Avoncrop re-launch seaweed products

Avoncrop range of seaweed products Surf to Turf is to be re-launched.

The new improved range will offer turf managers a wider choice of liquids and a new and enhanced soil improver. Both Avoncrop and Patmons will jointly market the new Surf to Turf range, giving nationwide availability.

The new range consists of one granular composted seaweed soil improver with 2% potassium and five seaweed liquids, Triple Seaweed containing 27% seaweed extract, Seaweed plus 6% chelated iron; Seaweed with 20% nitrogen, Seaweed plus 12.0-4.7 + 1 % chelated iron and finally Seaweed plus 20-15 + 0.5 % chelated iron. This liquid range offers the turf manager analysis to complement almost all nutritional programmes for use throughout the seasons. They will encourage deep-rooted, healthy turf as well as stimulating beneficial organisms.

The soil improver is a fermented seaweed rich in trace elements, carbohydrates and plant growth stimulants, providing sustained nutrition for plants and beneficial micro organisms.

Grade ‘A’ success

Turfgrass professionals trading with British Seed Houses are starting to claim over £500,000 worth of free industry training thanks to the outstanding success of the company’s Grade A Club launched at the start of 2000.

Customers have been amassed training credits based on the value of Grade A seed mixture business done with the company. Partners in the scheme include JOG, BIGGA, STRI and LANTRA and the credits generated can only be redeemed for training courses and materials available from these organisations. British Seed Houses’ Director, Simon Taylor, said that the company had been delighted by the response to the scheme and was now keen to ensure that customers get the best value for their training credits.

"The club has proved to be extremely popular with the full spectrum of ground care professionals employed within the landscape industry. Membership is still growing and customers are now starting to redeem their credits to help fund training courses and educational materials from our four partners," he said.

New NGCAA Secretary

It is with great pleasure that I write to inform you that the Executive Committee have appointed my successor, Michael Shaw, who will take up his post on Monday. Michael lives in Cheshire but will be working from the Bakewell office for the foreseeable future and I shall be working alongside him until I retire at the end of September.

Michael has a unique set of skills. He is a qualified solicitor who has recently held an academic post delivering law degree courses. He is a past secretary, captain and president of Regent Park Golf Club and is currently a member of Fairfield Golf Club playing off a handicap of 10. Michael is keen to continue to maintain close relationships with the governing bodies and other organisations in the game and he will be contacting you in the near future to introduce himself and to discuss current matters.

May I thank you for the kind consideration that BIGGA has always shown to our Association, and to me personally over the last ten years.

Jean Brock, Secretary, National Golf Clubs’ Advisory Association

Stamp out golfer pressure

In your editorial in the August issue of the magazine you invite comments on the need for communication with members of golf club on the subject of aeration. You may be aware that I have been asked to talk at Harrogate in January and give a member’s view on the subject of “Preparation for Winter”.

I have been exercising my mind as to what to talk about and how to approach the subject and had already concluded that one of the main thrusts, if not THE main thrust, should be communication, and how it can be improved to get better cooperation from golf club members.

Like you I am horrified, and that is not too strong a word, to learn that greenkeepers do not aerate as much as they would like because of “Golfer Pressure”. Obviously there is something wrong which has to be addressed. I hope I may stimulate some interesting questions on this subject in January.

Arthur King, Former Chairman of Green, Lymington, Hants

You’ve got m@il!

If you’ve got an email account why not send an email to us here at BIGGA; where we can place you into our exclusive email address book. We can then keep you up-to-date with news and event information as soon as it happens.

Send an email to: reception@bigga.co.uk

Remember to include the word “updates” in your subject field

Next month: Amistar response

The letter which appeared last month under the heading Wellingborough’s Rash Problem has come to the attention of a number of people, individuals and interested bodies, because it highlighted the fact that the golf club had been using a product - Amistar - which is not cleared for amenity purposes.

Due the fact that the deadline for this magazine was so close to the circulation of the August issue it has not been possible for those people to formulate a written response in the time available and so these contributions will appear in next month’s magazine.

The finest turf from tee to green

Medallion turf for golf tees is typically sown as Aberelf (Perennial Ryegrass) 25%, Bargreen (Chewings Fescue) 20%, Barcrown (Slender Creeping Red Fescue) 35%, Limousine (Smooth Stalked Meadow Grass) 20%.

All the cultivars we use are highly ranked in independent testing by the STRI (see “Turfgrass Seed 2001” published by STRI).

If rapid establishment, high wear tolerance and slow regrowth after mowing are important to you – specify Rolawn Medallion for your tees.

For a quote, sample and peace of mind call Rolawn on Tel: 01904 608661

Address your letters to The Editor, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York Y061 1UF, or email them to reception@bigga.co.uk

Open thanks 1

Hugh Campbell and I would like to pass on our thanks to everyone at BIGGA who was involved in making this year’s Open Championship run so smoothly.

Without the assistance of our volunteers, it would have been impossible to stage the event and the efforts of everyone involved are most appreciated.

Peter Dawson, Secretary, R&A

Open thanks 2

I would like to convey my grateful appreciation to all the members of the Open Championship BIGGA Support Team.

Your assistance was most welcome, duly rewarded by some thrilling golf and hopefully some fond memories.

Paul Smith, Head Greenkeeper, Royal Lytham and St Annes Golf Club

Open thanks 3

Just a quick note to send all concerned my congratulations for the hard work done during The Open Championship where everyone did a splendid job and added so much to the elegance and running of the Championship.

Peter Alliss, Farnham, Surrey