CUSHMAN MOWERS IN NEW CATALOGUE

The newest catalogue covering the full line of Cushman R Front Line Mowers has been published by Cushman, Inc. The full-colour catalogue covers the 808 and 809 gas-powered, liquid-cooled engine models, the 804 air-cooled gas engine Front Line and the 806 and 807 diesel-powered models. All models can be equipped with either 60-inch or 72-inch mower decks, which have pin-adjustable mounts for eight different mowing height positions.

The catalogue also illustrates the new Cushman Grass Caddy attachment with special Top Flow deck for positive pick-up of clippings and debris. Also shown is the Cushman Core Destroyer attachment, and the full range of accessories for the Front Line tractors, including snowblower, snow blade, high-output heater/defroster for liquid-cooled models, ROPS and two cab enclosures, blower, flail mower and tine rake dethatcher.

For a free copy of the new Cushman Front Line Mower and Accessories catalogue see your local Cushman dealer.

KEITH CLEVERLY - A TRAGIC LOSS

It is with sadness we report the untimely and tragic death of Keith Cleverly, one of the greenkeeping profession’s most ardent supporters, a man who inspired enthusiasm from not only those he worked with, but all within the turf grass industry. To many, including the staff of The Golf Course, Keith was a valued friend as well as a business associate, an additional reason for the sadness felt in the departure of someone so young at the bloom of his career.

Keith Cleverly only 37, will be missed by us all, both in business and socially particularly on the golf course where he was a determined and capable competitor. Our thoughts and sympathies are extended to his wife Barbara and his family.

THE VICTA RYAN CHANGEOVER

Ryan turfcare equipment will no longer be handled by Victa (UK) Ltd, after July. Ransomes the new owners of Ryan, will arrange their own distribution. Victa’s Managing Director, Bill Brooks said, “To ensure that our customers are not inconvenienced, we have negotiated with Ransomes for spare parts to be available from our dealers until June 1991. Every effort will be made to make the transition as smooth as possible.

For the few months, until the change over, Victa is still very actively involved in promoting the Ryan machines.

KUBOTA HAVE LAUNCHED A NEW 40hp TRACTOR...

...it has integral power steering as standard and is particularly suited to turf maintenance needs in the golf, sports grounds and local authority markets. The L3250’s additional horse-power, heavy duty dual clutch and gearbox provides the extra power required for turf maintenance on banks and inclines, using the vertidrain or larger gang mower units. The improved linkage geometry also provides the operator with more than 100lb additional lift capacity.

The Kubota L3250 is lightweight giving less ground pressure and ideal for golf courses using special smooth profile turf tyres. The mechanical shuttle transmission offers 8 forward and 7 reverse gears and creep speed as standard for vertidrain operations. The partially synchronised transmission enables the operator to bring the tractor up to full speed quickly and easily for road travel.
BAGCC - COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN BRIAN PIERSON

The occasion of my election as Chairman of the British Association of Golf Course Construction provides me with a reason - or excuse to look back on 25 years of Golf Course Construction and to compare conditions at the start with those which exist nowadays.

It may come as a surprise that today there is less divergence of opinion between the main architects and contractors on basic construction than there was at the start of the golf course boom of the mid sixties. It was then the exception rather than the rule for Architects to specify that greens were built on underdrained stone carpets. Certain most specifications stipulated the use of local soil topped with 2" of seed-bed compost!

Greens were built in isolation from their environments and the imaginative marrying-in of greens with wide gently contoured surrounds was almost unknown. There was none of the current emphasis on keeping constructional machinery away from vulnerable and very important approaches.

Some specifiers were still advising the use of perennial ryegrass for fairways and only minimal attention was given to construction and design. What a contrast today! There is almost universal agreement that both greens and tees must be built on drainage rafts, properly blinded and with a uniform imported sandy soil root zone two mix. Often entire courses from greens to rough are sown with basically the same fescue/bend seeds mixture, variations occurring only regarding seed rates and perhaps the use of cheaper strains for the rough.

