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ELVIN Pennants Ltd., of Spa Road, Hockley, Essex, SS5 4AS have produced an attractive four colour 24-page catalogue listing their wide range of golf course accessories from Tee and Green Boards, flexible P.V.C. flag poles, golf and putting equipment. A must for all Greenkeepers.

PREPARATIONS are now well in hand for The Midland Zone Show. This takes place at Edgbaston, Birmingham, home of the Warwickshire County Cricket Club on Wednesday, April 16, 1975.

The show will be opened by Mr. Denis Howell, M.P. (Minister of Sport). On view will be the latest machines and equipment necessary for maintenance of sports grounds and golf courses.

In this day and age of ever increasing costs grass cutting is becoming an ex-

pensive business as are the other operations coupled with good sports ground maintenance. With this in mind it is of utmost importance to select the right machines and equipment for the job. It is by attending such exhibitions as this, that one can make the correct choice.

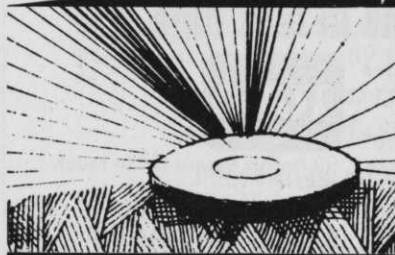
During these difficult times there has been a good response from the trade firms. Exhibits covering a wide range are on view, from the various hand tools, fertilizers, etc., right up to the sophisticated machines costing several thousands of pounds.

From the above notes one can see that this exhibition is both educational and informative and is a must for all connected with sports grounds, parks and golf courses.

Remember the date—April 16, 1975, from 10.30 a.m. onwards. So come along and see both the exhibition and this wonderful ground. Facilities are first class and tea and refreshments will be available throughout the day.

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• tipping trailer • rear roller cleaner kit



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EUROPE'S leading plant breeder, Mommersteeg International of Finedon, have started on an extensive development programme to meet the growing demand for their grass seeds and for mixtures.

At the moment work is in hand on the construction of a new 2,090m² warehouse at the Finedon headquarters and in July a sophisticated high-capacity seed cleaning plant will be installed for grasses, cereals and roots. Future plans include the complete automation of packing facilities.

At the four-hectare trial grounds at Finedon a new 418m² warehouse is being fitted out and office space totalling 46m² is nearing completion.

The new facilities will be unveiled at the first of a series of Open Days the company is planning for later in the year. These include sports and amenity

turfs in July, agricultural grasses also in July and agricultural root crops in October. Further details of these events may be obtained from the Programme Organiser, Mommersteeg International, Station Road, Finedon, Northamptonshire, NN9 5NT.

A NEW smooth stalked meadow grass is being introduced this year by Mommersteeg International of Finedon. Called Geronimo, this new variety is a broad-leaved grass which will retain its exceptional dark green colour throughout the winter months. It also has an excellent resistance to rust. Geronimo will form a most attractive, compact and resilient turf.

The variety will be included in the Mommersteeg mixture MM14 which has been designed for sowing down new golf tees, and for tennis courts. As well as containing 20 per cent Geronimo, the mixture contains 45 per cent Koket chewings fescue, 25 per cent Monopoly smooth stalked meadow grass and 10 per cent Highland brown-top.

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TAYLOR'S COMBINED FERTILISER

AND SELECTIVE WEEDKILLER

may also be applied now at 3 oz. per sq. yd.
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Sportsground, Park & Horticultural Supplies



The Ransomes Hahn TM 80 Aerifier in action

LYN Arbon, head greenkeeper of Woodbridge Golf Club is very pleased with the Ransomes Hahn TM 80 Aerifier which plays an important part in his turf maintenance programme.

The club took delivery of the machine about 12 months ago. Its use then helped the fairways considerably during the summer drought of 1974. Since then the weather has been more favourable, and Mr. Arbon says there has been a continuing improvement in the standard of the fairways.

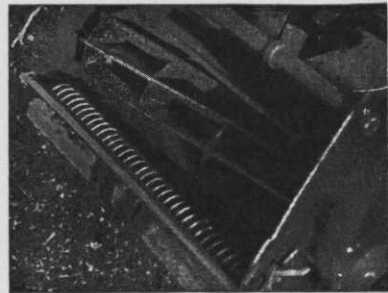
He thinks regular use of the machine is important and he has used it all year, covering the fairways six or seven times. "It is useless to hire a machine and do the job once" he says. "Aerifying must be carried out regularly, in both directions. It can be done regularly because of the speed of operation of this machine."

Mr. Arbon is convinced of the benefits of the thatching spoons he has been using. He says that where he has used the machine on a wet fairway, drainage has been improved by as much as 50 per cent. Another feature he likes is that the cores brought out by the tines

are chopped up by the first pass of the gang mowers and give the effect of an additional top dressing—and while it is doing all this good work the machine does not stop play on the course.

STEWARTS GRASS COMB

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means
better golf

Aeration, properly carried out, creates conditions which will produce a better sward and consequently a better playing surface. Proper aeration allows air to circulate more freely around the roots thus assisting respiration.

