A winter application of Kerb followed by a glyphosate application during the summer to treat subsequent broad leaved weed invasions is a useful programme to consider for broad leaved/conifer planting schemes.

Isoxaben (Flexidor 125 or Gallery 125). This is a pre-emergent liquid herbicide sprayed on bare soil to control broad leaved weeds. It is useful when applied mixed with Kerb (ie liquid) when treating dense grass as the kerb kills the existing invading grass for three-six months and the Isoxaben prevents colonisation of the broad leaved weeds. Their action in the tank-mix is complementary leading to effective control of grasses and broad leaved weeds. Expensive, though Flexidor is cheaper than Gallery. It is also one of the few herbicides that control willowherb.

Atrazine has both foliar contact and residual soil action and is an old favourite among some foresters though its safety is under question. It is most useful on soft grasses but will give some control of broad leaved species and the coarse grasses. Its timing of application follows on after that of Kerb, from February and March up to May. Though all broadleaves are sensitive while in leaf and should only be treated before the start of bud burst in the spring.

**Conclusion**

Successful tree establishment depends on the correct species choice, followed by good planning, planting, weed and maintenance.

Chemical herbicides are a great aid to the woodland manager and their correct use is both an economical and effective means of ensuring that the trees we plant today will be the quality woods of tomorrow. However, on lowland sites the removal of grasses leaves ground open to colonisation by all sorts of unwanted weeds. Care must be taken to prevent the spread of ragwort and the like and to control voles where often the use of 300mm vole guards is the best protection.

Eamonn Wall can be contacted at Eamonn Wall Associates Tel: 01259 743212.
The Articulator

"Quality rotary mowers for a world that isn't flat"

96" low HP requirement

High output 124" precise height of cut

Four 25" articulating cutting decks duplicate the cut quality of four individual push mowers

Deck will fit a wide range of out front tractor units

Powerful 38hp diesel 96" cut. Height of cut from seat.

Low cost finance
Low maintenance costs
Minimum arisings
Solve your leaf problem with a mulching kit
Contours your turf instead of scalping
Bring fairway presentation to your semi-rough/rough

FREE DEMONSTRATION

Call for a free demonstration in your area NOW!

Scotland: Double A Trading: Sandy 01382 330556
North/Midlands: MGM: Dean 0116 289 2595
Wales: Major Owen: Andy 01766 770261
South West: PJ Flagg: Paul 01404 815666
South East: Marlwood Ltd: Keith 01622 728718

Courthouse Farm, Forge Lane, East Farleigh, Maidstone, Kent ME15 ORQ
Tel: 01622 728718 Fax: 01622 728720
"FOUR!"

Tees, greens, fairways and roughs, now you can "whole in one" with Barenbrug mixtures especially formulated for specific purposes.

1. Greens - Bar 2 mixture
2. Fairways - Bar 3 mixture
3. Roughs - Bar 4 mixture
4. Tees - Bar 5 mixture

Containing varieties like Bargreen, Barcrown, Bardot and Heriot, Barenbrug mixtures will give superb colour, hard wear, low maintenance and rapid growth.

As with all Barenbrug mixtures, they contain varieties consistently rated in the top banding of the STRI Turfgrass Seed booklets.

BARENBRUG
Great in Grass

Tel: (01359) 270766 Fax: (01359) 271021

SPOT THE RABBIT!

HUMANE RABBIT CONTROL

Reading Business Centre, Weldale Street, Reading, Berkshire RG1 7BX
Tel: +(44) 0118 951 0033 Fax: +(44) 0118 951 0044
http://www.AmenityTechnology.com

If they played ice hockey on grass...

The most extensively trialled, tested and proven grass seed coating ever!

Fortiva is a breakthrough in applied seed technology.
A unique concept that provides faster better grass establishment

...we've a seed tough enough to take it!

