**NEW PRODUCTS**

**A TRIMSTAR IS BORN**

With an operating hand/arm vibration level of just 2.39m/s², the new Hustler TrimStar hydrostatic walk behind mower has been launched by UK importer Allen Power Equipment.

To support this low vibration figure, the TrimStar is fitted with the H Bar self-centring steering system, which lowers operator fatigue, often attributed to commercial mowers with the older style pistol grip steering systems. Speed forward, reverse, brake and turns are all controlled with the easy to learn, easy to operate H-Bar Plus Steering, which now comes with cruise control for added efficiency.

When it comes to cutting, the TrimStar is fitted with a 36” side discharge mower, with optional mulching kit to reduce cuttings injecting them back into the turf to retain moisture and return vital nutrients back to the soil. The range of cutting heights is adjusted by a positive and robust pin-type adjustment set at four corners of the deck.

For further information Tel: 08456 750730.

**BUILD YOUR ESTEEM**

Vitax, in conjunction with Dow Agrosciences, unveiled Esteem at Harrogate Week, their most effective selective herbicide to date.

Aimed primarily at golf course fairways, the product has shown outstanding control during trials on all major difficult weeds such as clover, dandelions, daisies, plantains and creeping thistle. Rain fast in an hour, and with an application rate of just three litres per hectare, Esteem’s efficiency means less chemical used to powerful effect. The product is available in eco friendly two litre PET plastic bottles.

For further information Tel: 01530 510060.

**UNDER THE MICROSCOPE MASCOT GROWS**

Headland has introduced the first mini microscope for widespread use by Turf Professionals.

Just three inches high by three inches wide the new IPM Scope runs off a computer, either PC or laptop, and sends digital images straight to the screen. With magnification rates from 40x to 140x the instrument combines power with portability, and combined with a laptop can be used in the field. Once viewed, magnified material can be frozen, stored, emailed or printed in the usual way.

For further information Tel: 01223 597834; Web: www.headlandamenity.co.uk.

**VARY THAT SEED**

Sisis has introduced a new version of their Variseeder. This compact seeder is designed for use on golf greens, tees and approaches and can be used with any tractor with 3 point linkage and can be adapted to fit most trucksters.

The Variseeder 1300 has a wider working width and a simpler, more accurate method of selecting the seeding rates. It utilises a studded roller, specially cast, with seeding rate being variable and is simple and accurate to set by single lever. An Ultra Fine seeding roller is available for sowing pure bents. A transparent cover is fitted for seed level visibility.

Surface disturbance is minimal so overseeding can be carried out without taking the ground out of play. The Variseeder 1300 offers a fast work rate and low maintenance with few wearing parts.

For further information Tel: 01625 503030; Web: www.sisis.com.

**Rigby Taylor has introduced numerous new products into its Mascot range.**

Green Spread is a completely BSI PAS 100 accredited, non peat, high quality compost produced from recycled green and woody plant materials. It has a high and measurable level of quality and consistency, offering the user a guaranteed standard of excellence batch after batch.

Mascot Magnet Rapide is a chelated liquid iron producing a prolonged and rapid enhancement of turf colour. Magnet Rapide also contains an enhanced leaf penetrant system which helps the iron move rapidly into the plant where it can have maximum effect. This results in a rapid green up (within 12 hours of application) and with long lasting effects (up to 6 weeks from one application).

Mascot Guardian is a range of high quality mini granular fertilisers for use on golf and bowling greens, tennis courts, ornamental lawns and sportsfield areas. Not only do Guardian fertilisers provide traditional nutrients, but they also contain amino acids which will help the turf to withstand the rigours of stress, and an Enhanced Root Developer (ERD) for improving root establishment and development.

For further information Tel: 0800 424 919; Web: www.rigbytaylor.com.
UNIVERSAL MAINTENANCE

Making its Harrogate Week debut was Wiedenmann’s new Super 500, a multi purpose turf maintenance machine that can be used as a scarifier, flail mower or turf sweeper depending on the attachments employed.

The fully floating heads with 1.6 metre working widths, be it brush, slitter or flail attachment, ensure a clean, even pass over undulating ground and the powerful, high performance vacuum collects cuttings and other debris and deposits them into a 2,500 litre hopper.

The 2.1 metre high dump facility on the CHD model allows for easy tipping into bins and trailers and is an optional extra on the basic sweeping model.

Other options include rear lights; a floating rear axle which allows the Super 500 to follow undulating terrain more easily; a front roller to help reduce the chances of scalping and in cab remote control to allow the operator to change the three operating functions head unit lift and lower, hopper lift and hopper tip.

For further information Tel: 0141 8143366; Web: www.wiedenmann.co.uk.

NEW ELECTRIC UTILITY VEHICLE

Extra comfort and convenience are provided by John Deere’s new TE Gator utility vehicle, which is the latest addition to the T (for Traditional) Series range and replaces the existing E Gator electric model.

Powered by a whisper-quiet electric motor, the TE Gator offers a clean, durable and efficient option for a variety of amenity, turf and golf course applications, where users are concerned about noise levels and exhaust emissions in the workplace.

Featuring improved operator comfort with more legroom, adjustable seats, front-end storage and a cupholder, this latest model now has a forward, neutral, reverse switch on the dashboard, instead of the previous floor-mounted gearstick. There is also a new option of four-post ROPS or cab protection.

This four wheel, two seater electric utility vehicle has a top speed of 15.5mph and offers the same advantages as the established petrol and diesel Gator models: low ground pressure to help prevent ground compaction; a wide wheelbase and low centre of gravity for stability; simple, smooth and reliable operation; and easy access to all service points for convenient maintenance.

