Widespread business diversification during the past two years has led to the creation of a new senior management team at Stewart and Company, the Edinburgh-based turf management specialists. "As we move into the 1990s Stewards have become Scotland's leading turf management suppliers, sportsground contractors and growers of Inturf," said Greame Forbes, Stewarts managing director.

Ken Waddell (bottom) relinquishes his position as Sales Manager to become the company's new General Manager, and Alan Miller (below), previously Stewarts Area Manager for the East of Scotland, is promoted to Sales Manager. "The development of Stewarts in recent years has been encouraging for all involved with the company but we are keenly aware of the importance of close day-to-day management which Ken and Alan will be able to provide," said Mr. Forbes. In addition to his role as MD of Stewards, Mr. Forbes is also a director of Inturf.

Anticipating the impact of Compulsory Competitive Tendering in 1991, which will mean public golf courses being put out to private tender, Golf Course Management (Europe) Limited is launching a special service to advise local authorities. From its base in Richmond Park, Surrey, it's associate company Golf Course Management (Richmond) Limited, on behalf of the Department of the Environment, runs the two public courses in the Royal Park. G.C.M (Europe) Ltd. will advise on all aspects of the government act particularly with regard to maintenance. They can recommend on the provision of better facilities such as extensions from 9 to 18 holes, par 3 courses, driving ranges, enlarged clubhouses and golf shops. The G.C.M. (E) Ltd, service covers planning, development and construction, funding if necessary, and financial consultancy role.

Gilbert Lloyd, G.D.M.'s Managing Director, said "With over 20 years experience in helping local authorities develop their golf facilities, we believe we can improve both the quality and profitability of any public pay-as-you-play golf course".

Winter research by the S.T.R.I. has been conducted on Synchemicals unique product KNOT OUT, a residual herbicide for the control of germinating weeds on areas of newly sown grass. S.T.R.I. applied KNOT OUT at the manufacturers recommended rate and field tested for possible adverse effects on seed germination and seedling establishment on a range of 30 turfgrass cultivars, commonly used in the renovation of sports turf, including ryegrass, fescues, bent and smooth-stalked meadow grass. Seed germination was not impaired on any turfgrass cultivar following treatment with KNOT OUT when a direct comparison was made with the untreated control. Neither were there any apparent differences in rooting between the KNOT OUT treated and the control plots. These independent tests confirm the findings of studies in the UK and the United States of the high degree of tolerance of turf grass species to ISOXABEN.

John Yeates is the new Area Representative for the West of Scotland. John a keen sportsman from a farming background and has worked in agricultural engineering and forestry. The East of Scotland Area Representative is Lee Westwater who also has an agricultural engineering background, and was previously with A. J. Bowen. The SISIS Centre in Scotland at Falkirk will continue as the base for this expanded team, serving as demonstration, service and spares supply depot for Scotland. Keith Vertigan has returned to Cheshire to take up the appointment as SISIS Northern Regional Manager with overall responsibility for Sales and After Sales Service.

Club names can now be printed on the header panel of the attractively designed new Prorake bunker rakes. As an optional extra a courteous reminder about raking bunkers, and repairing pitch marks can be incorporated. "Prorakes are popular with members, according to Ralph Pickering secretary of Stoke Poges. "Even the pilferage factor seems to have been eliminated." Rakes cost £4.95 each, plus printing costs to individual club specification and logo. Further details from Robin Hunter B.D.P. Ltd. 0990872321. Boundary House, Lady Margaret Road, Sunningdale SL5 9QH.
OUT AND ABOUT

LELY APPOINTMENT

The United Kingdom importers of Toro machinery Lely (UK) Ltd have announced that Graham Dale has been appointed managing director. Graham who has been in charge of sales on the Toro turf care equipment side for many years will now be responsible for both agricultural and turf equipment the former accounting for some sixty percent of Lely's business. The company will be appointing two new sales managers for each division.