Fortiva
APPLIED SEED TECHNOLOGY

For further information contact:
01472 371220
01472 371195

TRIALS & RESULTS

+51%
+31%
-80%
+45%

PLANT SURVIVAL
SHOOT DENSITY
REDUCES DISEASE
GROUND COVER

APPLIED SEED TECHNOLOGY

March 1998 Greenkeeper International 43
BIGGA SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES REGION PRESENTS

29TH APRIL, 1998
MAKE A DATE FOR THE WINDOW ON THE WEST

Westurf will have a whole new look this year - put the date in your diary -

29TH APRIL, 1998
LONG ASHTON GOLF CLUB 10AM - 4PM

New this year - come and meet the experts. Consultants include representatives from Symbio; Dr Brian Clifford from Astara; Peter Winter from STRI; John Mullins talking on water management and representatives from the colleges on education. Full list of consultants in next month's Greenkeeper International.

FURTHER DETAILS FROM PAULA HUMPHRIES ON 01363 82777

Consistency of the growing medium is the key to superior greens and tees, which is why Rufford place such importance on the uniform particle size and the quality of all our sand/soil products from Rootzone mixes to Top-dressing mediums.

With Rufford you know they must be the best, because:
- Materials are constantly checked.
- All dressings are heat treated.
- Uniform particle size.
- Soil analysis service.
- Guaranteed quality.
- Professional advice.

Of course, achieving such consistently high quality products is only possible when the technical aspects of each sand/soil mix is under the tightest control. Again an area in which Rufford is uniquely qualified, not only operating our own quarries, but with in-house laboratories constantly monitoring their output.

Does your current supplier of Top Dressings, Root Zones and Sands:

- Own a quarry containing the highest quality Cheshire Silica Sand?
- Produce all products to BS EN ISO 9002?
- Carry out hourly tests of all the grades of sand which they produce, to ensure the highest quality?
- Test every batch of Top dressing and Root Zone to assure you the consistency which you require?
- Have the productive capacity to produce 600 tons of Top Dressing per day, so that you will not be let down at the busiest times of the year?
- Use top quality hauliers to ensure that deliveries are in the right place, at the right time and without a mess?

If your current supplier cannot offer you all of these, we would be delighted to.

Please call 01270 765996 for prompt service and delivery.

Arclid Quarry
Congleton Road
Sandbach
Cheshire
CW11 4SN

Technology
ON THE RIGHT
COURSE

PUTTING

SOIL TECHNOLOGY

Uniform size of particles is essential in resisting compaction.

Width range, for bunkers to greens
Rootzone Mix
Standard U.S.G.A. or made to order mixes
Screened Soil
Fully screened and shredded
Divot Mixes
Especially blended for golf tees & fairway divotting

SOIL TECHNOLOGY
RUFFORD

ENGLAND & WALES
Tel: 01260 281801
SCOTLAND
Tel: 01324 714477

CONFIRGATE
Hugh Tilley casts his eye over the items which can make such a difference on any golf course

Icing on the cake

The multitude of accessories and furniture such as hole cups, signs, markers, flags and the like are a necessity on any course and although they may appear trivial they are very important to the smooth and satisfactory operation of the course, furthermore they do add considerably to the cost.

While many courses do not use tee mats, nor have a driving range, these items also come within the description of accessories and for those clubs which use them they are important. Nor are most of these items inexpensive - and some areas find themselves with a considerable bill each year for...
Icing on the cake

50

replacing vandalised and stolen items.

Simple things such as broken rakes are more complex than perhaps appears at first sight, and not all rakes are equal. One greenkeeper told of the club which is being sued because a golfer got a splinter in his hand from a wooden handle. Needless to say that club has changed to glass reinforced plastic (grp) handles for their rakes. Another club found that each autumn several rakes got "borrowed" for someone's garden leaves, but there are models which are not suitable for raking leaves.

Tee mats, once mainly the prerogative of a driving range, are finding favour on an ever increasing number of courses, particularly to save the grass tee areas in winter. In addition players are favouring them because they provide a cleaner and more stable surface from which to drive. Winter tee mats are usually supplied complete with a base, steel legs, or perhaps wood. They can be expected to cost several hundreds of pounds if bought as a complete ready made item, however, Course Manager, Paul Bishop, of Combe Manor near Bath, said they make their own in treated timber which they bed on sand and peg down - and this has proved to be much cheaper than buying proprietary units. He also commented that it has the advantage that they can trim the mat to fit exactly. Catalogues list a wide variety of mats, of differing materials and sizes, to suit differing needs and locations. Some allow the golfer to insert their own tee pegs, others require a flat based ball tee.

