

LETTERS

Explain the code of conduct

I noticed with interest the article on advances in turf production by Mr Derek Edwards which was carried in your April edition. There were many interesting and sensible comments contained in the article.

However, there was also a reference to TPI UK (ie Turf Grass Producers International UK). There was reference to TPI achieving the introduction of "Minimum Standards of Turf" and "A Code of Conduct for its Members".

What exactly are the standards referred to?

What are the contents of the code of conduct?

Where are these items published?

It seems to us TPI UK are being allowed to talk about standards without ever being asked what they mean exactly.

TPI UK should be invited to put up or shut up on the subject of standards for turf.

Terry Ryan

Sales and Marketing Director
Rolawn (Turf Growers Ltd)

Green speeds

I write with response to the letter in April's edition of the magazine concerning green speeds and grass species. I am a believer in trying to make my greens as fast as possible without causing any undue stress or harm to the quality of performance of the greens.

The weather maintenance programmes and, obviously, the species of grass on the greens can all influence the decision on how fast we can make them. I think that once a good healthy sward or desirable grasses has been achieved then a competent greenkeeper can then decide how fast to make his greens. I was under the impression that the more desirable fescue and bent grasses could withstand close mowing and that mowing to, or lower (not much) than five millimetres would actually discourage poa annua as this grass is usually the first to show signs of stress either from hot weather or outbreaks of disease. Or am I wrong?

May I also congratulate Mr Billy McMillan of his excellent "In my View" article.

Julian Farrimond

GC Aschheim
Germany

NEW PRODUCTS

■ The DewMaster, **Pattison's** newest product line, has been developed by Greenkeepers across the country for Greenkeepers across the country. It helps to save time by removing dew from the greens. A comment from the Greenkeeping fraternity is that the DewMaster is an excellent product, but it is unable to dispense of the worm casts. As from May 1996 the new DewMaster Mark II will encompass a switch-tip in the handle, which will be on a quick release screw from the main head and can therefore be used in the same manner as the conventional Stanmore telescopic Switch.

The new Holecup Extractor & Rammer has been designed to remove or set cups into the hole without having to get onto your hands and knees. The waist height hand held tool works by putting the end into the ferrule acceptor and turning the key at the top of the hand bar. This turns the cam disc at the base which locks under the bottom of the hole cup. Simply by lifting the tool will remove the cup, setting the cup is just as easy as there is a rammer collet along the length of the tool. This collet is placed exactly to allow the ramming effect to set the cup into the ground.

For further information Tel: 01582 597262 Fax: 01582 505241.

■ **Roffey Brothers Ltd.** of Bournemouth has added a new range of slow release fertilisers to its catalogue with the latest polycoated technology directly from the United States.

The accuracy of polycoating provides a much more consistent quality of coating and ultimately a more reliable pattern of release. The new polycoatings are stronger and less prone to damage that may be caused during application or subsequent maintenance operations.

The range includes three mini-granular Nutralene based fertilisers for fine turf with analysis suitable for both summer and autumn application. Nutralene's success is its unique controlled release mechanism. The nitrogen in this advanced product is converted by both hydrolysis and microbial activity, which means that Nutralene is not solely dependent on either moisture or

soil temperature for its ideal release pattern. It assures you of 10 to 12 weeks of sustained release under a broad range of environmental conditions and enriches the soil microbiology at the same time.

For further information Tel: 01202 537777 Fax: 01202 532765



■ **Maverick**, pictured, is an all new diaphragm pump knapsack design with a 33% more powerful pump than contemporary designs, it has an Easi-clean system for reduced chemical wastage, Easi-mount harnesses and an ergonomic shape.

"In essence" says Adrian Vass, Managing Director of Maverick manufacturer Crop Protection Ltd, "we have built a sprayer that is both more comfortable to wear and more powerful. It is, quite simply, more efficient and far easier to use".

"The first responsibility of any company in the field of chemical application is to ensure that its products are both safe to operate and environmentally sound" says Adrian.

"To achieve this it is essential to understand the specialist skills required to design an efficient sprayer, to have extensive knowledge of the varied and numerous chemicals used in spraying and to have access to modern manufacturing processes" he continues.

Crop Protection can be contacted on Freephone 0500 821880.

■ **Jacobsen** has introduced the Greens Aerator Vaerator VA24 as an upgrade of the 1124 model. It is the ideal machine to handle a

number of aeration and compaction needs with five coring patterns, conveniently designed operator controls, low maintenance and built-in durability.

Its features include aeration patterns from 1x2 inch to 5x2 inch, it can aerate up to 21,000 square feet per hour, available with quarter of an inch mini-tine to relieve compaction with minimal disruption to play and has a unique double clutch system.

For further information Tel: 01536 417777 Fax: 01536 310245.

■ **Headland Amenity** has introduced a new generation of liquid feeds - The Headland Triazone Range - which are quick and easy to use and offer numerous benefits among which is that they are fast acting, do not require watering in after application and are not prone to pick-up during mowing.

The range performed well in independent ADAS trials and showed that the fertilisers matched urea-based products for speed of initial response, yet also continued to release nitrogen at controlled levels for up to eight weeks.

The trials showed that for a set application of nitrogen the highest actual uptake by the plant was achieved when the nitrogen was supplied in the Triazone form while the fertilisers contained slow and fast release sources so they produced rapid greening and the appearance was retained longer.

Among the other benefits were less scorching in the summer, that it was ideal for low volume application and there was less leaching.

For further information call Headland Amenity: Tel: 01799 530146

MY AMBITION IS...



"To be happy"
Kim Blake, Fulford Heath GC