ALTRO SUPERTREE 2000 FOR THE BELFRY

The Belfry Golf Club, venue for the Ryder Cup Competition, has purchased the new SuperTee 2000 synthetic turf tees for each of the 18 bays in their driving range and for occasional use, when necessary, on the tees of the two golf courses.

Commenting on the choice of SuperTee 2000 by The Belfry, Head Greenkeeper, Derek Ganning said, "We want our driving range to have the best synthetic surfaces available, as like real turf as possible. Similarly, for the golf courses, when conditions demand a temporary tee I have found the SuperTee 2000 to be excellent and our golfers love them".

The SuperTee allows players to hit iron or wooden club shots directly from the synthetic turf surface, which gives a sensation similar to that of hitting a ball from natural turf. Alternatively, balls may be teed up either on the integral rubber insert or on a conventional tee peg pushed into the ABS plastic insert in the turf.

The SuperTee 2000 is the latest synthetic golf tee introduced by Altro and the result of an ongoing development programme stemming from the Company's experience with synthetic turf hockey fields. The world hockey championships watched by millions on TV was played on a pitch laid by the makers of SuperTee.

The Original SuperTee has been proven over two years at close on one hundred private golf clubs and municipal courses which include Ailington Court, Coombe Wood, Tandbridge Park, Mannings Heath and the Royal Dublin Golf Club.

PESTICIDE CONTROL REGULATIONS

Delegates at a one day workshop called by the National Turfgrass Council have expressed concern over the timing of training and certification to meet the demands of legislation for the new Pesticide Control Regulations.

The final date for all commercial operators using pesticides to be fully trained and awarded certificates of competence has been set by the Ministry as 1st January 1989 and because approved courses to cater for large numbers of operators requires considerable planning and organisation many of the 200 delegates believed the industry could not meet the legislation requirements.

The first stage of the new Act came into effect on 6th October and over a period will require all those storing, selling and applying pesticides to be fully trained in their use and hold a certificate of competence.

Initially the Act will affect suppliers and distributors and those subcontractors mainly concerned with local authorities who apply pesticides on commercial contracts.

So far the regulations do not require greenkeepers applying pesticides on their own courses to hold certificates, but as the Act was passed as "enabling legislation", the Ministry of Agriculture can issue new regulations as they see fit.

The current regulations lay down fairly stringent conditions for the storage of chemicals. Decanting into unmarked containers and supplying pesticides to others not in the approved labelled pack also offends against the Health and Safety Acts.

Visits to golf courses and the greenkeepers' sheds previously the responsibility of Ministry of Agriculture Inspectors has been transferred to Environmental Health Officers working for the local authorities. They can bring prosecution proceedings for those who still adopt unsafe practices under the Health and Safety Legislation.

In time all golf courses will be required to provide secure brick built storerooms for chemicals, protective clothing and adequate washing facilities.

NEW PRIZE DONOR TO GOLF

In order to forge closer links with an important sector of its business, Hayter has recently participated in two golf tournaments.

Hayter presented the second prize in the Eagles Scottish Garden Machinery Golf Tournament which took place in September at Rosemount Golf Club, Blairgowrie. Open to manufacturers and retailers in the garden machinery trade, the tournament has become a popular event which has been held annually since 1974.

In England, the British Golf Greenkeepers North West Division Autumn Tournament took place on 13 October at Pleasington Golf Club, Blackburn. The event was sponsored by Burrows G.M. Limited of Leyland, Lancs, who presented a trophy to the winner.

A prize donated by Hayter was won by Andy Peel, an apprentice greenkeeper employed at Trafford Borough Council at the William Rowe golf course.

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