Top IoH award for Robert

Independent turf consultant and agriculturist, Robert Laycock, (right) has been elected a Fellow of the Institute of Horticulture (IoH).

The honour comes in recognition of the high level of distinction achieved within the turf profession by Robert during a 25-year career working with turf growers, golf greenkeepers, grounds men and other turf professionals.

Following his election, Robert Laycock becomes the only Fellow of the IoH who is also an active turf agriculturist. He is the first turf specialist to be made a Fellow since Dr Peter Hayes and the late John Shildrick, both of the Sports Turf Research Institute, were elected Fellows.

“I am very pleased and deeply honoured to have been made a Fellow of the Institute of Horticulture,” commented Robert.

“Very few turf specialists have received this accolade which is made on the recommendation of the Institute of Horticulture.”

New acquisition for Charterhouse

Redexim Charterhouse has added to the company portfolio with the acquisition of Pro-Seed Equipment Ltd. This acquisition was made by Charterhouse Turf Machinery’s parent company in Holland, whose strategy is to grow by gaining strength in niche market areas within the turf industry.

The products manufactured by Pro-Seed will complement Redexim Charterhouses’ existing range and benefit from their world-wide distribution. Ken Knowles, Managing Director of Pro-Seed Equipment said that he was delighted that several months of negotiations had come to a successful conclusion and that his whole Company would now receive the benefits which flow from being part of a larger group. He himself would continue working in conjunction with the group’s Engineering Department which is based in Holland.

Links Manager appointed at The Trust

Former Scottish National Chairman and National Board member, Gordon Morrice, has been appointed Links Manager at the St Andrews Links Trust following the tragic death of Ian Forbes in September.

Gordon, (right) has worked for the Links Trust for nine years. He joined in 1991 as Head Greenkeeper of the Eden Course from Fraserburgh Golf Club. He then added the management of the nine hole Balgove Course and in 1996 also became responsible for running the newly-opened Eden Greenkeeping Centre.

As Links Manager, he will have responsibility for the greenkeeping squads covering all six courses, property maintenance, stores and engineering workshops – over 60 employees in total. He will also oversee the irrigation and subsoil drainage. All units are shown in both metric and imperial measures, key points highlighted in bold print.

Although some theory is included, the authors have attempted to keep definitions simple and at the correct level for practitioners, although some theorists may argue about some of their definitions.

An enlightening chapter on Perched Water Tables gives an insight on what can go wrong and this is followed up in a later section with information on the USGA Recommendations.

Written by practitioners for practitioners this book would solve many of the problems and answers most questions that greenkeepers encounter.

The second book is for those greenkeepers who are interested in new grass species and are concerned with the changes that the 21st century may bring to the fine turf industries.

Seashore Paspalum

The environmental Turfgrass by R R Duncan and R N Carrow

Both authors are Professors within the Turfgrass department of the University of Georgia, Griffin, where they have been concerned with the breeding and growing of new cultivars that are resistant to stress.

Although of limited use to greenkeepers in Britain, the book aims to establish a precedent by offering turf grass managers a four-pronged approach to growing new cultivars.

This book concentrates on Seashore Paspalum and contains:

• A description and background information
• Environmental tolerance
• Management practices
• Using alternative water resources

A fairly complex book for most readers, but it does give a useful insight into what is becoming available now and what may become available soon to help greenkeepers in their quest to plant, grow and maintain turf grass when it is under stress.

Membership Subscription Rates for 2001

Please note that from January 1, 2001, BIGGA Membership Subscription Rates will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>2001 Rates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper</td>
<td>£80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper</td>
<td>£65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other Greenkeeping staff aged 21 years and over</td>
<td>£52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greens staff aged 20 years and under</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-time Students</td>
<td>£45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Member</td>
<td>£10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

New for 2001 Corporate Membership (Up to 4 trade members) £100

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