The best in Europe

Harrogate is set to host Europe's most interesting and comprehensive education programme for greenkeepers and course managers from January 23-27, 1995. The week begins with BIGGA's two-day National Education Conference, where the emphasis will be on ecology, agronomy and irrigation. The speakers will include David Stubbs, executive director of the European Golf Association Ecology Unit, who will give "An overview of European golf course ecology". Also speaking will be the world renowned Dr James Beard, president of the International Sports Turf Institute and a professor in turfgrass science at Texas A&M University. His topic is "Benefits of turf grasses to environmental issues".

Other speakers at the conference include Bob Taylor, ecologist at the Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI), Neil Sinden, assistant secretary of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, and both Stig Persson and Hakon Eriksson of the Swedish Golf Federation. Greenkeepers sharing their experiences include Martin Smith of Ramsdale Park Golf Centre, Andy Campbell of Garden Park Golf Club, Michael Wattam of East Sussex National Golf Club, Billy McMillan of Wildwood Golf Club, Duncan McGilvray of Letchworth Golf Club, Joe Paulin of the London Golf Club and Geoff Allison of Patsull Park Golf Club. The venue for the National Education Conference, January 23 and 24, is The Majestic Hotel, which is adjacent to the Harrogate International Centre and is one of Harrogate's premier hotels.

The week continues with the seminar programme which is run in conjunction with the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition, Europe's premier fine turf trade show. A wide range of subjects will be covered by the talks in the Harrogate International Centre's Royal Hall.

The seminar programme is designed so that visitors to the exhibition, now in its seventh year, can pick and choose the subjects that most interest them. And there's plenty to choose from. Cameron Sinclair, chairman of the British Institute of Golf Course Architects, will give "A greenkeeper's guide to working with golf course architects". George Brown, course manager at Turnberry, will talk about the '94 Open. Collin Hegarty of the Golf Research Group will discuss 'Budgeting for golf course management'. Dr IG McKillop of the Central Science Laboratory will explain how to control rabbit and vermin. Dr James Beard will make his second appearance, talking about international turfgrass trends and Douglas Shearer, a health and safety consultant, will give an update on this important aspect of course management.

"Considering the calibre of the experts delivering the lectures and seminars it's probably safe to say that the education on offer will not be surpassed anywhere in Europe during 1995," says BIGGA's education officer, Ken Richardson.

To help delegates unwind, there is also an interesting and varied social programme, including a dinner with a jazz band, a karaoke night at The Majestic and a banquet dinner with a cabaret starring comedian Tom O'Connor and female singer Lyn Paul (ex-New Seekers). Full details of the National Education Conference and seminar programme are in "The Learning Experience", inserted with this issue.

Only eight stands remain available for BTME '95 and so, with four months to go, the show looks certain to be a complete sell-out.

Recent companies to join are Intertrain Ltd, who have booked 20 square metres, HN Speed Lubricants, HMI Electronics and Links Leisure. At present, 124 exhibitors have booked for the show – a new record.

Now answer these questions, clip the coupon and send it in:

August questions:

1. Which company doubled its stand space at BTME '94?
2. Which association will take a stand at BTME '95 for the first time?

September questions:

1. What is the name of the course manager at Turnberry who will be speaking at the seminar programme in 1995?
2. Which institute will be taking a stand at BTME '95 for the first time?

October questions:

1. What is the name of the company who has booked 20 square metres at the BTME '95?
2. How many stands remain available?

Name:

Address:

Send your completed entry form to BTME Competition, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alce, York YO6 2NF to be received by October 30. The first three correct entries opened after that date will win the prizes.