Of course it costs a great deal more to build a golf course today than 25 years ago - from which time there are however plenty of examples of quite satisfactory courses being built for less than £10,000. This is not only due to inflation, but much more to higher standards and more elaborate specifications, including full automatic irrigation.

However, a word of warning may be appropriate. If the need for more golf courses is to be met economically (which does not mean building cheap, bad courses) then money must not be wasted in enormously expensive earth moving operations. Nor must we overly rely on extensive water features, to create character.

Contractors have to build to architects specifications and none of us should be inveigled into accepting constructional standards which have no relevance to our climatic and soil conditions. Sand greens! Will they ever work?

We, the contractors, have the experience and skill to make good courses to suit our Northern European conditions. It is depressing when inexperienced clients opt for much more expensive specifications quite needlessly, just because they think if they pay much more they will necessarily get a much better golf course. The need for more courses is not arguable. How to produce them is, but we should, I feel, be thinking far more about providing for the beginner golfer because if he starts on something better than golf in a field, I feel that the long term future of golf will be in much safer hands.

FRANCE HOSTS GOLF COURSE CONFERENCE AT DEAUVILLE

The French Federation of Golf are to sponsor the first International Salon of Golf Course Maintenance and construction to be held at the Parc des Espositions at Lisieux, near Deauville from 24th-26th November.

The exhibition and accompanying conference is expected to attract over 100 stands. The conference hall is large enough to house 600 delegates and there will be dual French/English translation facilities. At the same time the French Golf Greenkeepers Association will hold their 5th meeting of members.

Deauville is an ideal venue for the event as the heart of Normandy has become one of the leading areas of France for the expansion of golf. New courses have recently opened at St. Julien, St. Gratien and Caen.
SCIENCE, MATHS AND MEDICINE
INVESTIGATE THE GAME OF GOLF

Golf is to come under the eye of the scientists, physicians and psychologists at the First World Scientific Congress of Golf to be held at the University of St. Andrews this summer.

Already on the agenda of the expected 21 nation conference are studies in swing techniques, the psychology of the successful golfers, club and ball design, and bio-mechanical analysis of the strains and stresses exerted on the golfer's back.

Also to be discussed is the aerodynamic and drag of golf balls and the physical principles governing the swing mechanism on the long drive from the tee.

Those who have studied the physiological principles of "The Inner Golfer", know there is far more to shooting a par 4 in level figures than two shots to the green and two putts. How many of us have been told it is all in the mind?

You know the formula, relax, no tension in the arms, slow back swing, down and through the ball. As one golf psychologist says, "Back, wait - hit".

Similar, if less ambitious schemes to unravel the mysteries of the golf swing by a mathematical and scientific approach have not been very rewarding. Those of us who have been around the game for some time, might also remember the famous "Button Boys", the elite band of budding young professionals who were subjected to intense isolated coaching in a bid to turn them into super-stars.

* How many can remember today who they were or what they achieved?

However, the R & A who are reported to be sponsoring the congress to the tune of £25,000 are supporting the five day event because they want to find out, amongst other things, the effects of modern improvements in golf ball manufacture and club design with special reference to course architecture.

We hear Karsten Solheim has accepted an invitation, an excellent opportunity for him to explain his aerodynamic approach to the manufacture of Ping clubs. It has been reported that an aspect of his research was to drive at speed with a club head out of the car window.

The Director of the Congress, Martin Farray, who is also the head of recreation at St. Andrew University says, "The primary aim is to encourage and exchange ideas among scientists, golf course architects, coaches and physicians as well as those who play the game at all levels".

In the last few years we have seen balls that go further, cut free, slice resistant, illuminated for play in the dark and others guaranteed to impart more back spin.

Clubs now bear little resemblance to the spoons, niblicks and brassies with hickory shafts used by Taylor, Braid and Vardon. In little less than a decade we have been introduced to carbon and graphite shafts, metal heads for persimmon, heel and toe irons and copper beryllium as the present ultimate for performance.