Many clubs have a practice bay or similar enclosure, Tildenet is pre-eminent in this field although there are other well established net makers. Tildenet has supplied the complete unit including poles, guy ropes and pegs. Like most of these items which tend to stay out all year round, in wind, rain and sun, it is important that they are fully protected from these elements, or if not rot proofed, then they must be cheap and easy enough to replace regularly. Steel is usually painted, but may be better galvanised while timber is best tanalised to B.S. standard rather than just surface treated. Degradation occurs with most types of plastic, including glass reinforced plastic (grp) unless sufficient u.v. stabiliser is included in the compound. However, excess stabiliser can cause other life reducing effects such as brittleness and loss of plasticity. With the correct

WEED PROBLEM SOLVED!

Whatever your weed problem, trust Complete Weed Control to have all the answers!

Employing the latest advances in application technology, such as the new Weed-it optic system and drift free Ecospray, CWC demonstrate continued commitment to bring to its customers the very best contracting service available today. Specialist local service centres are spread across the whole of the UK to give you on the spot service.

For answers to every weed problem

01608 644044

Complete Weed Control Ltd 7 Astley House, Cromwell Business Park, Banbury Road, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire OX7 5SR Tel: 01608 644044 Fax: 01608 644722

100 FREE

GREENSPEED METERS

- and no obligation!

If you've always wanted a stimpmeter but never got round to buying one, here's an opportunity you can't afford to miss!

Simply phone us NOW and we will send you a greenspeed meter FREE. No catch, no obligation, but hurry there are only 100 on offer!

Then if you find there's room for improvement in the speed and consistency of your greens you know who to contact don't you!

TRUE-SURFACE

...makes true greensSTM

THE UNIQUE ROLLERS THAT CAN MAKE

CONSISTENT SPEEDS ON ALL YOUR GREENS!

Direct from the Exclusive European Distributor

GREENSWARD DIRECT

Manor Farm, Otley Road, Adel, Leeds LS16 7AL

0113 267 6000
The feature of the Tacit Tufftex solid ball type tee marker will float is of vital importance to some greenkeepers.

While flags are freely available in various colours with numbers on them, there are other options, including having sponsors or club names on them. Nylon and polyester are the usual materials used, but these may be knitted or woven, with number or logo etc. either printed or sewn on. The important point in getting value for money is longevity - some styles will last longer and look smarter, the main flag 'killer' being wind, and nothing looks worse than a tattered flag.

The chances are that expensive club and sponsor flags will be put out for specific gala days and then rapidly replaced with less expensive flags. For clubs with frequent match days perhaps the ability to change flags quickly and easily becomes important - this facility can be found.

A wide variety of signs is available, from temporary usage signs such as 'Ground Under Repair' and 'Spraying in Progress' to customised signs - you name it and it can be made. It looks better if all signs on the course are of the same format and type, and while most suppliers of course equipment offer both off the peg and customised signs it is also possible to use a local company/sign writer to produce them - and perhaps less expensive. The most preferred signage would appear to be of cast aluminium, however there are plastic or resin based alternatives which may be less expensive.

Vandalism on some courses is a major cause of loss, and the option some clubs have taken is to use inexpensive alternatives, such as a length of standard pvc pipe. Greenkeepers talk about having their flag pins used as javelins and of having them thrown into a lake. Similar can occur to any easily movable course furniture - such as signs, seats and rakes. Perhaps and distance markers all fit within this category - and all are an integral part of the equipment the greenkeeper is expected to maintain. Furthermore adding up the cost on a normal 18 hole course probably equals several thousands of pounds - depending on how far up-market the club pitches itself. Nevertheless the appearance of these items is important to a club - and to the overall view of the club given to visitors.