LINDUM TURF SALES SUCCESS

Just under a year after Geoff Hodgson was appointed sales and marketing manager for Lindum Seeded Turf, they have a full order book and a number of notable firsts to their credit. The company is the only one to supply turf as a full package with grass seed compatible with their turf for fairways and rough, fertilisers are also included as well as a soil analysis service. In the last year Lindum have brought a farm near Thoraganby, near York, which has increased their turf capacity to some 650 acres. Last Christmas they were awarded the contract for turf, grass seed and wildflower seed for the 1992 Garden Festival of Wales to be held at Ebbw Vale. Recently they have also supplied all the materials for two new courses turf, seed and fertiliser at Tallpines at Bristol and Hawthorn Hill in Berkshire. They have supplied in the last year turf to over 100 golf courses including Royal Birkdale, Wentworth, Walton Heath, and in the near future they will be supplying turf to the new course at Froome and Gleneagles as well as Moen Valley.

Lindum Seeded Turf can supply a complete service from conception to completion which puts them on course to be the number one supplier to the golf course industry in the 1990s.

GMA SHOW VISITORS TO GET HANDS ON EXPERIENCE ON THE DEMONSTRATION SITE

Visitors to the GMA show in September will not only be able to see, touch and compare the latest machinery and equipment on the market but they'll also have the chance to test it in the enormous Demonstration Site at Kempston Park. Over 30 companies have opted to use the Demonstration Site including Ransomes Consumer, Kubota, Husqvarna, Briggs & Stratton and Charterhouse Turf Machinery. This eye-catching feature enables visitors to watch exhibitors' demonstrations and to obtain first hand experience by testing out the machinery for themselves.

Catherine Sleigh, Sales Manager of the GMA show commented "We are delighted to have so much space available at Kempston Park for demonstration purposes. Whilst static displays are essential, the demonstration area will provide colour, noise and activity - all necessary ingredients for compulsive viewing. For the first time in the UK, market leaders are making use of the demonstration facility giving buyers and specifiers a real opportunity to test and compare machinery.

Exhibition dates September 2-4.

LIQUID ANSWER

With the hot summer of 1989 still in peoples minds dry conditions this year have started even earlier and it could be the beginning of a long hot summer for greenkeepers. Traditionally this has meant major problems with fertilisation and presentation of golf courses.

One Company that has developed at least some of the solutions is Farmura Environmental Products. The recent successful introduction of the Flo-Gro Range of clear liquid fertiliser means that the Company can offer a complete range of clear liquid feed. Because they are liquid they do not need to be washed in, and the problem of mower pickup is also avoided. All the products are formulated to avoid scorch and the Company recommend spraying either in the early morning or in the evening to maximise plant take-up. Usually, the members do not even know the greens have been fertilised! Before competition, or other important events, Ferrosol Liquid Iron is the ideal green-up product to ensure perfect presentation.

Having recently introduced their own Wetting Agent Zorbit the Company have just acquired the distribution rights for Blazon Spray Pattern Indicator - the top selling product of its type in the USA, with sales of Ten Million Dollars. Blazon is ideal for ensuring that liquids go on correctly and in the right place, for maximum effect and the least possible waste.

All in all, a useful range of weapons in the greenkeepers armory to ensure that the best possible standards can be maintained in what are very difficult conditions. For more information contact Farmura Limited, Stone Hill, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Tel: 0233 76 241/581 or Fax: 0233 76 419.

SPINNING DISC IMPROVED

Nomix Manufacturing has redesigned the spinning disc on their award winning hand-held spray lances, reducing the risks of environmental contamination.

The new component incorporates a cone which changes the way the liquid is metered onto the disc, so the pattern of spray droplets falls more accurately into a range of sizes that don't drift or fall off the weed leaf.

Nomix have developed a system where the weed-killer is specifically formulated to produce a set of droplet pattern that is slightly too coarse, and although the formulations contain advanced sticking agents to keep the chemical on the leaf, a number of large droplets have bounced off target.

"The new disc means that we are able to reduce the risks of environmental contamination at the same time as improve herbicide efficiency", claims Nomix chairman, David Gill.

