A free, pocket-sized guide to the safe use of tractors and their attachments has been produced by Kubota. Although written primarily for owners and operators of compact tractors, much of the advice contained in the Kubota 'Tractor Safety Code' applies equally to those using larger tractors within farming, grounds and highways maintenance, construction and civil engineering.

The booklet begins by highlighting 10 basic rules of tractor safety before guiding the reader through the essential points which should be observed to ensure optimum safety during tractor operation. Areas covered include dress sense, operator training, tractor maintenance, safe working practices, driving on public roads and tractor shutdown. There is also a section on the safe operation of common attachments and implements such as front loaders, rotary tillers, mowers and backhoes.

The Kubota 'Tractor Safety Code' can be obtained by phoning the Kubota literature request line on 01844 268169 or by e-mailing tomb@kubota.co.uk or by faxing 01844 216685. The Kubota web site, which contains a wealth of information on the company, its product range and national dealer network, can be accessed at www.kubota.co.uk.

Claire’s new job

Claire Andrews has been appointed Turf Administrator for Sovereign Turf Ltd. Gibraltar-born Claire, who will be based in Suffolk, arrives in the turf industry from the leisure industry where she worked for a travel company and in hotels. "I really enjoy the job and find it very rewarding," said Claire, whose responsibilities include taking orders, liaising with Sovereign’s harvesters and logistics.

Sunningdale Golf Club has signed a five year exclusive partnership deal with Toro for turf machinery with the investment expected to be approximately £250,000.

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Terry wins Depot Manager of the Year

The Rolawn Depot Manager of the Year award is made in recognition of the contribution made to the business by Rolawn’s Depot Managers. This year it has been given to Terry Carter, depot manager at the Company’s Bristol Depot. Terry, a recent recruit to the business took over the running of the depot in October 1997 and handled its relocation in March 1998. Terry is a native of the West Country and is married with two children. He lives in Winterbourne and is a keen Liverpool supporter.

Rolawn has 15 turf depots throughout the UK, all manned by Rolawn employees. It is always a difficult decision to make but I am delighted to award it this year to Terry who has quickly established himself and the depot by building excellent relationships with our customers in the Bristol area," stated Terry Ryan.

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Sadly missed, Frederick Ten Hage

News has reached us that the popular Dutch greenkeeper Frederick Ten Hage has died suddenly. He was 50. Frederick, who was one of Holland’s first rally drivers, was a regular at BTME in Harrogate most years although he was missing this year and will be sadly missed by his many friends in the industry.