MAJOR INVESTMENT BY VITAX

The Company bought out by a consortium headed by Trevor Martin, fertiliser specialists Vitax Limited, is to build a new $\pounds^{1/4}$ million multipurpose headquarters at Southport on Merseyside.

The 20,000 square feet complex will contain a new manufacturing and production facility, packing plant, warehouse, laboratories, trials unit, offices and showrooms.

Trevor Martin has announced this major expansion programme to meet the increasing demand for Vitax products from their specialist users: the professional recreation and amenity market.

Two new extended release fertilisers for the sports and amenity market, KEY N and SR 2. have been introduced and will be available shortly.

Key N is a nitrogenous fertiliser (20%N) for use where reserves of both phosphate and potash are high, or where these two nutrients are made either annually or bi-annually. The nitrogen is included in three forms to provide quick-, medium- and slowrelease and to ensure the continuous supply of plant food needed by the turf. Key N also contains magnesium (2.7%Mg0) to promote lush green turf. Recommended application rate: 35g

per sq. m. (1 oz. per sq. yd).

SR2 is a 10:7:20 compound for application in the autumn or earlier part of the year when soil temperatures are 10°C or below, holding the nitrogen content until growth commences in the spring.

For clay constructed areas SR2 should be applied in the autumn or the earlier part of the year before top dressing, and on sand and freedraining areas it should be applied in the earlier part of the year before mid-March.

Recommended application rate: 35g per sq. m. (10 oz. per sq. yd.).

Vitax have also announced the third annual greenkeeper golf tournament will take place this year at the Ferndown Golf Club in Dorset on Thursday 21st May 1987.

Six teams of greenkeepers representing the Midlands, Mid-Anglia, Wales, the South-West, Devon and Cornwall, and the South Coast are to take part. Details from the Section Secretaries.

HUXLEYS TO STAGE TURF EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATION

Huxleys Grass Machinery will be staging an impressive working display of professional grass and turf maintenance equipment at Stratfield Saye House, near Basingstoke, on Thursday 21st May 1987, the splendid country home of the Duke and Duchess of Wellington.

The grounds around the house feature a wide variety of grassed areas on which the full range of professional equipment will be put through its paces.

Entry will be by personal invitation card only. These should be obtained in advance from:

Michael Bird, Huxleys Grass Machinery, The Dean, New Alresford, Hants. SO24 9BL. Telephone: 0962 73 3222.

LA MANGA CLUB TO DEVELOP SECOND MAJOR RESORT IN SPAIN

Inmogolf SA, the developer of the leisure resort at La Manga in southern Spain, is to develop its second major site at San Roque, near Sotogrande, covering an area of 340 acres.

They plan to build a total of 640 properties, including villas and hotel units, with the first phase of construction beginning in March 1987.

The San Roque estate is ideally suited for championship golf, being undulating and extensively covered with mature cork trees. The new course has been designed by golf course architect, Dave Thomas.

Construction of the 18-hole championship course was scheduled to begin in February 1987, with the course opening for play 15 months later. The Club house will be based around the existing Domecq mansion.

All golf activity at San Roque will be the responsibility of Tony Jacklin, who will be resident at the club.

'MOVE TO FRESH PASTURES'

INTURF LTD, the York based turf growers, started by ex-Rolawn Managing Director, Derek Edwards have moved to new offices at Pocklington.

They can be contacted at 11b Regent Street, Pocklington, York YO4 2KN, Telephone: 07592-4101.

Derek's turf nurseries on the Yorkshire Wolds have already supplied a number of prestigious championship courses.

NEW SMOOTH STALK MEADOW GRASS

British Seed Houses Ltd. have been appointed main distributors for the new Smooth Stalk Meadow Grass called JULIA.

The Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley have made JULIA the highest rated poa pratense in their latest 1987 Seed Guide. Independent trials carried out at the Institute showed that Julia is a compact hard wearing poa which withstands regular mowing down to 20mm and has a good resistance to fungal disease.

The Company intend to introduce JULIA in several of their fine turf mixtures for the forthcoming season.

Principle uses of JULIA are for golf tees and fairways. A 20% addition is recommended for tees and 10% on fairways.

In their new 1987 Catalogue, BSH Ltd. have announced that they are launching a new low maintenance grass seed mixture called A22, which contains LOGRO Slender Creeping Red Fescue and LORINA Perennial Ryegrass.

In the early 1970's British Seed Houses started a research and development programme in an attempt to obtain some short growing, high quality grasses and as a result of this comprehensive work the Company are now able to offer two of the shortest growing grass varieties available within their respective species, showing a considerable saving on mowing costs.

A free revised leaflet has also been issued giving details of ten wild flora conservation mixtures. The leaflet gives clear and concise cultivation and management information which is so important when sowing wild flora.

