Thumbs up for the seventh Westurf

The seventh annual Westurf Exhibition at Long Ashton Golf Club in Bristol, at the end of April, proved a huge success for one exhibitor who launched a brand new Core Harvester at the show and sold one that same day.

Pro-Seed Equipment was able to demonstrate the equipment to Bernard McGowan of A and I Machinery of Dublin, and clinched the sale with an option on one other thus saving themselves a trip to the Emerald Isle.

"I've just returned from the United States where I secured further orders for the Core Harvester and of the 14 orders we now have I would say five of them were a direct result of showing at Westurf," said Ken Knowles, of Pro-Seed Equipment. "We invited several clients to the show and that proved very productive for us," he added.

Steve George of Bristol-based BS Mowers said that the number of sales leads this year was on a par with last year.

"The crowds were down which was disappointing and I feel that the show would have had a greater impact if it was run over two days as it would allow greenkeepers who were committed to the one day to go on the other," he said.

Another company which enjoyed the day was Roffey Bros which took orders in excess of £30,000 for top dressing and root zone mixtures as well as for its new fertiliser, Gypronite.

"We got some excellent feedback from many exhibitors but we really would like more of the local greenkeepers to make an effort to attend. Westurf is run for them and their golf clubs and the profits from the show go to promoting greenkeeper education which in turn helps the golf clubs in the region."

Next year's Westurf will be on May 1, when hopefully the weather will be a little warmer, and will again be at Long Ashton.

Southturf show has plenty of promise

The second Southturf Exhibition at Motspur Park on Wednesday June 21 looks set to build on the success of the inaugural event.

A large proportion of last year's exhibitors are returning again many with new products or updates and improvements on existing products while new exhibitors will, for the first time, get a chance to sample the unique Southturf atmosphere.

Among the stars of the show will undoubtedly be the Grass Roots stand which will feature a golf simulator which will allow visitors to play a hole at Torrey Pines in the United States or Mauna Kea in Hawaii without leaving the show ground, never mind the country. The simulator can also produce a swing analysis which will be available to the visitors.

"The event provides valuable income and exposure for BIGGA and a good turn out of members and representatives from their clubs would be greatly appreciated," said Geoff Hills, the recently-appointed South East Region Administrator.

Among the exhibitors who have confirmed their attendance are:- Atterton and Ellis Ltd, Avoncrop Amenity Products, Barmonset, Better Methods-Europe, Bowcom Ltd, City Irrigation Ltd, Golf and Turf Equipment, Grassliner Products, Grass Roots Trading Company, Leisure K, Hadlow College, Lubrication Engineers (South East) Ltd, Meetens Industrial Engines Ltd, Miracle Amenity Care, Nescot Oaklands College, Parker Hart, Pattisons, Plumpton College, Risboro' Turf, Sparsholt College, Sovereign Golf (UK) Ltd/Envirogreen Ltd, Turf Machinery Ltd, Turf Management Systems, Vitax.

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