

NOTEBOOK...

Root mimic aids irrigation

JUDGING the irrigation needs of turf has always been guesswork. A Van Walt Tensiometer will help greenkeepers time irrigation better and avoid excess or insufficient watering of turf.

A tensiometer operates on well founded scientific principles by mimicking a plant root and so gives a direct reading of the soil moisture levels as experienced by plants.

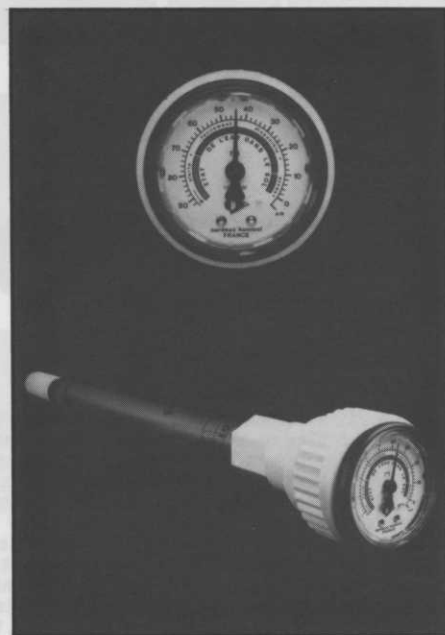
The business end of the tensiometer is a porous ceramic tip fed by a water reservoir held in the body of the meter. As the soil dries water is pulled from the tensiometer through the porous tip. The drier the soil

the greater the pull. An easy to read pressure gauge at the top gives a clear reading of the moisture level of the soil.

Tensiometers are easy to use - just insert into the soil and walk away. It will give a constant reading of moisture levels day or night and is maintenance free.

It is recommended that at least two tensiometer be used - a short and a long one to measure near the top and the bottom of the root zone. The reading from these two will give an indication of the moisture profile through the soil.

Tensiometers are priced from £38.85 + VAT phone: 0428 53404.



Ministry okays NTC pesticide code

AS the Minister at the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food with responsibility for Part 3 of the Food and Environment Protection Act, the parliamentary secretary (Lords), the Baroness Trumpington has welcomed the initiative taken by the National Association of

Agricultural Contractors and the National Turfgrass Council in producing and publishing a Code of Practice for the use of Approved Pesticides in Amenity Areas.

"It is an indication of the responsible attitude within their sector that NAAC and NTC have taken the draft Code of Practice produced by the Ministry for agricultural and commercial use of pesticides and have adapted that draft guidance to the circumstances

of amenity users" says Lady Trumpington in her foreword to the Code.

The Code is a short, easily read A4 publication covering storage transport, application and disposal of pesticides.

"It has been produced in consultation with all our member organisations concerned with pesticide use on amenity grass", said John Shildrick, secretary to NTC.

More information from John Shildrick, on (0274) 565131.

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Information & Etiquette Signs



Ground Under Repair
Please Replace Divots
Please Repair Pitchmarks
Please Keep Off the Grass



Next Tee (l. or r.)
Trolleys this Way (l. or r.)
150 yds. to centre of Green
New Tree Plantation.



Drop out into Semi-rough.
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