WIEDEMANN UK’S PLATINUM CHARITY TERRA SPIKE KEEPS OMBERSLEY GC OPEN

What a difference a year makes when you’ve taken delivery of a Wiedemann Terra Spike GXi8 HD. Ombersley Golf Club purchased Wiedemann UK’s charity platinum-painted deep aerator last January, and coincidentally was also celebrating 20 years of operation. In truth, the Kidderminster club would have purchased the Terra Spike a year previously but too many weather-enforced course closures meant they had to delay their investment.

Exactly a year on, Ombersley happily reports that they’ve had no closures what so ever and that drainage on the course has never been better. The club will hardly have known the Terra Spike was there, such has been the transformation in the quality of the turf was evident to everybody.

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Andrew Halfpenny, Course Manager, said: “We’ve set up a programme to aerate eight days a month on tees, greens and aprons. We’ve pretty much stuck to that in the spring, autumn and winter but got a little bit caught up with other tasks during the summer. From October onwards, when the days became shorter, we really started to reap the benefits of sustained frequent aeration. The transformation in the quality of the turf was evident to everybody. “We’ve remained open when others around have had to shut and are currently enjoying a steady flow of business. We’ve been fortunate to take on another member of greenkeeping staff, so from our perspective aeration is truly working and is our key critical task.”

BRITISH SUGAR TOPSOIL GUIDE LAUNCHED

British Sugar Topsoil – who recently exhibited at BTME for the first time – have already agreed to return next year – have launched a free booklet outlining how topsoil can be used on golf courses.

They’ve teamed up with Peter Jones Associates Ltd to produce the eight-page technical research ‘Essential Guide’ which is a must for those involved in the golf course industry. It’s freely available as a download from British Sugar TOPSOIL’s web site www.bstopsoil.co.uk or by calling 08702 402314.

Call 01480 226848 or visit toro.com/lynx

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Your golf course often demands quick thinking and well-executed actions to maintain optimal playability, while also managing resources. Now there’s a faster, easier way for course managers to get on top of course management, decisions. Designed for use with the Toro Golf Decoder Controller (GDC), the new Lynx Control System was developed to give turf managers intuitive control over what happens on a course by making all essential irrigation information readily available in one place.

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MARCH 2013

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Moor Hall GC Rolls Out the Red Iron

Moor Hall Golf Club in the West Midlands has become one of the first in the UK to put Toro’s new GreensPro 1200 greens roller through its paces.

Course manager and BIGGA member Wayne Ganning (shown inset above) included the machine in his replacement Toro fleet package after the Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI) recommended greens ironing to help improve the smoothness and trueness of the Sutton Coldfield course’s greens.

As he explains: “We didn’t get a great deal of use out of the iron last summer because of all the rain, but when we did use it the results confirmed that smoothness and trueness improved. Also, surface performance achieved near-tournament levels with surface performance achieved and trueness improved. Also, a much quicker grounds speed, which makes us more productive,” he adds.

A machine Wayne did get plenty of use out of during the washout summer was the SandPro 3040 bunker raker. “We bought a front plough as the washout summer was the old Toro fleet reaching the end of its useful life. Wayne’s other new mowers include a Groundsmaster 3500-D and 4500-D, and a Reelmaster 6700-D. “I’ve particularly noticed that the 4500-D rotary mower has a much quicker grounds speed, which makes us more productive,” he adds.

More for MacGregor

MacGregor Forest & Groundcare have recently been appointed as the authorised dealer for the Redexim Charterhouse professional Golf and Turf Management machinery range, in the North West Scotland area.

As a well-established business with regional branches in Injoo, Portree and Shornessie, MacGregor Forest & Groundcare work with a host of national names and have an excellent market share in the areas they serve.

Commenting on the agreement with MacGregor Forest & Groundcare Depot Manager Callum Sim said: “the decision to work with Redexim Charterhouse was customer driven as we had noticed an increase in demand from our clients for Aeration, Overseeding, Top Dressing and both natural and synthetic turf maintenance equipment.

Our subsequent market research confirmed the quality and established reputation of the Redexim Charterhouse product range and we have also found the dealer support and back-up to be excellent.”

BSH Produces New Combined Catalogue

British Seed Houses has produced a new product catalogue which combines its Grade ‘A’ amenity grass seed and fertilisers in one booklet.

The new-look catalogue details the comprehensive range of products available from the UK’s largest privately-owned grass seed company and has been well received by customers.

Amenity sales manager Richard Brown said: “We look to improve the catalogue year on year to further improve the quality, and to ensure it is a well-laid-out, informative guide. It was a natural progression for us to combine the seed and fertiliser catalogues together, rather than having separate ones, as it was felt more appropriate for our customers.

“Our products are closely interlinked and our technical sales representatives advise on both seed and fertilisers. They have specialist knowledge and experience to help professionals in the golf, sports and landscaping sectors to find the correct grass seeds and fertilisers to benefit and improve their facilities.”

The representatives operate throughout the UK and are also FACTS qualified (Fertiliser Advisers Certification Training scheme). The British Seed Houses product catalogue is available to download at www.bshtamenity.com

The Greensmaster eFlex from Toro, our first lithium-ion battery-powered electric greensmower. This revolutionary power source is far superior to lead-acid batteries, being cleaner and far more efficient. What’s more, the eFlex battery is designed to last five years, cutting as many as nine typical greens on a single charge. And with minimum downtime and low maintenance costs, the eFlex will even save you money in the long run.

Of course, its superior cutting technology delivers the finest putting surface and playing experience you would expect from Toro, but added to this, the mower is clean, environmentally friendly and, crucially, incredibly quiet. All this, and more, make the eFlex the perfect choice for golf club looking for a green solution, especially those with hotels and guest accommodation.

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