To go even better, the Japanese have now introduced the Yonex range, where a set of irons and three woods will give little change out of £2,000.

Perhaps it is time golf was subjected to the scientific approach, otherwise the next step will be the electronically guided laser putter, with the accuracy of an Exocet missile. We already have one member in my club who puts like that - just imagine 50 more!

The Congress takes place July 9-13, registration by the 1st July, at St. Andrews University, fee £130.

* For the record they were Brian Barnes, Tommy Horton, Mike Ingham, Iain Clark and Alan Ibberson. J.E.L.

NEW TURF CONSULTANT

A new turf consultant has joined the staff of Inter Seeds Ltd., the amenity grass seed and wild flower seed specialists. Mrs Jennifer Waterfield will soon be seen around the South East of England offering help and advice.

Jennifer, joins Inter Seeds Ltd. from a major fertiliser company and her role will be to advise local authorities, landscape architects, landscape contractors, turf growers, sports clubs and golf clubs on the correct choice and use of grasses, wild flowers, fertilisers and biodegradable erosion control matting.

Jennifer Waterfield, Inter Seeds new turf consultant.
INTURF WINNERS

A trip for two to Orlando, was the prize won by Mr Larry Westlake of Hertford in a competition sponsored by Inturf. The convention lasts for six days and Larry plans to take this opportunity of a trip to the United States of America to visit Disneyland and enjoy the fabulous facilities Florida has to offer. Larry picked up his entry form to the competition at the Cavendish Hotel in Eastbourne, where Inturf was participating in the Annual Conference of the British Association of Landscape Industries.

Second prize went to Laurence Pithie, Course Manager at Michinhampton Golf Club at Stroud. His trip includes a guided tour around two Turfgrass Breeding Centres and two sportsgrounds in Holland. It also includes a weekend for two enjoying the sights of Amsterdam, plus spending money.

THE ‘TUFTURF’ TEE MAT

FOR TEE SHOTS AND FAIRWAY SHOTS

‘Like a piece of firm well-sprung fairway’

A British-made, porous, hardwearing all weather tee 1.5m x 1m and 2m x 1m. Synthetic grass, bonded to reconstituted rubber underlay shock pad with 60 tee holes, combine to give a superb playing surface. Highly satisfactory as a WINTER TEE or when re-turfing tees in the playing season. Also ideal for DRIVING RANGES and PRACTICE GROUNDS, both indoor and outdoor.

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THE GOLF COURSE MARCH 1990
EMPLOYEE BUY-OUT AT TURFMASTER

The staff at grass machinery manufacturers Turfmaster, Lincolnshire, have bought their company from the previous owners, Harlow Agricultural Merchants.

Turfmaster is now an independent company with HAM retaining only a 20% share. HAM, of Bishops Stortford, Essex, were keen to reduce their stake in Turfmaster because the fit with the "corn, seed and feed" business was poor. Equally Turfmaster's managers and employees felt they were ideally placed to move the company forward into the 1990's.

John deGraft-Johnson, Turfmaster's chairman, says: "Product performance, quality and service are the key issues in the professional market. So employee commitment is paramount. "In many companies these words are truisms without teeth. But in Turfmaster's case, the employees have backed their words with hard cash. The enthusiasm and dedication is total."

Linette Carter, Turfmaster's youngest employee, receiving from John deGraft-Johnson, Turfmaster's chairman, the certificate for the shares she has bought in the company

GRASS COSY

A revolutionary cover which speeds up the re-seeding process in the summer and protects the grass from frost in the winter, has been launched by Bristol-based international netting company Kerrypak Limited.

An ideal groundsman's aid and particularly valuable for use on greens and tees, the Tildenet Grass Cover is made of lightweight 85% high density knitted polyethylene, making it simple to move around and store when not required. It speeds up the germination process by retaining warmth and moisture, and protects the area from frost in winter.

