time in the UK the Lesco range of products are available through their UK distributor, CDC Horticultural Equipment Ltd, based in Suffolk.

CDC Horticulture aims to offer a complete range of equipment from the Lesco 500 fairway mowers and greensmower 300, to golf course accessories - in fact, everything for golf courses at the most competitive prices available, for comparative products. The 300 Greensmower leads the way in new standards of performance. The power comes from a Kohler Magnum 18HP petrol engine or a Kubota diesel engine. The rear wheel power steering provides outstanding manoeuvrability. A turf groomer and Verticut units are also available for this machine. The complete machine is designed to make routine maintenance simple.

The Lesco 500 is a lightweight 5-unit self-propelled fairway mower. A simple flick of a switch enables the machine to be converted into a 3-unit cutting machine for golf tees. The machine can be powered by either an Onan petrol engine or a Kubota diesel engine.

The new Renovator 20 is designed to function as a seeder, slitter or a scarifier. Being self-propelled by way of hydrostatic drive, gives the Renovator hill-side stability and ease of transport. A complete range of golf course accessories are also available from tee markers to flags, cups and divot repair tools.

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"It stands above the rest."

Make your course more attractive with the new "Players" Bunker Rake from TACIT. A bracket attached to the vandal proof shaft keeps the handle above the wet sand or grass. Selected for use at St. Pierre and The Belfry.

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