

## SISIS THATCH CONTROL REEL FOR ROTORAKES

SISIS Thatch Control Reel, which can be fitted to existing models of the SISIS Duo-Rotorake and Auto-Rotorake, is now generally available.

The purpose of the Thatch Control Reel is to sever horizontal surface growth, whether of weeds or broad leaved grasses, and thus to assist in preventing a buildup of thatch. It is not intended that the blades should cut beneath the green leaf and therefore be in contact with the soil. This is not a scarifying reel and any attempt to use it as such could severely damage both the turf and the machine. If used correctly, tine wear will be at a minimum.

The reel consists of 24 triangular cutting blades mounted at  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. (19 mm) intervals along a shaft. Two of the three points are offset, one by  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (6 mm) to the right and one by  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (6 mm) to the left. In action, therefore, the reel cuts at  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (6 mm) intervals across its 18 in. (45.7 cm) width.

This makes three types of reel available for use in SISIS Rotorakes:

- Thatch Control Reel
- Thatch Removal Reel for cutting out existing accumulations of dense fibrous growth.
- Surface Scarifying Reel of spring wire tines.

## COURSE MANAGEMENT THEME AT OPEN EXHIBITION

THE CONTRIBUTION of modern, high work-rate grasscutting equipment in total golf course management was emphasised by machines displayed by the Institutional Division of Flymo Limited of Watford at the exhibition associated with the Open Golf Championship at Troon (9th to 13th July).

Highlight of the display was the Toro Greensmaster 3 – the first ride-on triplex greensmower introduced to the United Kingdom and now in use on many championship courses.

The Greensmaster 3 has had widespread acknowledgement of advantages gained in time and labour, as well as superb finish to greens achieved by the most advanced concepts of engineering and design. The machine is used to cut 18 greens in less than four hours. Thatching reels, fitted in about 10 minutes, also enable de-thatching to be undertaken in about four hours to provide a comprehensive turf management programme.

More than 100 golf clubs and local authorities in the United Kingdom have purchased GM3's including three clubs which have two machines.

Another complementary unit in the Toro golf course turf management line-up on display on the stand of Flymo Limited was the Toro 70 in. Professional ride-on triplex mower used for bunkers, tees and aprons. With a cutting rate of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  acres an hour, the 70 in. Professional has advantages of extreme manoeuvrability and contour-hugging characteristics.

## J. H. HANCOX SPECIAL AUTOBARROW SPRAY UNIT

J. H. HANCOX LIMITED of Wood Lane, Earlswood, main distributors for Autobarrow Products in the Midlands, have supplied Stourbridge Parks and Crematorium Department with a specially designed Autobarrow Spray Unit for all-year-round use.

The unit incorporates an 80-gallon tank mounted on a strengthened version of the standard Autobarrow multi-purpose handling unit. The spray attachment has also been re-designed for variable height adjustment which gives an increased spray area.

An all-season programme is planned for the basic handling unit which is adaptable to any mechanical handling job and built to carry a variety of easily detachable bodies to cope with all maintenance work from spraying to waste collection on park land areas.

The Standard Autobarrow unit is powered by a Villiers F15 engine and has a payload of 9 cwt. and a turning circle of 7ft. Its unladen weight is 2 cwt. 28 lbs. Further details are available from J. H. Hancox Limited.