

the Golf Course

Incorporating Golf Greenkeeping

JULY 1989



Looking ahead

Jim Arthur looks at the growth of golf in Europe and finds a big shortage of greenkeepers

Construction

A report from St Andrews on the reconstruction of the Jubilee links

On the Course

How Royal Troon has been prepared for the Open Championship

Management

A British greenkeeper talks about the problems of managing a course in the Swiss Alps



EUROPEAN
EDITION

Specialist Golf Course Constructors

NEW COURSES - ALTERATIONS - BUNKER CONSTRUCTION

VERTI-DRAINING

ABBEY PARK
ST ANDREWS
BARNHAM BROOM
BROADSTONE
BROOME PARK
BURLEY
CHARTERHOUSE

FERNDOWN
FOREST OF ARDEN
GOODWOOD
LECKFORD
MEON VALLEY
MILGATE
MOORS VALLEY



PARKSTONE
PORTMARNOCK
PORTLETHAM
ST PIERRE
RADLEY COLLEGE
ROYAL BIRKDALE
ROYAL ST GEORGES

ROYAL LYTHAM & ST. ANNES
ROYAL MID SURREY
SAUNTON
THETFORD
TORQUAY
TURNBERRY
THEYDON BOIS

Brian D. Pierson

(Contractors) Limited

Homestead Farm, Ringwood Road, Three Legged Cross,
Wimbourne, Dorset. BH21 6QY

Telephone: Verwood 822372 & 824906 (STD 0202)

the Golf Course

Publisher
Michael Coffey

Managing Editor
Stanley Ellison

Executive Editor
John Lelean

Contributing Editors
John Campbell
Ian Greenfield
Jim Arthur

Machinery Editor
Michael Williams

Group Advertisement Executive
Marion Risbridger

Classified Sales
Chris Slaughter

Advertising Production
Linda Baker

The Golf Course, incorporating Golf Greenkeeping is published monthly by Park View Publications Ltd. It is the official magazine of the International Greenkeepers Association.

Chairman
Michael Coffey

Managing Director
Stanley Ellison

Editorial, executive and advertising offices:
201-205 Kingston Road,
Leatherhead, Surrey. KT22 7PB
Tel: 0372 370177 Fax: 0372 362091

Circulation, subscription and advertising production offices: 129a High Street, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex. CO12 3AX
Tel: 0255 507526 Fax: 0255 508483

© Copyright 1989
The Golf Course

Typesetting and artwork by
Fore Golf Publications Ltd.,
Dovercourt, Essex.
Printed by J.B. Offset,
Marks Tey, Colchester, Essex.

CONTENTS

the Golf Course



A view of the "Postage Stamp" at Royal Troon - venue for the Open Championship

JULY 1989

14

Big shortage of good course managers
Jim Arthur looks ahead at the demand for qualified greenkeepers and finds a big shortage

16

New Jubilee course opens at St Andrews
Originally regarded as a ladies course the new reconstructed course marks a further stage in its development to attract all golfers

21

Royal Troon prepares for the Open
How these famous links have been prepared for the most prestigious event in the golfing calendar

26

How to manage a course in the Swiss Alps
Ian Tomlinson, a British greenkeeper working in Europe talks about the problems of running a golf course in the Alps

Departments

7

Clippings by the Mower

9

Out and About
A round-up of news and new products

31

Buyers Guide
A product and service information to suppliers

Your Chemical Storage Problems.....

SOLVED

with a practical, secure workbase from
CLEVELAND SITESAFE LTD



For further information on our wide range of units

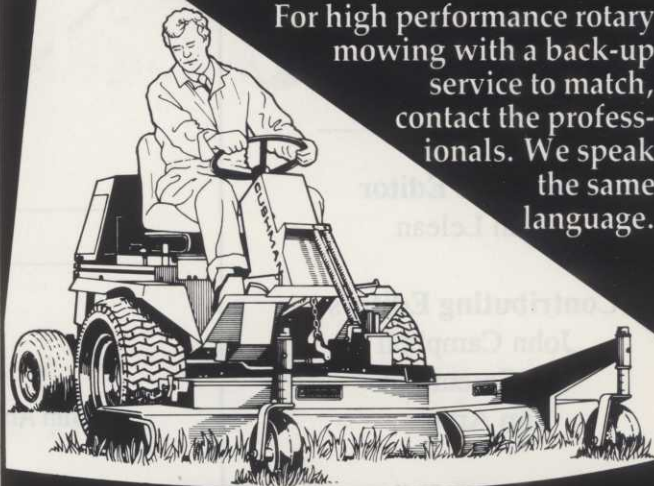
PLEASE CONTACT

Cleveland Sitesafe Ltd.,
High Farm, Old Lackenby,
Eston, Middlesbrough,
Cleveland. TS6 8DN.

