Coming to a course near you... soon

The latest greens mower offering from John Deere is the walk-behind 220 model, which has a 60cm (22in) cut and is equipped with a 3.7hp petrol engine, 11 blade reel and choice of standard or tournament bedknives, the latter giving a cutting height down to 2.8mm (7/64in).

The machine's loop-style handlebars incorporate an "operator presence system" with the on/off switch and mowing controls conveniently located to hand. Attachments include a vertical cutter and rotary brush.

Jacobsen's Greens King 418 has a narrow 46cm (18in) cut designed specifically for work on severely undulating greens without scalping. The walk-behind mower has an 11-bladed reel capable of cutting down to 2mm (5/64in).

Power comes from a 4hp petrol engine with three belts providing traction and reel drive. Other features of the 418 are self-adjusting, tapered bearing rollers on the reel, an automotive-type differential housed within the traction drum and the options of grooved rollers and a Turf Groomer.

The advantages of relief grinding precision mowing reels are regularly spelt out by cylinder manufacturers and the makers of the grinding machines designed to keep cylinders in peak condition. Relief grinding involves removing metal at a pre-determined angle from behind the leading edge of each cylinder blade to reduce the contact area between the rotating cylinder and the bottom blade. The result is less friction and wear, helping maintain a keener cutting edge and longer cylinder life.

Until now, relief grinding has normally involved constant attention from the engineer, repositioning the cylinder manually for each blade being relief ground. Supreme Mowing has changed all that with the introduction of an automatic relief grinding attachment for its Supreme System and Golf Leader cylinder grinders.

The device automatically rotates and locks the cylinder in place at the correct angle prior to each pass of the grinding stone along each blade being relieved. The result is said to create a less oxidised cut and reduce wear on the stone. The plant is said to cut grass more efficiently and reduce water consumption.

Greencare Coremaster 6/150 from Hardi has six legs each equipped with two tines. Working depth is adjustable from 12mm to 150mm (0.5in to 6in) to help alleviate compaction pans created by feet, equipment and years of treatment at a constant depth. Both 12mm and 16mm (0.5in and 0.6in) diameter follow covers are available.

Increased commonality of parts with other machines in the company's range has resulted from improvements made to the Lloyds Leda five gang trailed mower. An all-hollow box section frame has been a key improvement while helping to increase strength and reduce weight. Lloyds has also added the option of nine-bladed welded cylinders to the four, five or six bladed units previously offered.