New Director for Rolawn

Rolawn has promoted Guy Barrett to the post of Farms Director. Guy joined Rolawn in 1980 and has risen "through the ranks" to head the harvesting and production functions which now operate on a large scale supplying millions of square metres of specially cultivated turf throughout the UK.

When not tending to the 3000 acres of turf under his care for Rolawn, he enjoys playing golf and cricket. "It is in recognition of his hard work, dedication and success in his role over many years that this appointment has been made. I am delighted to welcome him on to the board and I am certain that Guy will play a key role in the future development of our business," said Ken Dawson, Chairman of Rolawn.

Pinehurst tested my cutting degree

I was very interested to read the article about Pinehurst and especially G2 turfgrass. When working in the USA, I spent a considerable amount of time at Pinehurst using regular sharpening techniques to obtain a better quality cut than was being achieved.

As G2 has such a high shoot density, it is fast growing and is a very juicy grass obtaining a quality cut was proving very difficult using Pinehurst’s tried and trusted methods. Maintaining a sharp edge and angle on the bottom blade was also a problem due to regular top dressing dusting because of the denseness of G2 it is very difficult to maintain the dressing in, it tends to be on the leaf.

I was given four Jacobson walkers to experiment with, the normal angle ground on the bottom blade was 5°. This was not enough relief for grass ejection due to the growth rate of G2 and top dressing problems. After experimenting with different angles and set ups on selected greens on No 8 course I found a top face angle of 9°-10° and front face angle of 3° with the cylinder set with 0.01 clearance from the bottom blade, a quality cut was obtained combined with regular facing of the front free angle a quality cut was maintained.

This regular facing of the bottom blade is a practice that should be used for grasses and is far more beneficial than back lapping, which did not work at Pinehurst using regular sharpening angles on the bottom blade.

The co-operation and friendliness of those I worked at pinehurst was second to none. No wonder the lads enjoyed the experience of working with such great people.

Peter Fletcher, Professional Mobile Grinding, At Austell Cornwall

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