Telephone:
(0642)
453629

Cushman Front Line. Spot-on Performance.

For high performance rotary
mowing with a back-up
service to match,
contact the profes-
sionals. We speak
the same
language.



HUXLEYS GRASS MACHINERY
THE DEAN, NEW ALRESFORD,
HANTS SO24 9BL, ENGLAND
Tel: 0962 733222 Fax: 0962 734702
Telex: 894426



FENDRESS®

THE TRULY NATIONAL TURF TOP DRESSING AS SUPPLIED TO
MANY CHAMPIONSHIP COURSES FOR OVER 10 YEARS

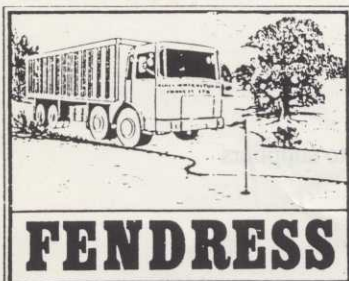
A superior and consistent golf green top dressing prepared for
the professional using the highest quality East Anglian fensoils
(with very low clay and silt fractions) which are blended with
lime free silica sand, shredded and screened, ready for imme-
diate application.

Save capital outlay on expensive equipment, which can stand
idle for long periods, also labour costs, but most important of
all, save the difficulty of finding suitable raw materials which are
essential to produce a high quality top dressing.

Bulk deliveries to all parts of the UK, including Northern
Ireland in 10-25 tonne loads. Also pre-packs for easy handling.
Special mixes prepared to your own specification.

Remember, there is only one true **FENDRESS®**. Beware of
imitations.

Also available, granulated Sedge Peat (Fenpeat), screened
loam, specialist yellow or white bunker sands, grit/dried sand
for vertidrainage.



Please telephone T J Banks for
a competitive quotation

Contact:
FEN TURF DRESSINGS LTD
3 ANGEL COURT
DAIRY YARD
HIGH STREET
MARKET HARBOROUGH
LEICS LE16 7NL
Tel: (0858) 64346 or 33003

INTURF

AMENITY AND SPORTS TURF HORTICULTURE

In 1985, we harvested our first strip of
cultivated turf. This year we will have supplied
over 1½ million square yards for major sporting
venues, amenity landscaping and domestic lawns.

We now have production units in Scotland,
Yorkshire, Cambridge and the Midlands.

Our aim is to provide the best turf, the best
delivery and the best customer service.

Everything's the same –
only the housestyle has changed.



INTURF LIMITED

11b REGENT STREET, POCKLINGTON, YORK YO4 2KN
Telephone: (0759) 304101
Fax: (0759) 305229
Telex: 57801 TOWER G

There's nothing to beat a **TORO** Reelmaster 450D



For faster, easier mowing with good results and working in all weather conditions the Reelmaster 450D is the only machine that can really take it! It's so dependable it just goes on and on, eating up to 10.5 acres of grass per hour.

The 450D is designed with its weight evenly distributed around a centre-mount 50hp diesel engine for better balance ... the result is considerably better up-hill climbing ability and traction than others.

TORO's exclusive variable clip control enables you to calibrate reel speed and mowing speed precisely and with all controls at your fingertips operating the 450D is a delight. All weather cabs are available.