Nomix are inviting SuperPro and Panther spray lance owners to contact them by phoning 0272 574574, so that they can be sent the new disc free with the redesigned disc.
WET SUMMER FORECAST BY HOVERDRY

In comparison to previous years, the summer of 1989 saw very few days lost to rain. Courses remained playable for a much greater period of time than usual and received heavier wear as a result. The predictions this year are for a deluge of rain in early summer, which taken in conjunction with the compaction resulting from last year's increased use, will lead to the type of standing water and flooding of greens that makes play impossible and loses both goodwill and green fees. The use of turf drying machinery for ensuring that courses remain playable has, quite naturally, always taken a very distant second place in the minds - and budgets - of most greenkeepers. Traditionally the way to keep a golf course playable has been to rely almost solely on drainage. The cost and disruption of green reconstruction makes this, however, an expensive solution that cannot be undertaken lightly, and when, in years like last, older greens come into their own again, with their higher loam/clay constructions holding the moisture better under the drought conditions, there seems to be little to cause concern. Yet there is a price to pay, for these are exactly the greens most likely to flood.

Most greenkeepers will admit, if even only to themselves, that they have a few trouble spots on their courses which are liable to flood. These may be greens, low spots on the fairway, or bunkers - notoriously difficult to drain and impossible to pump out with conventional pumps, as the sand destroys the pump. In all cases where course design and geology is less than perfect, the Hoverdry has built up an impressive track record, having been purchased by both St Andrews and Gleneagles and used at all the British and some of the European PGA tournaments during the last two years. This year Augusta National evaluated the Hoverdry and had two machines on standby for the whole of the US Masters Tournament. The Japanese have shipped container loads of machines for their Golf Courses. The Hoverdry machine looks like a giant Flymo. One metre in diameter and weighing 38 Kgs (80lbs), it fits neatly in the back of a Cushman, although it can be supplied with a carriage trolley like a golf caddy, if required. The machine operates on an unique patented principle invented by the company's technical director. The machine hovers on a cushion of air. The air pushes the water into the reservoir in the body of the machine, from where it is pumped via a hose up to 60m (200 ft) long and out of harm's way. This could even be up a hill if necessary.

At a pumping rate of 275 litres/min (60 gallons/min) or its own weight every 7 seconds, the Hoverdry will remove an average puddle on a green in 3-4 minutes. Combating the results of compaction, the machine cannot itself, because of the Hoverdry's unique hovering action, cause any damage. Indeed it never touches the turf as it dries the grass. Of course, compaction is a particular problem for British courses, as unlike their northern US counterparts, they play throughout the year, and especially so in winter with the grass dormant, ground soft with rain, and when traffic over the turf causes maximum harm to root growth and recovery. Golf courses buy Hoverdrys for many different reasons. There are those that buy them for championships, when the cost of a day's play lost is many times the cost of the machine (£1,750). The there are those who use the machine throughout the year to remove puddles formed on the course. Some, especially Public Courses, use them to get more play, with one course on Jersey recovering their investment, in terms of greater green fees in a matter of weeks. Others use the machine to remove water so that there is no build up of compaction and thereby save money on maintenance as well as giving a much better and more professional service to their golfers.

DOG AND RABBIT REPELLENT

Golf greens plagued by the attentions of dogs and rabbits will benefit from an application of Renardine. This repellent from Gilbertson & Page keeps pests and pets away from greens and fairways; also from flowers or shrubs near the clubhouse. In continuous use since 1896, this well-known repellent looks set to become even more popular with the introduction of a new easy-to-use one litre spray dispenser, which has the advantage that it keeps hands clean. The dispenser supplements the one and five litre cans, and all three appear in a bright new green and yellow design.

Renardine is now backed by independent research which proves that it really does provide an effective deterrent, without harming animals in any way.

ALLEN APPOINTMENTS

Two new Directors have been appointed to the Board of Allen Power Equipment. Lance Bassett becomes Sales Director and Jonathan Allen Technical Director. Having worked for the company for 15 years as sales representative then sales manager, Lance Bassett, 45, lives near Oxford and is married with three children. Jonathan Allen, 29, has a thorough knowledge of Allen machines and spare parts, having a technical background and experience in the spares department at Didcot. Jonathan will be involved with the development and introduction of all new Allen products. He is married with one son and lives in London.
EAST SUSSEX NATIONAL OPENS ITS GOLF COURSES IN UNRIVALLED CONDITION

East Sussex National Golf Club is bringing Augusta Nationals course conditions to the UK. East Sussex National Golf Club is now open for its members to play. This encompasses both the East and West courses, as well as the practice grounds. Both golf courses, under the control of Ken Siems and his 40 strong greenstaff, will be maintained to give the finest inland playing conditions available in the UK.