Buy a Pattisson Premier Hole Cutter with Reinforced Blades and receive a FREE Holecup Extractor and Rammer

Buy a Set of Flag Pins & Flags & receive a set of Pattisson's New Bogey Holecup FREE!
Thatch Reduction Guaranteed!

Use Symbio Thatch Eater as part of your thatch reduction and cultural programme. If you do not see a reduction in thatch we will supply SYMBIO’s biotech solutions free of charge for up to a year, until the thatch layer starts to disappear.

TO FIND OUT HOW BIOTECHNOLOGY CAN WORK FOR YOU

call 01372 456 101

BANKING HAS NEVER BEEN SO EASY

THAT’S THE BEAUTY OF A NATIONAL

When it comes to staying the course, you can bank on the Allen National range keeping you on the straight and narrow. The Allen National range of triple mowers - 68, 68DL & 84 - are the only real choice for the professional on the tees and surrounds. And as for bunkers, they’re no longer a hazard. The 68DL has transport speed, electric start and full width rollers. Banking has never been so easy.

CALL

0845 601 081 5

FOR A FREE BROCHURE

OR COMPLETE THE COUPON BELOW

Telephone: 01235 515400 for details of your nearest dealer for a FREE, no obligation, demonstration on the amazing ability of the National.
Sales and Marketing Manager, James McEvoy, reports on his first visit to the GCSAA Conference and Show, and his first visit to the States.

California dreaming

A zero phosphate feed and turf conditioner

- A mini-granular true compound fertilizer with a 4:0:8 analysis
- Contains 4% Iron, 2% Magnesium and Seaweed Extract
- Contains 7.5% Sulphur which can help in controlling the soil pH
- Low application rate (35 g/sq. m) for use on fine turf and other amenity areas
- For all year round use – early spring programme, cosmetic use in season, late autumn application

*Miracle Professional* --for amenity turf --with Magnesium, Iron and Seaweed Extract

25 Kg

‘Longlife’ and ‘Invigorator’ are trade marks of Miracle Garden Care Ltd.
Having spent a year heavily involved in organising and marketing BTME '98, when Neil Thomas suggested that I travel with the BIGGA party to Anaheim, California, (home of Disneyland and Mickey Mouse) for the GCSAA's annual show, I was delighted to accept.

However, trying to explain to my partner, Julie, that the trip was purely business proved the most arduous task and with only a week between the two shows, it was also a hectic programme. But this provided an opportunity I found difficult to resist, and I would spend a great deal of my time comparing and contrasting the two very different, yet equally successful approaches.

Los Angeles, where the sun always shines, California dreams and all that. Well before we go any further let me tell you, we saw very little sun thanks to the unfriendly weather caused by the infamous El Nino. Rain, and lots of it, along with storms. No chance of getting my legs tanned in the shorts I'd optimistically packed (I hope Julie doesn't read this). It could have been worse though, it could have snowed at the BTME. I had foolishly assumed that unlike our show which always has one eye on the weather, theirs would be guaranteed clear blue skies. Having said that, it was amusing to watch the CNN weather reports. Oh, how the Americans have a habit of overstating things.

LA is a sprawl, extending for miles in all directions and Anaheim is just one of its many suburbs. With no obvious centre, the area is dominated by Disneyland, and the Disneyland Hotel provides accommodation for visitors to the Magic Kingdom. This was where the BIGGA party stayed for the next eight nights and in fact was one of the designated hotels for the GCSAA's show. Many of the 1000 bedrooms in the hotel were occupied by show attendees. Buses relayed visitors to and from the show on a ten minute rota at peak times. Considering the "awesome" weather (gotta use the lingo), the buses were a major blessing.

The Anaheim Hilton Hotel, just a few minutes walk from the exhibition centre, was the official exhibition hotel and was used for all the Gala evenings and celebration dinners that were held over the week. The Americans are big on speeches and love to present every last family detail on video in their own inimitable style. Small wonder Jeremy Beadle is in possession of so much hilarious material!

Harrogate, by comparison, is a Conference town. All the hotels are within walking distance; the Majestic Hotel, which is the nerve centre for the BTME, has 156 rooms and is one the largest hotels in Harrogate. Little more than a