For the facts and demo details, have a word with your nearest TORO dealer or contact

LELY (UK) LIMITED
Station Road, St. Neots,
Huntingdon, Cambs PE19 1QH
Tel: 0480 76971 Telex: 32523
Fax: 0480 216167



*in a class
of their own*

Literature
 Name
 Address
 Post Code
 Tel
 Student
 GC/7/89

Please send details as ticked
 Nearest Dealer
 Trial/Demo

RESUME



FRENCH

L'augmentation remarquable du nombre de terrains de golf à travers toute l'Europe entraîne une forte demande en entreteneurs de parcours et en directeurs de terrain qualifiés et expérimentés. Et on s'attend à ce que la croissance des dix prochaines années fasse encore doubler le nombre de personnel requis; la demande sera donc effarante. Dans ce numéro (en page 7) Jim Arthur, consultant auprès du Royal and Ancient se penche sur les problèmes actuels et suggère des moyens qui permettraient à l'industrie de faire face à la pénurie à venir. Dans un pronostic fort prudent, M. Arthur envisage que nous devrions faire appel au bas mot à 500 nouveaux responsables de l'entretien des terrains, et cela sans tenir compte des départs à la retraite des employés actuels.

Les problèmes de financement et d'éducation sont également abordés. John Melean commente le programme de gestion pour la préparation du terrain de golf de Royal Troon à l'occasion du Championnat International (page 21). Dans cet article, le responsable en chef de l'entretien du parcours, Norman Ferguson, évoque les conséquences de la douceur hivernale, les problèmes liés à l'irrigation et le nouvel équipement acheté pour aérer le terrain. Vous apprendrez pourquoi il a été nécessaire d'installer un nouveau système d'égout en prévision des 600 membres de l'équipe de télévision, et vous lirez tout sur la restructuration de la banquette et les méthodes de fumure en surface.

En page 26, Ian Tomlinson, ayant passé six ans à Lausanne, vous révèle ses secrets en matière de gestion de terrain. Celui de Lausanne n'est pas seulement handicapé du fait qu'il doit fermer ses portes trois mois de l'année parce qu'il est situé au-dessus du niveau des chutes de neige, mais ses arbres sont en outre les victimes de la pollution aérienne. Quelque 250 arbres y ont été plantés au cours des trois dernières années.

Autre article intéressant dans ce numéro: en direct de Saint Andrews, vous pourrez découvrir comment le parcours Jubilee a été restructuré. Dessiné en 1897, ce terrain a depuis été modifié à plusieurs reprises. Signé cette fois par Donald Steel, le Jubilee comporte une immense dune de sable; celle-ci, ainsi que les autres changements effectués, ont nécessité de charroyer d'énormes quantités de terre et de sable (voir p. 16).



SPANISH

El gran aumento de la cantidad de campos de golf en toda Europa está causando una gran escasez de cuidadores y encargados de campos, buenos y calificados. Debido al crecimiento futuro que se espera duplique los números necesarios en la próxima década, la demanda de personal calificado será enorme.

En esta edición (página 7) Jim Arthur, asesor de la Royal and Ancient en lo relativo a campos de golf, examina el problema actual y propone algunas maneras en que la industria podría superar tal escasez en el futuro. Arthur prevé, siendo optimista, que necesitaremos 500 cuidadores más de los que tenemos en la actualidad sin contar los que puedan jubilarse de aquéllos que aún trabajan.

También se discuten los problemas de finanzas y educación. John Melean informa sobre el programa de administración para la preparación del campo de golf Royal Troon para el Campeonato Abierto (página 21).

En su entrevista, el Cuidador Jefe, Norman Ferguson, habla sobre los efectos del invierno benigno, sobre los problemas del agua para irrigación y sobre el nuevo equipo adquirido para oxigenar los greens.

Se explica detalladamente cómo la preparación para recibir 600 miembros de equipos de televisión hizo necesaria la construcción de un nuevo sistema de saneamiento. También se da información sobre como abonar los greens y reestructurar los bunkers.

En la página 26, Ian Tomlinson que pasó seis años en Lausana, revela algunos de sus secretos sobre administración de campos de golf.

El campo de Lausana no sólo tiene el problema de permanecer cerrado durante tres meses por año por encontrarse en zona de nieves perpetuas sino que además sus árboles están afectados por contaminación ambiental. Se plantaron 250 árboles durante los últimos tres años. Otro artículo interesante de esta edición es un informe de St. Andrews sobre cómo se reestructuró el campo Jubilee. Este campo fue instalado en 1897 y ha sido modificado varias veces. Remodelado esta vez por Donald Steel, el campo Jubilee tiene como característica una gran duna. Para formar esta duna y realizar otros cambios se removieron grandes cantidades de tierra y arena (página 16).



