

NEWS

Lloyds & Co. Letchworth Ltd., announce the appointment of SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) Limited, as Concessionaires for their range of Professional grass cutting machinery, in Scotland.

Information about the products of both Companies can be obtained by contacting the SISIS Scottish Office at 24 The Esplanade, Kirkcaldy, Fife, telephone Kirkcaldy 62325.

Richard Scotcher has been appointed general manager of the recently formed company Ransomes Grass Machinery (Scotland) Ltd, which markets Ransomes grass machinery and other horticultural equipment from branches in Edinburgh and Glasgow. . . .

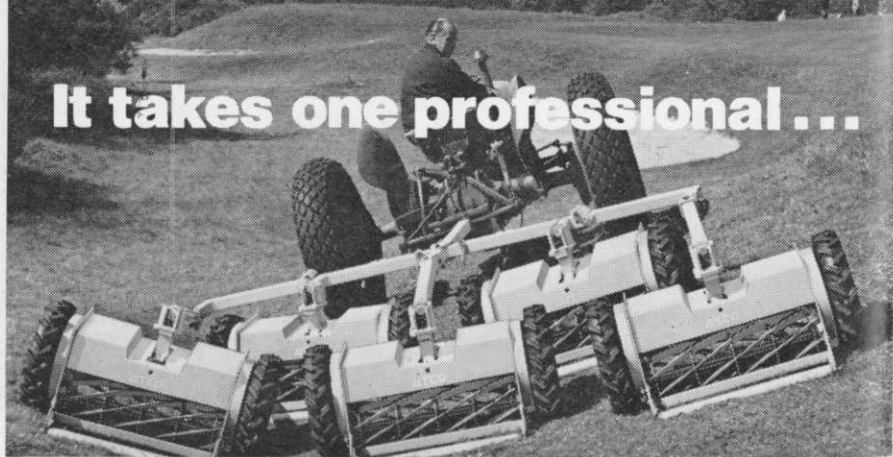
A major irrigation contract for an automatic scheme at York Race Course has been gained by the **Plastic Tube and Conduit Co. Ltd. of Aldermaston, Berks.** They are the sole U.K. distributors for the world famous RAINBIRD irrigation and watering equipment, which will be used throughout this scheme. P.T.C. Co. Ltd. have designed the complete system which will be installed at York, as part of their comprehensive design and advisory service, available to all clients whether horse race courses, golf courses, parks or other areas of use.

The scheme has been designed to keep the York course in excellent condition, as far as possible, throughout the racing calendar, providing every possibility of good meetings for the enjoyment of the racegoers. When designing the scheme the P.T.C. had to take into consideration the general



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topography of the course, the predominant soil type—clay—the average rain-fall and prevailing weather conditions during the season. With these facts as a basis they have produced a scheme which, with judicious use, will keep a good grass coverage and moisture in the track.

Automatic control of the 12 sections into which the course has been divided will be effected by the RAINCLOX controller. This will allow the course to be watered at night, the ideal time for maximum benefit, and is also indicative of the labour saving which can be made with the RAINBIRD equipment, as nobody needs to be in attendance during the working period. The RAINCLOX can be set to operate over a 14 day period, selecting the days or nights that irrigation is required: a 24 hour clock is utilized to select the hour at

which irrigation commences. Solenoid valves control each section individually—they can be set to operate for up to 60 minutes, and in one irrigation cycle can be missed altogether or repeated, thus allowing for varying water need in different sections of the course. Applications at the rate of 1/10" to any one section in 18 minutes, or the entire course in 3 hours 36 mins. are possible with this RAINBIRD system.

Manual control can be used when needed, mainly for washing dew or frost from the turf, watering in fertilizer and similar operations.

Work on the scheme will be completed before the start of this year's flat racing season and racegoers attending the York meetings will be able to enjoy the benefits of a course at which irrigation plays a major part in the turf culture programme.

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