THREE IS THE MAGIC NUMBER

The expanded range of Kioti compact tractor, which now includes 10 models from 21hp to 90hp, will be featured by the UK distributor Rustons Engineering at BTME 2006.

The three latest models to join the line-up have 55hp, 75hp and 90hp engines with selectable two/four wheel drive and mechanical transmission through 12-speed gearboxes with synchronesh forward/reverse shuttle. The 75hp and 90hp models have four-cylinder Perkins engines.

Among the standard features are twin double-acting spool valves, a two-speed rear PTO, tandem hydraulic pumps, power steering and high-capacity hydraulic lifts with draft and position control. The 75hp and 90hp models have high-speed safety cab includes an adjustable steering console, air conditioning, integral sound system and cool box.

For technical information Tel: 01480 455151; Web: www.reco.co.uk.

TWIN BLADE

Bomford has introduced a new range of rotary toppers, the Twin Blade, which is available in three different widths and two formats - inline or offset. Twin Blade is available as an inline topper with working widths of 1.8 metres, 2.4 metres and 2.7 metres, while the offset version is only available with a working width of 2.4 metres.

As its name suggests, the Twin Blade features two interlocking rotary arms, each fitted with a pair of heavy-duty free-swinging blades for an even cut. The inline versions feature a floating headstock to ensure an even cut on undulating ground, and on all models each of the rotary arms counter-rotates to leave an even spread of cut material.

For information Tel: 01789 773383; Web: www.bomford-turner.com.

STRESS DETECTION GLASSES

Bomar Technologies has announced a breakthrough in turf stress detection with new special lens filter technology for early detection of disease, water or pest related problems.

Technology developed by NASA scientists and Dr. Robert Brock, now lets greenkeepers spot stressed turf close up or at a distance, with plenty of time to react to correct unhealthy conditions. These lenses block out green colour range, any off colour will stand out against the black background as glowing red, coral, pink, or other hue allowing turf to be quickly identified.

For technical information Web: www.bomartechologies.com.

PBS 150

PBS150 represents new technology for long-term surfactants used for turfgrass and is available though Tower Chemicals. Unlike older surfactant chemistries that are applied at higher rates to achieve longer lasting performance, PBS150 uses a new surfactant molecular construction to add the source of performance loss — biodegradation of the surfactant molecule by soil microbes.

The PBS150 Polyfunctional Branched Surfactant Technology brings a new dimension to long-term surfactant performance. PBS150 is surfactant specifically designed to compensate for rapid natural molecular breakdown by microbes in the soil profile.

For technical information Tel: 0113 256 8111; Web: www.towerchemicals.com.

BOOSTING RANGE

The Makita line trimmer and brushcutter range has been increased with the introduction of three new 2-stroke models and two further 4-stroke brushcutters.

The new straight shaft RST210 and RBC2110 line trimmers both feature a low-emissions 21cc petrol engine that delivers 0.83hp and with electronic ignition is rated at 620watts. Both trimmers come with 2-line head, protection hood and tool kit and the RBC2110 model is delivered complete with a working harness to support the machine in operation.

The RBC2510 is a powerful 24.5cc machine with 1.3hp. This rugged 980watt trimmer has three optional auxiliary attachments that make it a very versatile machine around the grounds. A polesaw attachment gives lopping power and coupled with the 170cm shaft length provides ample reach and is capable of pruning 4inch diameter timber.

For technical information Tel: 01908 211678; Web: www.makita.uk.com.
CORE PRODUCTS

Charterhouse Turf Machinery offers two new high work-rate core collectors designed for maximum efficiency. The CC3000 model is a self-propelled pedestrian machine, while the CC2000 is a tractor-mounted version. Both feature a fully floating pick-up head and a stainless steel bottom blade for efficient collection even in wet conditions.

The CC3000 has a conveyor belt lift system that ejects the cores into the 7.06 cu ft capacity hopper. The tractor-trailed CC2000 features a rotary impeller collector head that throws the collected material at great velocity into the hopper. This speed of delivery helps shatter the cores and enables a greater volume to be collected before emptying.

For technical information Tel: 01428 661222; Web: www.charterhouseturfmachinery.co.uk.

COMPRESSING THE JOB

Ingersoll-Rand portable compressors form the core of an innovative range of new radio controlled, hydraulic track-mounted compressors now available for hire or purchase from Hirecorp UK.

The new range of track-mounted compressors has been designed to solve the problem of delivering and moving compressors about sites with very restricted access, such as sites with very soft or muddy ground and uneven terrain. Hirecorp UK has mounted Ingersoll-Rand compressors on vulcanised rubber tracks to provide the manoeuvrability and low ground bearing pressure needed to deliver the compressors to these inaccessible sites. The design helps to avoid the costs of project delays and equipment downtime and other costs associated with damage recharges and the reinstatement of the areas of ground and turf.

For technical information Tel: 0191 5279740; Web: www.drilcorp.com.

AMINO ACIDS LAUNCHED

Biobierica, based in Spain, has launched its new range of amino acids, Amino-Sorbs, after their successful experience in the USA and, more recently, in Japan.

Biobierica participated in Symposium, organised by the Spanish Greenkeepers Association, in Galicia, Spain, in November.

The Technical Director of Biobierica, Dr. Rafael Pinol, made a presentation about the benefits of amino acids products in turf grass submitted to stress conditions.

For technical information Web: www.bioiberica.com.

NOT JUST FOR KIDS

If you’re mad about John Deere, then the company’s new 2005/06 Collection Catalogue is an absolute must. Birthdays, Christmas, work, rest and play – there’s a leaping deer logo for every occasion and every generation.

Popular party items include flags and pennants, cups and plates, even lollipops and balloons, and the latest die-cast model toys from Ertl feature a new HPX 4x4 Gator and 7820 tractor. The two seater electric ride-on Gator has been a firm favourite for the last couple of years, and is now joined by a new off-road 4x4.

But if you think it’s all just kids’ stuff, you’d be wrong – check out the wide range of hard-wearing work clothes and stylish leisure wear for men and women, and the usual vast array of caps.

For information Tel: 01949 860491; Web: www.johndeere.co.uk.

BEYOND THE PERIMETER

Tildenet has unveiled their brand new lattice-work fence design with a 15m high perimeter fence installed at Vale of Glamorgan Golf Club. The new lattice-work design allows huge spans of up to 50m between each tower enabling the high fences to almost disappear.

The towers can allow fences as high as 30 meters and the structure means that the fence can withstand extremely strong winds. The new design is environmentally friendly and it will make it far easier for clubs to achieve planning permission for high fencing, which is necessary for safety, according to the company.

For technical information Tel: 0117 9669684; www.tildenet.co.uk.

DELIVERING POWER

The Viking MB 858 mower delivers power, robust design, superb handling and innovative details claim the company.

With its 11.5 HP OHY Briggs & Stratton engine, the new machine achieves rapid, high quality cutting performance - even in difficult conditions and on tough terrain. The engine's overhead valve design (OHV) ensures quiet running, good power efficiency and low fuel consumption - with a large external fuel tank (5.5 litre) enabling around four hours running time without needing to re-fuel.

Its robust 3-speed gearbox allows precise control of the drive speed. An additional reverse gear and differential rear axle promote handling and true manoeuvrability further aided by the traction of rubber profiled tyres.

For technical information Tel: 01276 20202; Web: www.stihl.co.uk.