GERMAN

Die große Zunahme in der Anzahl Golfbahnen in ganz Europa setzt den Nachwuchs von guten, qualifizierten Platzwärtinnen und Bahnleitern unter starkem Druck. Angesichts der für die Zukunft erwarteten Verdoppelung in der Anzahl dieser Fachkräfte, die im Laufe des nächsten Jahrzehnts benötigt werden, wird sich die Nachfrage nach qualifiziertem Personal scharf zuspitzen. In dieser Ausgabe (Seite 7) befaßt sich Jim Arthur, Golfbahn-Berater des Royal & Ancient, mit dem heutigen Problem und erwägt mögliche Lösungen, um einen zukünftigen Mangel vorzubeugen. Einer vorsichtigen Schätzung nach meint Herr Arthur, daß man ohne Berücksichtigung der Anzahl, die in den nächsten Jahren in den Ruhestand treten, in der unmittelbaren Zukunft 500 mehr Platzwärter als heute benötigen wird.

Die damit zusammenhängenden Probleme der Finanzierung und Schulung werden außerdem erörtert.

Auf Seite 21 berichtet John Melean über das Verwaltungsprogramm, mit dem man die Royal Troon Golfbahn auf die Amateurmeisterschaften vorbereitet. In seinem Interview spricht der leitende Platzwart, Norman Ferguson, von den Auswirkungen des milden Winters, den Problemen mit dem Berieselungswasser und den neu erworbenen Ausrüstungen, um das Grün zu belüften.

Er schildert außerdem, wie man als Vorbereitung für die zuströmenden Massen und 600 Fernsehleute ein neues Abwassersystem bauen mußte, und erzählt über die Kopfdüngung der Grünflächen und den Neubau der Bunker.

Ian Tomlinson, der sechs Jahre in Lausanne verbrachte, verrät einige Geheimnisse aus der Golfbahn-Verwaltung auf Seite 26. Die Golfbahn in Lausanne leidet nicht nur unter der Tatsache, daß sie wegen ihrer Höhenlage oberhalb der Schneegrenze während drei Monaten im Jahr geschlossen ist, sondern erfährt zusätzliche Schwierigkeit aufgrund des Baumsterbens durch Luftverschmutzung. Im Laufe der vergangenen drei Jahre wurden hier daher 250 Bäume gepflanzt.

Ein weiterer interessanter Artikel in dieser Ausgabe ist der Bericht aus St. Andrews über den Neubau der Jubilee-Bahn. Diese Spielbahn wurde 1897 errichtet und inzwischen mehrere Male abgeändert. Die heutige Neukonzipierung von Donald Steel umfaßt eine riesige Sanddüne und andere Neumerkmale, die umfassende Erd- und Sandarbeiten erforderten (Seite 16).

CLIPPINGS

By The Mower

"Fozy" stalks his pride and joy

Moortown golf course was in truly magnificent condition for the visit of over 60 northern greenkeepers to support Bill Mountain's sponsored tournament event.

New holes have recently been opened, cut through the birch woods, after injunctions were threatened by local residents as a result of golfers peppering their houses from one of the par threes.

They have unwittingly done the club a favour as the two new holes at six and seven, a par 4 followed by a par 5 are both excellent. The first is a dog leg right uphill, the next requires a well drawn tee shot left, to line up for the raised green through two mature oaks.

Head Greenkeeper Bill Fox, suffering from back problems, decided to dispense with his clubs for the day, leaving the competing to staff greenkeeper, Mick Hannam, but he walked his course with justified pride, encouraging colleagues and receiving their unstinted praise.

Yorkshire Tournament moves to Cornwall

Whilst in Yorkshire it is worth mentioning that Benson & Hedges have done golf supporters no favours by giving way to BBC television pressure to take the event to St Mellion next year.

The Fulford event in August has always attracted a huge attendance to a well presented course. The transfer of the tournament now leaves Yorkshire without any major European Tour fixture, though we hear something is in the pipeline for 1991 if a suitable sponsor emerges.

