SPRAY AWAY

The first new spray nozzle from Hypro - known as Lurmark prior to 1 June 2003 - was launched recently.

Sporting the Hypro logo, the new nozzle is the latest addition to a seven-strong range of specialist long-throw nozzles which are designed for applications where a conventional boom sprayer cannot be used easily, or at all, due to natural or man-made obstacles.

Known as the XT 010, the nozzle throws an even fan spray over a distance of 3.66m at a pressure of 3 bar (44psi). At this pressure, the nozzle delivers 3.9 litres/min, making it particularly suitable for mounting singly or in pairs, back-to-back, at the rear of an ATV, quad bike or specialist adapted 4x4 vehicle.

The XT nozzle's stepped-slot design creates medium to large droplets ensuring minimal risk of drift across a pressure range from 2 to 5 bar (29 - 72psi) and at flow rates from 3.3 to 5.1 litres/min. For optimum pattern formation and swath width, the nozzle should be mounted 1.22m (48in) above ground level with the spray delivery orifice positioned horizontally. To better target the spray, the nozzle can be angled up or down, but this will affect swath width and spray pattern.

Recommended retail price of the new Hypro XT 010 long-throw nozzle is £99.99. For further information Tel: 01954 260097

A TECHNOLOGICAL TRIUMPH

A tool that can make integrated turf management actually work in practice. Everyone talks about ITM, most know the theory, but making it happen is another matter. Now Scotts are launching the answer - Scotts iTurf system.

iTurf is a technological triumph; a system that will measure everything that can potentially have an effect on turf growth and turf health, and then collate and present the information so that the turf manager can make the right cultural decisions.

One of the key features of the system is a 'disease prediction' programme that, having processed all the data, will alert greenkeepers and groundsmen to the likelihood of disease infestation before it does any damage.

The Scotts iTurf comprises a series of stations and sensors, linked to a computer, that constantly monitors air and soil temperature, solar radiation, humidity, wind speed, leafwetness, soil moisture, rainfall etc. right across the site. This is exactly the kind of detail that the ITM practitioner requires at his fingertips, making the iTurf an essential piece of equipment for all turf managers who are interested in managing their turf in an environmentally friendly way. And, of course, enjoying the cost savings that will accrue from this form of precision management.

The Scotts iTurf will cost £2,500 to purchase and set up. For further information Tel: 01473 830492

FAST WORKER

Accelerated Compost's 'Rocket' Range of Compost Machines have been specially designed and developed in the UK for domestic and small scale industrial use. The Rocket can take food, paper and garden waste and turn it into compost within 14 days.

The Rocket is fully automatic, portable, labour saving and a continuous process machine. In brief, waste is fed into the hopper where the machine then controls the moisture content, temperature and aerates the mass. The four stages of biological degradation then take place - the end result being - a proven high quality compost that you have made yourself! Temperatures over 60°C can be reached and held to ensure pathogen, slug eggs and weed seed destruction, and enable compliance with the current DEFRA regulations for composting food waste containing meat.

Visit www.quickcompost.co.uk for further details or contact us on 0870 240 7313.

IT SUCKS!

The development of a 2.5m suction head for Turfmech's TMS high-tip vacuum collection was prompted primarily by demand from turf growers needing to collect and remove grass clippings from newly-mown turf. Apart from the cosmetic factor, leaving the clippings in place, especially during periods of warm, damp weather, can lead to potential disease problems and unsightly yellowing of the valuable grass beneath.

Turfmech believes that the enhanced collection ability and higher workrate provided by the 2.5m head will appeal to groundstaff, contractors and all others needing to pick-up and remove surface debris quickly and cleanly from public and private parks, sports stadiums, race tracks and similar expansive areas.

Fully height-adjustable, the new 2.5m suction head is equipped with a full-width powered debris-loosening brush, of similar design to its narrower stablemate. The combination of agitation brush and powerful suction makes the TMS ideal for the collection of leaves, litter, grass clippings and other light, loose, damp or dry debris from turf or hard surfaces.

For further information Tel: 01889 271503