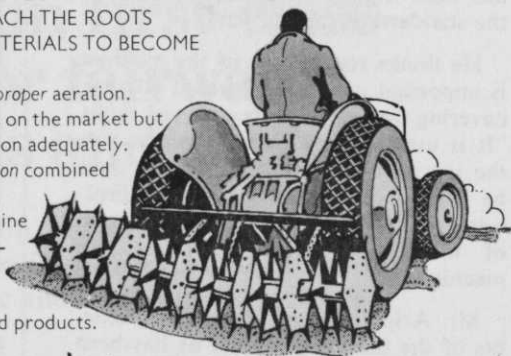
In addition it also * ENCOURAGES BACTERIAL ACTIVITY * PROMOTES A VIGOROUS ROOT GROWTH * IMPROVES SURFACE DRAINAGE * RELIEVES COMPACTION * AIDS ARTIFICIAL WATERING * ASSISTS FERTILISERS TO REACH THE ROOTS * ENABLES TOP DRESSING MATERIALS TO BECOME INTEGRATED WITH TOP SOIL.

Remember, however, it must be *proper* aeration.

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There must be *maximum* penetration combined with *minimum* surface disturbance.

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More about leasing

IN A recent issue of the Greenkeeper, we published a short article about equipment on lease. The following article gives more information about Ransomes leasing scheme.

THE whole range of Ransomes Professional grass machinery is available under their scheme, although there is a minimum limit of £500. Leasing offers certain financial advantages over buying outright. In the current circumstances of high inflation leasing means that new machinery can be obtained before prices rise, and it means that equipment can be acquired without borrowing money at today's high interest rates.

Interest rates are fixed for the entire leasing period when the agreement is signed, so the lease itself will not be affected by inflation. Leasing allows more accurate budget planning, and frees capital for concentration in other areas.

Leasing rentals are fully tax deductible and the tax relief gained on the lease payments can be claimed as a business charge against profits. This can lead to a smaller tax liability than the usual "capital allowance".

How does the plan work? Ransomes Leasing Company pays the capital sum to the dealer who supplies the machine. The lease is split into a primary period of three years, during which a fixed quarterly payment is made, and a secondary period of four years with a much reduced annual payment.

The differences in outlay between leasing and purchasing can be illustrated

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Spray away with Dorman



The 'Ely' sprayer has a 10 gallon tank feeding a 7ft spray boom. Although normally supplied with a 2-stroke engine a 4-stroke power unit is also available. The 'Ely' can also be fitted with a hand lance making this compact machine even more versatile.



This 44 gallon trailer sprayer unit with its 18ft spray boom is perfect for the large park or golf course. Many useful accessories are available including a trolley sprayboom for working on fine turf up to 120ft away from the tractor.



Many other models available to meet any requirements.

The Dorman Sprayer Co. Ltd. Brays Lane, Ely, Cambs. Tel: Ely (0353) 2833/4/5/6.

BOMFORD BANDIT FLAIL MOWER

Unchallenged on golf courses, parks and sports ground outfields. The Bomford Bandit mows and mulches in one pass, cutting a broad swath 67 inches wide and covering 2/3 acres per hour under normal conditions. Fits any tractor over 30 b.h.p.

Flail Knife cutters – are robust and do not require sharpening. Mulching action swiftly rots material – avoiding after collection problems and grass lumps affecting ball play.

BANDIT 2500 model available with a big 8' 3" cutting width.

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by the figures for the Tournament Triplex, at the price ruling in January, 1975.

The purchase price of the basic system vehicle plus greens units and collectors, Verticut units and dump cart would be £3,366 plus V.A.T. The lease would be worked out on the basis of £102 rental per thousand pounds per quarter. The 12 quarterly payments over the three year primary period of the lease would each be £343.33, plus V.A.T.

This is equivalent to 15 per cent total interest over the three years, which makes leasing a financially much more attractive proposition than borrowing money for outright purchases at current interest rates.

At any time after the end of the primary period the Company would be willing to appoint the lessee as its agent to sell the machine should it no longer be required in consideration of a nominal payment of 5 per cent of the proceeds to Ransomes Leasing Co.

Alternatively, the machine could be kept for a secondary leasing period of four years, at a nominal annual rental of one per cent of the original purchase price—£33 a year in the case of this machine. Where the amount is less than £3,000 the rentals for a lease are slightly higher—£103 per quarter for each £1,000, which represents 16 per cent total interest over the three-year primary period.

As an example, a golf club wishing to purchase three 20' Auto Certes greens mowers would have the option of paying a cash price of £804 or twelve quarterly payments of £82.81 during the primary period, followed by an annual rental of £8 during the secondary period, all prices excluding V.A.T. The facility for disposal after the end of the primary period is unchanged.

In terms of operating costs, there is no difference between leasing and purchase, in that the lessee is responsible

for the upkeep and maintenance of the machinery in just the same way as if they owned it. Hiring is another alternative means of access to the equipment needed for the job. Ransomes itself does not hire out machinery, but a number of well-known distributors do.

Hiring has the advantage of reduced maintenance requirement, in that the hiring company maintains the machinery. It also has advantages as a short term solution to a machinery problem—as a temporary stop-gap where a machine is out of use for some reason.

Hiring is also useful for isolated jobs. For instance a golf club may have areas of bracken or rough grass which require clearing only once or twice a year. It would not be economical to buy or lease a flail mower to use only occasionally, and hiring provides a solution.

However, hiring is comparatively expensive when it comes to medium or long term machinery requirement, and where outright purchase is not the answer, Ransomes leasing scheme provides the ideal solution.

There is no problem in getting a lease. Any Ransomes distributor will assist in filling in the proposal form. The acceptance of this proposal by the leasing company serves as the basis for the leasing agreement, cutting paperwork to a minimum.

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1975 ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

Members will be pleased to learn that the above tournament will be held at **WALSALL GOLF CLUB**, Broadway, Staffordshire, on 11th, 12th and 13th AUGUST, 1975.

On behalf of our members we would like to express our sincere appreciation for the courtesy extended to us by the Club and Committee.

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