Open Championship

There could be two greenkeepers competing in the Open Championship at Troon this month. If Trevor Foster, Accrington's Head Greenkeeper can qualify again he is likely to be joined by Alan Tait, a member at Bogside.

Alan will be able to claim far more than course advantage if he makes the line-up at Royal Troon as he has been employed here as a part time member of Norman Fergusson's staff for the past eight months.

As one of the twelve greenkeepers involved in grooming, greens, tees and fairways for Troon's staging of their sixth Championship, Alan will know intimately, every blade of grass on the course.

A full Scottish international he spent two years at the Paris Junior College on a golf scholarship where he did a degree in journalism. He has one further advantage over the army of hopefuls competing for a coveted spot. His qualifying round will be played at his home club, Bogside.

"Wizz Kid"

Nottingham based Henton & Chattell, pride themselves on a "quick parts service" at least that is the sign painted on the side of their van.

One of their drivers was more than trying to keep up the firm's reputation when he was seen, weaving in and out of the busy traffic on the A38 heading towards Derby at over 80mph, just before 5.00 pm on Friday 9th June.

He nearly clipped the "Mower" as he overtook on the inside lane of the dual carriageway. Our advice to this keen young driver is to keep a wary eye open for the motorway patrol, otherwise he might find himself working in the warehouse for a few months.

Ganning plans to "one-up" rivals

The Belfry Course Manager, Derek Ganning has a singular objective this year, the presentation of the Brabazon course to perfection for the staging of the Ryder Cup in September.

He has put in two lakes, rebuilt tournament tees and has "secret" plans to create certain visual effects, which he says will have Jimmy Kidd at Gleneagles, "green with envy".

We understand there is a degree of friendly rivalry between the managers of the leading championship courses, which all who know Derek, realise is combined with a degree of "leg-pulling".

From what we hear there is to be no free admission for greenkeepers to the Ryder Cup, they will have to pay the going rate of £15 a day or £45 for the whole event.

VERSATILE, RELIABLE, EFFICIENT

(AND THAT'S JUST THE NATIONWIDE DEALER NETWORK)



CASE IH 200 SERIES COMPACT TRACTORS

Whether it's a golf course, a park, a garden or a farm, it's hard to beat the all round versatility of the high performance Case IH 200 Series compacts. Tough, reliable and durable, they come with the kind of big tractor benefits you won't find on many similar sized models. The beefy, liquid-cooled three-cylinder engines are

designed for long life, high efficiency and frugal fuel consumption. And with smooth shifting transmission, full instrumentation and an extra large suspension seat, they're a pleasure to drive.

Each model in the 200 Series is designed to make light work of any

task, whether it be mowing, towing, lifting, loading, pushing or pulling.

Your Case IH 200 Series dealer is waiting to give you a demonstration now. As part of one of the largest and most experienced dealer networks in the country, he has a lot to offer. Why not call in today and see for yourself.

CASE INTERNATIONAL 235

With 17 hp the 235 is an ideal power unit for sporting grounds care and estate maintenance. It is available with mechanical and hydrostatic transmissions.

CASE INTERNATIONAL 255

23 hp means the 255 is designed to handle any number of jobs around a small farm or estate. It's also ideal for nursery, landscape, school and all ground care work.

CASE INTERNATIONAL 275

The big 29 hp engine unit makes the 275 the ultimate compact tractor. With its high levels of comfort and quick handling, it's the perfect machine for large scale grounds care and numerous farming applications.



I'm interested to know more about Case IH 200 Series Compact Tractors. My application will be _____ Please send me more information.