Made of netting, the cover encourages uniform grass growth, and allows the grass to breathe. It also protects re-seeding areas from the wind, and pests such as birds and rabbits.

ICIA PIPOINT TW O NEW DISTRIBUTORS

ICI Professional Products have completed negotiations with two major companies to join their national network of specialist distributors. In the South East T. Parker & Sons (Turf Management) Ltd., Surrey provide increased representation and sales of ICI Professional Products. Edinburgh based, Sports Turf Services at Newbridge, will provide added commercial expertise and increased impetus to ICI Product sales in Scotland and Northern England.

David Siddon, Sales Manager for ICI Professional Products told 'the Golf Course': "The appointment of Parkers and STS to our national network of distributors is part of our strategy of ensuring we have the best companies in the market distributing ICI Products to the end-customer, particularly golf greenkeepers."

IMPROVEMENT TO JACOBSEN GREENS KING IV

The Jacobsen Greens King IV now comes with newly designed, easy on/off grass catchers as well as easier steering. The Greens King IV gives greens a smooth, beautiful finish. Its cylinders 'float' to follow ground contours. The patented steering action of the units virtually eliminates marking during turns. Cylinders lift with a convenient foot pedal, and stay level while raising and lowering to prevent scuffing. A 62-inch cutting width means 18 average-sized greens can be mowed in under four hours.

The Greens King IV (below) is the only triplex available with the patented Turf Groomer (R) greens conditioner, to make greens healthier and faster.

Linette Carter, Turfmaster's youngest employee, receiving from John deGraft-Johnson, Turfmaster's chairman, the certificate for the shares she has bought in the company

REDS GO GREEN IN MOSCOW

Following the success of Ferrosol Liquid Iron from Farmura in the European turf markets the Kent company have supplied 40 litres of Ferrosol to the organisers of a large Pop Festival in the USSR.

The Ferrosol was used in the Lufhniki Stadium, Moscow following a pop festival in August, televised worldwide.

The organisers were asked to ensure that the stadium's grassed areas looked healthy and green after the event. Several large areas of the turf were covered for some time and it was expected that discoloration would occur.

The Ferrosol Iron was used for greening the grassed areas applied through a Walkover sprayer which was also purchased for the event and sent to Moscow with the Ferrosol.
QUALITY PROMOTION

Charterhouse Turf Machinery, the company who introduced the Verti-Drain to Britain, have now complimented this revolutionary aeration equipment by expanding their range of turf culture equipment to include top dressing machinery, with the Bulk Dresser, a Green Dress and a unique Easy Spread.

Last month Charterhouse, launched their 1990 promotion campaign with an eight page full colour announcement in the Golf Course.

Asked why the Golf Course was THE magazine chosen to head the Charterhouse advertising thrust, Managing Director, David Jenkins said a great deal of market research and thought had gone into planning the largest promotion campaign ever initiated by the Surrey based company.

"We knew precisely the people who would be interested in our enlarged range of turf maintenance machinery, which is why after careful investigation into the magazine readership market, we decided to open the campaign with the Golf Course."

"We needed to reach the Head Greenkeepers, Course Managers and those that make equipment decisions on golf courses, and your readers fall precisely into that category."

"Reaching the broader based market, sports fields, football pitches, race courses and similar intensively used amenity turf areas, pointed us in one direction for an overall coverage of this multi-million pound industry and that was to Turf Management, the most widely read publication among those responsible for maintaining leisure turf."

The Verti-Drain must be the most extensively used piece of aeration equipment on Britain's golf courses. There can be few that have not reaped the benefits of its unique method of relieving compaction, improving draining and increasing stronger and healthier root growth.

Although the smaller clubs have in the past hired the Verti-Drain, Charterhouse Turf Machinery, through the introduction of the Pedestrian model, have now put this essential item of turf cultural equipment well within the capital budget of any golf course in the country.

We at the Golf Course are proud to have been nominated by Charterhouse as the No. 1 Golf Course Manager's magazine. We wish them every success in 1990.