Both 18 holes will also be primed for a number of special events that East Sussex National has agreed to host this season. These include the visit of the GB and Ireland Curtis Cup team. They have selected East Sussex National to stimulate the speed and contours of the greens they will be confronted by during their defence of the cup in America. This practice week-end will be the 30th June and 1st July. Later in the year, the club’s West course will play host to the Montorola Classic. This satellite tour event will be followed by the inaugural Wilson Amateur Masters invitation event.

FORMER WENTWORTH COURSE MANAGER JOINS JOHN JACOBS

Kevin Munt, who was until recently course manager at Wentworth, has been appointed a director of John Jacobs Golf Associates Limited, the Hertfordshire based golf course design and project management company. Mr Munt joins John Jacobs as part of a major expansion programme. Several large contracts have been won in recent months and the company is now developing its activities in both the UK and Europe.

Kevin Munt, who is 32, has 15 years greenkeeping experience, eight years of which have been spent in golf course management. He was links supervisor at the Royal Dornoch Golf Club, ranked as the 12th best course in the world by ‘Golf Digest’ magazine.

But it was at Wentworth in October 1987 that his name first hit the headlines when he and his team worked round the clock to save the Suntry World Match-Play Championship from disaster after the worst storm on record brought down some 300 trees, flooded the greens and made the course totally unplayable.

The following year Kevin Munt (below) prepared the Wentworth courses for the Volvo PGA, World Match-Play and English Ladies Stroke Play championships and in each case they were generally recognised as being in the best possible condition for championship events. It was during his time at Wentworth that much of the work on the John Jacobs’ designed new South Course took place and although not directly concerned with its construction, a lasting relationship was forged with John Jacobs and the company’s managing director, David Pottage.
Representatives from dealers attending the first training course on the Huxley 358 Greensmower

ENGINEERS FROM PROFESSIONAL HORTICULTURAL MACHINERY DEALERS THROUGHOUT BRITAIN ATTENDED A SUCCESSFUL FIRST SERVICE TRAINING COURSE ON THE HUXLEY 358 GREENSMOWER, HELD RECENTLY AT THE COMPANY'S DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURING CENTRE IN NEW ALRESFORD, HAMPSHIRE.

DEMONSTRATIONS AND SALES OF THIS BRITISH-DESIGNED AND BUILT PRECISION MOWER ARE FAST EXPANDING OUTSIDE THE COMPANY'S DIRECT SALES AREA.

THE RESULT HAS BEEN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGULAR SERIES OF PRACTICAL COURSES FOR THE COMPANY'S APPOINTED SALES AND SERVICE DEALERS BOTH AT HOME AND OVERSEAS.

THE FIRST COURSE FOR REPRESENTATIVES FROM FIVE BRITISH BASED DEALERS - GEORGE BROWN, GRASS MACHINERY (NOW A HUXLEY-OWNED COMPANY) OF EDINBURGH, H.ARDON & SON OF ULVIERSON, CUMBRIA; K.F.KIRBY (HARBOUROUGH) LTD, LEICESTERSHIRE; STRATHMOVERS LTD, DUNDEE, TAYSIDE; AND WESTERN FARM IMPLEMENTS LTD OF SOUTH WALES, WAS HELD IN FEBRUARY.