NAME _____ GC/7/89

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

TEL. NO. _____

J I Case
A Tenneco Company

WHEATLEY HALL ROAD, DONCASTER, SOUTH YORKSHIRE DN2 4PG



2001 Y.I.A. 3000000 000 5HT

CASE IH 200 SERIES DEALERS

- AVON**
Boulton of Banwell Ltd
Knightcott, Banwell
Weston Super Mare BS24 6HT
Tel: 0934 822137
- BEDFORDSHIRE**
A. T. Oliver & Sons Ltd
Wandon End Works, Luton LU2 8NY
Tel: 0528 27111
- A. T. Oliver & Sons Ltd
Clifton Road, Bedford SG17 5AQ
Tel: 0462 813212
- BERKSHIRE**
P. J. S. (Agricultural Services) Ltd
College Yard, East Garston
Newbury RG16 7EX
Tel: 048839 665
- CAMBRIDGESHIRE**
Rustons (Balsham) Ltd
7 High Street, Balsham CB1 6DJ
Tel: 0223 894274
- F. T. Ruston & Sons Ltd
Needlingworth Road, St Ives
Huntingdon PE17 4DZ
Tel: 0480 62263
- CHESHIRE**
Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Broken Cross, Macclesfield SK11 8JA
Tel: 0625 22118
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Welsh Row, Nantwich CW5 5EW
Tel: 0270 825271
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Leicester Street, Northwich CW9 5NJ
Tel: 0606 43203
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Sealand Works, Sealand Road
Chester CH1 6BJ
Tel: 0244 881331
- CORNWALL**
H. Beare & Sons Ltd
Kelly Bray, Callington PL17 8ER
Tel: 0579 82124
- Hambly's (Whitstone) Ltd
(Incorporating M. A. Bate & Co)
Dunheved Iron Works
Launceston PL15 8JG
Tel: 0566 2938
- CUMBRIA**
Rickerby Limited
Curock Road, Carlisle CA2 4AU
Tel: 0228 27521
- Rickerby Limited
Fairfield Works
Cockermouth CA13 9RU
Tel: 090 082 2279
- Rickerby Limited
Brunswick Road, Penrith CA11 7BR
Tel: 0768 63718
- DERBYSHIRE**
Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Haddon Road, Bakewell DE4 1AW
Tel: 062 981 2566
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Manchester Street, Derby DE3 3GB
Tel: 0332 46647
- DEVON**
H. Beare & Sons Ltd
Stoke Cannon, Exeter EX5 4AX
Tel: 0392 841322
- H. Beare & Sons Ltd
Rixy Park, Kingsteignton Road
Chudleigh, Newton Abbot TQ13 0AN
Tel: 0626 852376
- Ken Gibbs (Honiton) Ltd
Bramble Hill Industrial Estate
Honiton EX14 8BW
Tel: 0404 41112
- Hambly's (Whitstone) Ltd
Whitstone, Holsworthy EX22 6TU
Tel: 028884 284
- Murch Bros (Engineers) Ltd
Bridge Works, Umlerleigh EX37 9AA
Tel: 0769 60360/9
- DORSET**
Bredy Agrcentre
St George's Road
Dorchester DT1 1PH
Tel: 0305 69806
- Bredy Agrcentre
Butts Pond
Sturminster Newton DT10 1AZ
Tel: 0258 72725/73301
- DURHAM**
J. G. Paxton & Sons Ltd
Front Street
Pity Me
Durham DH1 5DE
Tel: 091 3847111
- Seward Agricultural Machinery Ltd
Brookside Works
Middleton St. George
Darlington DL2 1JX
Tel: 0325 333565
- ESSEX**
R. W. Crawford Agr. Mach Ltd
42-44 Cutlers Road
Salcoats Industrial Estate
South Woodham Ferrers
Chelmsford CM3 5XJ
Tel: 0245 322733
- Saville Tractors Ltd
High Road, Thornwood
Epping CM16 6TH
Tel: 0378 77771
- GLOUCESTERSHIRE**
West Midland Farmers Assoc Ltd
New Whitway Works
Fosse Cross, Chedworth
Cheltenham (FC) GL54 4NW
Tel: 028572 606
- West Midlands Farmers Assoc Ltd
Machinery Dept, 171 Westgate St
Gloucester GL1 2RR
Tel: 0452 26881
- West Midland Farmers Assoc Ltd
Anthony Mills, Merchants Road
Gloucester GL1 5RG
Tel: 0452 21751
- HEREFORD**
West Midland Farmers Assoc Ltd
Machinery Dept, Mortimer Road
HR4 9SR
Tel: 0432 352244
- HERTFORDSHIRE**
A. T. Oliver & Sons Ltd
Home Park Works, Station Road
Kings Langley WD4 8LW
Tel: 09277 65211
- HUMBERSIDE**
Seward Agricultural Machinery Ltd
