OMC puts Cushman on block

Cushman and Lawn-Boy are for sale. The Outboard Marine Corp. of Waukegan, Ill., has announced that its Lawn-Boy lawn mower and Cushman industrial vehicle and turf care businesses are for sale.

Corporate Chairman C.D. Strang said the sale of the two divisions would let the company concentrate on its expanding worldwide marine business. They are the owners of Donzi Marine and Chris Craft boat makers.

OMC earnings for the third quarter ending June 30 were more than 50 percent off last year's earnings. They are a 1.7 billion dollar manufacturer of marine products, consumer and professional turf care equipment and light industrial vehicles.

OMC feels the decline in sales was caused by slower lawn mower sales due to last year's drought as well as a slowdown in demand for marine products.

Dye: New courses demanding better irrigation systems

Architect Pete Dye emphasized the important role irrigation systems play on golf courses in recent remarks as keynote speaker at Rain Bird's annual Golf Distributor Meeting in Anaheim, Calif.

"Today's golf architects are designing bigger, better and more demanding golf courses that employ a greater-than-ever variety of turfgrasses mixed with native plant materials," Dye said. "They utilize frequent elevation changes, multiple tee areas and an abundance of bunkers. These factors combine to make the management of the course a nightmare for the course superintendent."

Dye indicated that the superintendent's salvation is the watering precision provided by today's advanced irrigation systems.

He pointed out that he did not even use irrigation on the first three courses he designed. "The requirements of new golf course designs, such as imposed at Oakhurst Country Club was designed by Johnson's statement came in the wake of a scare in the United States when the weed, which can kill cattle and sheep, was found in shipments of tall fescue grass seed from Argentina. At least one seed-testing laboratory in the United States expressed concern that the weed might continue to get past U.S. Department of Agriculture testers when it is shipped through Customs.

Indeed, more than 600,000 pounds did get into the country through a governmental error, but USDA officials say they have taken steps to prevent that from happening again.

Dale Kern of Seed Technology, Inc. in Marysville, Ohio, warned people to be on the lookout for the weed in shipments of tall fescue seed from Argentina, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, all of which have at one time or another had trouble with the weed. But Johnson said New Zealand has "special provisions within the Noxious Plants Act to control Nassella tussock (its formal name) infestations in New Zealand and there is an active and ongoing program for eradication of this weed in New Zealand."

He said the weed is now confined to "relatively isolated areas outside the seed-producing areas of New Zealand."

New Zealand disclaims noxious weed claim

Official says serrated tussock under control since 1973

New Zealand's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has reported that its testing station has not found the noxious serrated tussock weed in samples of seed submitted for testing for at least 15 years.

A.A. Johnson, manager of the Ministry's Official Seed Testing Station in Palmerston North, added, "Our records prior to 1973 do not indicate when this impurity was last found, but it was probably in the early 1960s."

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QUICK RELEASE pivots with basket so that basket cannot fall off without lever being raised. Just slides into carriage frame of mower (tighten one allen bolt) and by cutting one inch off hooks on baskets, (template included) it is installed. You will never have to replace it again!!

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Golf Course Europe '89


Exhibition

On 4, 5, 6 October '89 all golf course products and services will be on display during Golf Course Europe '89. If you are in this business, this really is an ideal opportunity for you to find out all about the latest products, services and know-how in this field. Meet the exhibitors: first class golf course designers, -builders and -suppliers from all over the world. A visit to GCE '89 will provide you with the information you need and definitely will be one of your best investments of the year.

GCE'89 will take place in: Rhein Main Halls, Wiesbaden, Germany, October 4, 5, 6 1989

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