Yamaha unveils the Ultima

Yamaha began production of its new golf car, the Ultima, on Sept. 1.

Available in gas and electric models, the Ultima features a comprehensive wrap-around Sentry Body Protection System with 5-mph bumpers from front and back; a worm gear and pinion steering system that emulates power steering; a suspension system similar to that found on automobiles; wider and deeper seats; a textured steering wheel; and self-adjusting, reduced-maintenance brakes.

For more information call Yamaha USA at 800-843-3354, ext. 440.

Rake with hydrostatic drive

Smithco’s new Sand Star bunker rake features a hydrostatic drive specially designed for high performance and low maintenance.

The hydrostatic system drives the two rear wheels through an Eaton transaxle and is linked directly to the engine throttle to automatically increase speed to meet all power demands. The rake is powered by a Kohler Command engine with 12.5-hp, overhead valves and a 2.5-gallon gas tank. With its single-tine, muller, the Sand Star provides low-noise operation.

Among its features are a tough, fiberglass body mounted on a 72-inch three-phase finishing rake; 61-inch, center-mounted cultivator assembly; and a hydraulic lift assembly for operation of the implements.

For more information contact 219-688-4009.

LESICO adds three new seeds

LESICO Inc. has added three new turfgrass seeds—Wildwood Kentucky Bluegrass, PennPro Kentucky Bluegrass and Brainty Fescue to its line. Wildwood Kentucky Bluegrass yields a dark green, relatively low, compact plant with excellent resistance to leaf spot, dollar spot and other major turf diseases.

PennPro Kentucky Bluegrass has a medium-green color, moderate-to-fine-texture leaf blade, excellent density and wear tolerance. Brainty Fescue is a moderately dark green, very dense, fine-textured selection. It exhibits good disease and traffic tolerance and is excellent in areas that are shaded or under moderate drought stress.

For more information telephone LESICO at 216-233-9250.

Fiddler’s Elbow open for play

FAR HILLS, N.J. — Fiddler’s Elbow Country Club’s new 18-hole golf course, designed by Rees Jones, opened July 1. Addition of the par-72 Forest Course expands Fiddler’s Elbow to 54 holes of golf, making it the largest in the state.

The Forest Course incorporates 200 acres of the biggest land on the property, it offers panoramic views of Sholey’s Mountain to the north and the Cushmanh Mountains to the southwest.

The first four holes play through the back and up back over open fields that have been transformed into mound lined fairways, accented by strategically placed bunkers. Of the more than 100 bunkers on the course, 19 of them are on the putting green.

There will be four sets of tees on every hole, which will allow the course to play from 5,154 to 7,128 yards.

“I was fortunate to be working with a naturally beautiful site, one of the best I’ve ever had to work with,” Jones said. “The rolling terrain is just about perfect, ... not too severe, but steep enough to provide a variety of gentle uphill and downhill shots. When you’re playing through the woods, you feel like you’re in a nature sanctuary, it’s so quiet and peaceful.”

Slow-release from ParEx

In the past, polymers have been used to coat potassium nitrate or potassium sulfate, and sulfur used to coat potassium sulfae or potassium chloride. Sulfur-coated products were unpredictable and often failed to provide extended longevity or caused damage. Coated products also have been relatively expensive because fertilizer materials used for polymer coating are costly and often are not round and smooth, resulting in additional expense.

Determined to find a solution to this dilemma, the research team at Vigoro Industries Inc., recently developed new technology which provides a coated potassium chloride substrate which gives a safe, slow-release form of potassium.

Par Ex turf-grade fertilizers, and soon will be made available in other formulations.

For more information, contact Vigoro at 1-800-767-2855, extension 3150.

Thompson rings for Commanders

Thompson Manufacturing Inc. has introduced a new stabilizer ring made of a bolt-on, high-strength plastic compound for its Commander series Rotor. It is offered as a retrofit item for heads in the field, and will be offered for sale as new rotors. The ring is designed to keep the rotor at grade for a longer period of time, even with the heaviest of turf equipment driving over it, and still allow the small profile of the Commander on the field.

Installed just below grade, the turf still grows up through it. Its design makes it easy to install and offers an economical alternative to raising heads every couple years. For more information contact Thompson Manufacturing Inc., 6073 Edison Blvd., Chino, Calif. 91708 or telephone 909-591-4851.

Parkway’s new Algea Rid

Parkway Research Corp.’s latest product, Algea Rid, is a liquid aquatic algicide that is both effective on a broad range of aquatic algae and safe to animal life.

Algea Rid is also compatible with Parkway’s lake colorants Blue Lagoon and Blue Lagoon WSH.

To receive a brochure or samples call 800-442-8821, or write Parkway Research Corp., 13902 Chrisman Rd., Houston, Texas 77339.

Hot spots: Fact or Fiction

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you've got a lot of flat flood plains.”

Norton and the NGF have tried to move would-be developers away from hot spots and into more practical analyses. The NGF offers an executive summary which includes questions to ask when conducting market research and feasibility studies. For example, when segmenting a market, developers should realize:

- Green fees vary with every market. High-end fees in Boston are $40-45, while the same golf experience cost you $20-25 in Nebraska. Do the research before you decide which market to enter.

- With feasibility studies on rounds played, evaluate the market based on competing green fees and the support (rounds played) you expect. This sounds basic, but you would be amazed, Norton said, how many developers fail to do it.

- Green fees are an approximation of amenity level. But an approximation of green fees (in a business plan) can’t be made until variousities at competing facilities are examined. Again, a simple but oft-looked over factor.