IN ADDITION TO COURSES ON THE 358 GREENSMOWER, HUXLEYS RUN REGULAR REFRESHER AND NEW APPOINTMENTS TRAINING FOR DEALERS' STAFF ON ITS FULL RANGE OF TURF AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE MACHINERY. THEY ALSO OFFER COMPREHENSIVE OWNER AND USER INSTRUCTION ON SITE, OR AT ITS PREMISES IN HAMPSHIRE OR AT GEORGE BROWN GRASS MACHINERY IN UPHALL, WEST LOTHIAN.
Rolawn of York, the biggest suppliers of cultivated turf in the UK, have signed an agreement with a leading horticultural company in France to expand an increasing demand for their product in Europe. The turf will be grown by Darbonne of Paris and supplied through a new commercial network under the name of Sitoflor. Rolawn will advise on all aspects of production, marketing and distribution. Darbonne grows a limited amount of mature turf at present near Bordeaux and customers include the golf clubs of Monaco, Biarritz the Jardin du Luxembourg in Paris and St. Nom La Breteche. Rolawn have trebled their turnover in the last four years by extensive promotion and by the establishment of a network of unique, direct-sale turf depots. Customers include landscapers and gardeners as well as golf clubs including St. Andrews and Muirfield, First Division football clubs and Wimbledon All England Lawn Tennis Club. “Cultivated turf in rolls is still unknown in France, but English lawns and greenkeeping are a by-word for perfection. There is no French word for greenkeeping so they use the English” says Ken Dawson, Managing Director of Rolawn. “Our association with Darbonne gives the French company prestige and the benefit of our experience. It is an opportunity to expand into Europe ahead of 1992.

Rolawn Ltd started fifteen years ago with half an acre of land in Scotland and seven acres in the Vale of York the following year. At that time the only turf available in this country was ordinary meadow, or pasture turf and limited amounts of Cumberland sea-washed turf. Cultivated turf is now a multi-million pound industry and Rolawn has nearly 2,000 acres under cultivation. SA Darbonne a family company set up over a hundred years ago, is the world leader in the production of culinary herbs, with over 3,200 acres under cultivation at Milly-la-Foret, south of Paris and at Le Barp near Bordeaux. It is also a world leader for the production of strawberry and asparagus plants, researching new varieties every year. It is run by brothers Luc and Hubert Darbonne, grandsons of the founder. The turf is grown on a sandy soil and is purpose-grown using special seed mixes to suit its end use, with different grades for lawns, landscaped areas, sports pitches and golf and bowling greens. Freshly harvested in long, square yard or square metre rolls, it is mature, weed-free and ready to lay for an instant finish. In three years the two companies plan to have a total of 4,000 acres under production which rolled out is enough turf to circumvent the world!
Out and About

McMillan Team Trio

Three members of one family, whose name is synonymous with excellence in greenkeeping, have united to form a company offering a specialist support service to golf courses and golf course construction companies.

Founded by brothers, Cameron and Stewart McMillan, and now joined by their father, Jack, McMillan Golf undertakes, or coordinates and oversees, the fine work needed on golf courses, specialising in greens and their approaches, surrounds, tees, bunkers, general hazards and drainage. The team has already undertaken contracts in Berkshire, Surrey and Kent and members of it were recently involved in the successful completion of a prestigious project in West Germany.

By combining the McMillans' golf course construction skill and experience with the consultancy and golf club operation expertise of two additional board members, Michael Latham and Roy Betts, McMillan Golf offers a service that is unique in its field. "Our ability to construct to a very high standard is complemented by a full understanding of the practical impact of that construction on a golf club's future operation," said Cameron McMillan, operations director.

Cameron McMillan, having gained his greenkeeping qualifications at Elmwood, the UK's leading college, where he was his year's top student, spent several years at Sunningdale Golf Club. He was involved in course alteration, the construction of greens, tees and bunkers and in the preparation of the course for numerous amateur and professional tournaments, before joining Liphook Golf Club as course manager, a position he held for two years.

Stewart McMillan has more than 15 years experience at senior level greenkeeping and is currently course director at Leatherhead, where he is responsible for the redevelopment of its 90 year old course. Jack McMillan, a head greenkeeper for over 30 years, the last nine at Sunningdale, has a lifetime's experience of remodelling and altering golf courses and preparing them for major events. His advice on turf management is regularly sought at home and abroad.

McMillan Golf is based at Leatherhead Golf Club, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, Surrey. KT22 0DP. Tel: 0372 843966.

