SHROPSHIRE, England — A curious dichotomy has appeared here concerning the uncracked riddle of rolling golf greens.

Hinckley, England-based Hardi Ltd. is preparing to withdraw the Greensiron from its product range due, largely, to the poor sales figures realized by the machine. Greensward Direct of Leeds, England, however, is delighted at how well its distribution of True Surface vibratory rollers is going.

A third example of the apparent roller roller-coaster is to be found at Sisis Inc. who withdrew from the market some time ago due to lack of commercial interest.

Lynn Hilton of Macclesfield, England-based Sisis was clear as to the reasons behind the lack of interest shown by golf courses around the UK. "Rolling causes compaction and compaction is bad for turf," said Hilton.

This is certainly the perceived view among the green committees around the country; but, as with most things agronomic, this is not such a black-and-white issue.

Stuart Ormondroyd, head of turfgrass agronomy at Bingley, England-based Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI) was clear on both the "pros" and the "cons."

"By rolling, you cause compaction, but, if the weight distribution is low then the beneficial effects, [a polished surface with increased speed], can be gained without causing undue compaction. Climate is also an important factor. If the [green] surface is moist the compaction will be increased. The climates of Australia and America are largely hotter and drier, the greens' surface will be drier and firmer and more suited to rolling."

The facts would seem to corroborate this statement with Australia and the U.S. being the initial flag-bearers for greens rolling. The exciting golf developments in such countries as Turkey and Greece would, therefore, appear to offer a new market for rollers.

Greensward Direct will no doubt be encouraged by this. Unlike Hardi, it distributes its roller on mainland Europe as well as the United Kingdom. Having sold around 50 machines to date, including customers such as Gleneagles, Carnoustie, Golfplatz Hoisdorf and Dalmahoy Hotel, Greensward's Becky Michel is naturally enthusiastic about the future.

"The rollers are proving very popular with golf courses," said Michel.

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ZENECA GETS OK IN NY

/WILMINGTON, Del.—Zeneca Professional Products has announced the registration and availability of SCIMITAR insecticide in the state of New York.

According to Zeneca, SCIMITAR contains lambda-cyhalothrin, an advanced-generation pyrethroid. It is effective on over 60 turf and ornamental insects, including bluegrass weevil and black turfgrass autenius adults, sod webworms, aphids and Japanese beetle adults.

SCIMITAR is available in two different formulations: a capsule suspension and a wettable powder, SCIMITAR WP.

So THERE YOU ARE,

2 under par, about to birdie the 18th, AND THIS tiny voice in your head keeps whining, I gotta get whatever nitrogen source he's using."

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