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

RIDE ON FRONT

New from Kubota at Harrogate Week 2006 was be two high performance Diesel out front ride-on rotary mowers designed for day-long commercial mowing operations. Kubota’s new F80 Series comprises the F2880 and F3680 models, rated at 28hp and 36hp respectively.

Apart from delivering more power than the machines they replace, the new mowers feature enhanced operator comfort, more durable cutter decks and a 25 per cent improvement in lift capacity, enabling them to deal comfortably with the most demanding commercial mowing applications. In common with their predecessors, the F80 Series out front mowers are powered by Kubota’s E-TVCS water-cooled diesel engines, renowned for their low levels of noise, exhaust emissions and fuel consumption, making them among the quietest and most cost-effective machines in their class.

For further information Tel: 0800 0231111; Web: www.kubota.co.uk.

DO THE MATHS

New formulations launched at Harrogate Week 2006 for Johnsons included Rye Green and J5. The latter provides year round colour and is very hardwearing under close mown conditions, ideal for golf tees, fairways and driving ranges. Rye Green is a choice for the renovation of extremely worn greens, incorporating a top rated turf type Perennial Ryegrass, which provides excellent recovery and hardwearing qualities.

Also available from the Johnsons portfolio is Villa, a new Velvet Bent, promising to set new standards in green’s quality. With double the shoot density of a traditional Agrostis and improved colour and fineness of leaf, the new cultivar is worth finding out more about.

For further information Tel: 01386 791102.

HOLLAND ON INCREASE

The latest additions to the New Holland line-up are the TC31D-A and TC35D-A, which have 31hp and 35hp capacities respectively, and further enhance the breadth of New Holland’s TCD-A range.

To minimise weight and the risk of compaction, New Holland has used the same chassis as is used on the existing 27hp TC27D-A. This gives more power without any significant weight increase. New tyre options are also offered for the optimum tractor footprint. Both models have 4-wheel drive and can be fitted with New Holland’s SuperSteer front axle, giving an unrivalled 76° of turn angle.

New Holland’s aim to design tractors for the 21st century is reflected by the modern styling throughout the TCD-A range. Their curvaceous panels look good and are highly practical, such as the sloping engine hood, whose narrow profile gives excellent all-round visibility.

For further information visit www.newholland.com.
BERNHARD GOES DOUBLE

Bernhard and Company, manufacturer’s of Express Dual and Anglemaster grinders, announced two new products at Harrogate Week.

The Express Dual Blade Thinning Attachment is a new accessory ideal for those golf courses that want to do an annual relief grind without compromising the legendary speed and ease of use of Express Dual. The Attachment allows for a relief grind to be carried out on the Express Dual without taking up any additional workspace. Blade thinning attachment is mounted to the lift table and is easily positioned to allow for normal loading and unloading of mowers while still permitting normal use of the lift table.

The new and improved Rotamaster 4000 has a clamp mechanism and fast aligning jig bars. Blade mounting is now easier and faster than ever before, delivering significant benefits in overall cycle time. Rotamaster ensures both ends of the blade are sharpened equally with the precision only an automated machine can deliver, so your rotary blades have a superior edge with consistent balance for a better quality of cut, resulting in longer lasting blades and better looking grass.

For further information Tel: 01788 811600.

STRI UNITE WITH RANSOMES

The Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI) has launched ‘Sustainable Golf Course Management’ a combined DVD and CD Rom package to stimulate awareness of the ecological and environmental impact of golf in today’s society. The production of both items has been sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen, the Ipswich based turf equipment manufacturers.

The DVD is a television quality, 30 minute presentation showing the positive side of the golf industry and is aimed at players, the general public and those in the golf sector to raise awareness of the importance of golf courses throughout the UK. The DVD features a series of interviews with proprietors, course managers, greenkeepers and golf officials with contributions from other related organisations including English Nature, Committed to Green Foundation, STRI, Scottish Golf Environment Group and BIGGA.

The hour long CD Rom takes an in depth look at specific ecological management issues and provides practical advice and guidance to operators and managers of golf courses. Best practice is at the heart of the content which comprises interviews with greenkeepers who have tackled and solved specific eco and enviro related problems.

For further information Tel: 01274 565131.

TORO IN THE SAND

Called the Sand Pro 5040 and 3040, they join Toro’s existing 2020 model and are fitted with a powerful 18hp Briggs & Stratton engine. They also feature a three wheel series/parallel drive system for optimum traction when working in all types and sizes of bunkers, including those with steep faces and uneven contours.

The Sand Pro 5040 has a 7.5in ground clearance and the Sand Pro 3040 a 6in.

Many of the attachments for the Sand Pros are new, whereas others have been redesigned to make them easier to attach and remove. For bunker repair and maintenance, there is a selection of rugged attachments such as a spring rake, tooth rake, spikers of various widths, a manual or hydraulic blade, a variety of mats, a finish grader and leveling bar. They are designed to minimise manual work and produce the finest landscapes and bunkers.

For further information Tel: 01480 226800.

NEW ARTICULATORS CUT A DASH

Lastec introduced a new version of its out-front mowing deck, the Articulator 425EF, at Harrogate Week. The new model is a 2.4 metre wide, fully articulating rotary deck, offered with specially engineered kits to be mounted on six major brands of traction unit. Three independent decks follow ground contours to provide the effect of four small push mowers. Cut height is easily adjustable from 2.5cm to 12cm.

Also making its debut was the 3372 Articulator Turbo Diesel with grass collection facility and a striping roller. The 3372 is a three-deck machine with 72° cutting width, designed to provide superior manoeuvrability and cut quality to conventional mid-mount and out-front units.

For further information Tel: 01622 812103.