Amenity Move for Testers

Testers have been Ford New Holland dealers for almost 29 years as well as holding other leading manufacturers franchises at Edenbridge, a Kent beauty spot, on the border of Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

In 1981 they were appointed Land Rover Agents and now have a Land Rover Centre employing 20 staff. In 1988 their Fuel Oil Distribution business became involved in bulk liquid propane gas distribution and now they are the main Shellgas operation for the South East stretching from Chichester to Dover and up to the Thames.

Testers have used their experience in dealing with sales and service of agricultural machinery to develop a fast growing professional turf equipment business; they were already selling the Ford Compact tractor range and have added Jacobsen, Hayter, Beaver, Modus T, Turfmaster, Lewis and Wessex.

The Professional Turf Division started 2 years ago and operates within a 25 mile radius of the depot. Bill Hammond, the Sales Manager together with his representatives Jack Bloomfield, Robert Lewis, Robert Timms and George Woodcock - recognise the growing potential of the professional equipment market, the need for more mechanised methods of cutting grass and conditioning the ground and are supported by the Parts Division managed by Colin Kentish.

Marketing Director, Nigel Young, has visited the U.S.A. twice in the last 12 months, firstly to help the management of Lingfield Park Racecourse research requirements for the grooming of their all weather race track. His second trip was with Jacobsen to their factory and the GCSAA Conference and Exhibition. Managing director, Paul Kentish said "We have the Kent County Council contract to supply Hayters for 1990 and are supplying Southern Water Authority with a fleet of Ford tractors fitted with Lawrence Edward loaders, but we are not just in it for the big contracts, all our customers are important. Our company has been built on service to farming so if we can't look after the Greenkeepers and Sports Groundmen's needs, I'll be very surprised.

Quad Trencher Improved

A new trencher to Britain the JL Case trencher, known as the 760 'Quad', has improved trenching technology and versatility.

This unique and highly manoeuvrable machine is the first of its type to be delivered to a UK contractor and is equipped with four different attachments so it performs varied tasks in the narrow trenching field. The need to hire-in single or double attachment machines to perform separate trenching functions is now no longer necessary.

Based on a standard 760 trencher, the QUAD takes its name from its ability to handle four attachments at the same time including a chain cutter and vibratory mole plough fitted to the rear with a backhow and backfill blade attached to the front.

L. D. Bourgein (Oxford) limited, one of Case's UK trencher dealers, supplied the 760 'Quad' to Turf Irrigation Services to work on the Royal Birkdale golf course, near Southport, scheduled to host the British Open Championship next year, to lay several thousand metres of 50mm and 38mm diameter UPVC water pipe to a depth of 600mm - feeding sprinklers on each fairway.

As Turf Irrigation's workload mainly involves pipe and cable laying on golf courses, the mole plough will be the attachment mostly in use. The company believes the backhoe, trencher and backfill, blade will also be fully utilized which means that there will be no need to hire-in additional machines to carry out these functions.

With four different attachments on the Case 760 'Quad' there is no need to hire-in additional machines for separate trenching functions.
OUT AND ABOUT

JACKLIN TO HOST CONFERENCE

Tony Jacklin and the organisers of the BBC Radio Show and the Daily Mail Ski Show have got together to create a 2 day conference "The Demand for Golf" to be held in Montreux Switzerland, January 24th and 25th 1991.

Aimed at the European growth market the visitors will include developers, architects, financial investors, and service companies as well as the private landowner. The object is to provide an information and advisory service on the business of golf, in particular the intelligent and profitable use of land in the creation of courses and related facilities. Speakers will come from those concerned with golf holidays, travel companies, event sponsorship, hotel chains and local authorities.

The conference sessions will be on the financial commitment, design development and marketing of new golf resources and there will be an associated exhibition with an opportunity for individual discussions. It will be of particular interest to developers seeking finance as well as information on design, construction and management. Held in Montreux Palace Hotel, Montreux, Switzerland the event begins with a welcoming supper on Tuesday 23rd January 1991. The conference proper being held on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th January, with a closing dinner on Thursday 25th January. Departure will be Friday AM 26th January.

The cost per delegate, to include hotel room, meals and the conference is SFR 3500. For companies requiring exhibition space the cost will be SFR 310 per square metre for space only. (Exhibition space is limited and therefore available only to delegates and their companies).

Further details from: Peter Anslow on 0634 660852.

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