Huxleys have introduced a new version of the increasingly popular 358 Greensmower. Changes to the hydrostatic pump, reel drive pump and wheel motors have enabled the maximum engine speed to be reduced to 2100 rpm. This provides extremely quiet operation, reduced fuel consumption, less wear on engine and transmission and a smoother, cooler and more simple operation.

The new 358 also has “quick adjust” Turf Combs, which avoid the need for spanners when setting combs in and out of work, and a faster reel speed which gives improved grass collection. New optional accessories include headlamp, towbar and flag holder. The new Huxley 358 Greensmower is in production now. Details/demo, Tel: 0962 733222.

The names of T Parker Ltd and Maxwell Hart have been known for over 50 years, and as individual companies they were proud of their service and advancements. In March this expertise was merged to become Parker Hart Ltd – a union conceived to further promote innovation and experience to their joint customer base and to give one company the ability to concentrate on the turfcare aspect of the business.

D S Holdings is the name of the holding company now continuing the other aspects already established under Maxwell Hart: Standard Golf (UK) Ltd, sole distributors for Standard Golf of America, Envirogreen, the first national company to specialise in the disposal of empty containers and the safe destruction of full or banned chemical containers, and Concept Surfacing, who have recently added new artificial golf surfaces to their range.

Greenkeeper International is pleased to inform readers that they are very much alive and still located at Winnersh. Tel: 0734 788044.

The much sought after wall chart from Rhone Poulenc Environmental Products has been re-produced. The new chart features information on weeds, pests and diseases, plus details on product choice, application timing and protection. Tel: 0207 70316.

Eric Hunter Grinders seem to be installing a fair number of their grinding machines into golf course workshops these days. The latest include Mold GC, Caldy GC, Newbury & Crookham GC, the famous Malone GC in Northern Ireland, the Pine Ridge Centre, and Wimbledon GC. Many course managers are becoming aware of the advantages of ‘in-house’ mower maintenance, and the technique of ‘relief’ grinding taught by Hunter’s is fast gaining recognition. The method reduces friction against the bedknife – with amazing results. Bedknives last 2-3 times longer, fuel is saved by minimal drag, adjustments are needed less frequently and the cleaner cutting action enables mowing to take place in very wet conditions without tear or skid. Details: Tel 0207 70316.

The greenkeeper has access to some well established and effective selective herbicides. These, in conjunction with regular mowing, can provide control of many unsightly and damaging weeds in established turf. Nonetheless, many weeds can survive and thrive even when grass is kept short and mowing regimes, generally those which have a creeping, prostrate growth habit and are missed by the mower, e.g. slender speedwells, which has proved most difficult to control by existing selective herbicides.

Response to the challenge of developing a new herbicide for the control of such difficult weeds, Rigby Taylor and DowElanco evaluated more than 20 candidate herbicides. The result is Bastion T, a highly effective novel herbicide. Based on two powerful modern herbicides, combined in an ingenious micro-emulsion formulation, Bastion T delivers control of not only a wide range of important, broad-leaved weeds, but also on the tough, low-growing weeds whose control has previously proved so difficult. It promises to become the standard treatment for effective control of weeds such as slender speedwells and yellow sucking clover.

Despite its powerful effect on weeds, Bastion T is safe to desirable turf grasses. Unlike most other selective herbicides it can be applied to young turf as little as two months after sowing, providing much-needed protection in the critical stage of turf development.

Trials have confirmed the remarkable length of weed control of Bastion T, in many cases up to six months, and it does not cause unsightly scorch of the weeds, which may only temporarily arrest growth. Rather, activity against the bedknife - with amazing results. Bedknives last 2-3 times longer, fuel is saved by minimal drag, adjustments are needed less frequently and the cleaner cutting action enables mowing to take place in very wet conditions without tear or skid. Details: Tel 0207 70316.

Hardi, the market leader in amenity spraying equipment, has developed a sprayer for the Toro Workman 3000 utility vehicle. The sprayer is from the Hardi PS range and has a choice of 300 to 800 litre capacity tank sizes and boom widths of either 6 or 8 metres. The design includes the unique Hardi 3-point quick attach/de-mount system. Prices are from £1,990. Details: Tel 0455 233811.

Complete Weed Control, the UK’s largest specialist spray contracting service, has introduced a new corporate folder and series of leaflets covering almost every aspect of weed control.

Containing seven inserts, the folder looks at the following areas: reasons for complete weed control, shrub control, amenity spraying, aquatic areas, footpaths and pavements, aquatics and forestry. The pack is free, Tel: 0608 644044.

The new Fibregroom from SISIS is a combined scarifier and sweeper which incorporates all the best features of the SISIS Veeino and SISIS Litamiss, with several new design features particularly for undulating ground. The scarifying blades are interspersed with brushes so that the fibre removed is simultaneously collected into the 2.3 m³ capacity high lift hopper. Organic matter such as leaves and twigs are part-mulched before collection.

The reel comprises two independently floating heads to follow ground contours and gives a 183 cm working width. The scarifying depth is quick and simple to adjust, with a single hand control on each head. Details, Tel: 0625 503030.

Scheduling for opened last month, the Oxfordshire Golf Club have taken delivery of no less than 21 Toro’s from local Toro dealers, County Motors. Machinery supplied include ten Pedestrian Greensmowers GR 1000’s, two 3000-D Triple Greensmowers, two Reelmaster 5100 Fairway Mowers, two 216-D’s for semi-sparse, two 325-D’s with Re-cycler decks for out of play areas, two Sand Pro 5000’s; and one Multi Pro self propelled sprayer used in particular for liquid fertiliser.