Hull Bridge Garage, Hull Bridge Road
Beverly HU17 9RT
Tel: 0482 889155
- Seward Agricultural Machinery Ltd
Church Street, Burton Pidsea
Hull HU12 9DQ
Tel: 0964 670555
- LANCASHIRE**
Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Brook Street, Preston PR1 7NH
Tel: 0772 556057
- Saville Tractors Limited
Unit 16 Severnside Trading Estate
Textilose Road, Trafford Park
Manchester M17 1WA
Tel: 061 8723145
- LINCOLNSHIRE**
Case International Tractors
Kirton, Boston PE20 1JF
Tel: 0205 722371
- MERSEYSIDE**
Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Rains Fold, Ormskirk Road
Rainford, St Helens WA11 8HP
Tel: 0744 885631
- MIDDLESEX**
Saville Tractors Limited
242-252 London Road
Staines TW18 4JQ
Tel: 0784 55641
- NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**
Rustons (Thrapston) Ltd
Huntingdon Road, Thrapston
Kettering NN14 4PT
Tel: 08012 2652/3/4
- NORTHUMBERLAND**
Rickerby Limited
Willowburn Trading Est.
Ainwick NE66 2PF
Tel: 0665 603631
- Rickerby Limited
Maidens Walk, Hexham NE46 1DY
Tel: 0434 604131
- NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**
Saville Tractors Limited
Unit 6, Eldon Road, Attenborough
Nottingham NG9 6DZ
Tel: 0602 256137
- SHROPSHIRE**
Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Green End, Whitechurch SY12 1AL
Tel: 0948 2486
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Britannia Works
Market Drayton TF9 1HZ
Tel: 0630 2324
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
40 St Marys Street
Newport TF10 7AE
Tel: 0952 820180
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Maesbury Road, Oswestry SY10 8HA
Tel: 0691 659351
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Comet Bridge Works, Ditherington
Shrewsbury SY1 2TQ
Tel: 0743 235046
- SOMERSET**
A. M. S. (Taunton) Ltd
Norton Fitzwarren
Taunton TA4 1BZ
Tel: 0823 432356
- J & B Gibbs & Sons Limited
Agricultural Engineers
Ashlands, North Street
Crewkerne TA18 7AU
Tel: 0460 73354/5
- STAFFORDSHIRE**
Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Church Street, Uttoxeter ST14 8G
Tel: 08893 2197
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Stafford Street, Eccleshall ST21 6BN
Tel: 0785 850214
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Haywood Street, Leek ST13 5JJ
Tel: 0538 383381
- SUFFOLK**
Framlington Tractors
Broadwater Road, Framlingham
Woodbridge IP13 9LL
Tel: 0728 723963
- SUSSEX**
Harper & Eede Ltd
Broyle House, Ringmer
Lewes, E. Sussex BN8 5NN
Tel: 0273 812707
- Harper & Eede Ltd
The Foundry, Hurst Green
Elchingham, E. Sussex TN19 7QP
Tel: 058086 495
- Harper & Eede Ltd
137 High Street, Hurstpierpoint
W. Sussex BN6 9PU
Tel: 0273 832331
- WARWICKSHIRE**
Saville Tractors Ltd
Bearley
Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 0TY
Tel: 0789 204242
- WILTSHIRE**
West Midland Farmers Assoc Ltd
Yatton Keynell
Chippenham SN14 7BB
Tel: 0249 782391
- YORKSHIRE**
Saville Tractors Limited
Unit 7 The Green
Fairway Industrial Park
Gelderder Road, Birstall
Batley WF17 9QA
Tel: 0924 443535
- Seward Agricultural Machinery Ltd
Sutton Road, Wiggington
York YO3 8FA
Tel: 0904 761221
- Seward Agricultural Machinery Ltd
Acaster Lane, Bishopthorpe
York YO2 1XB
Tel: 0904 704121
- Seward Agricultural Machinery Ltd
Sinderby Station, Sinderby
Thirsk YO7 4HY
Tel: 0845 567407
- Seward Agricultural Machinery Ltd
Showfield Lane, Malton YO17 0BT
Tel: 0653 600166
- Ralph Turner Ltd
High Street, Spofforth
Harrogate HG3 1BJ
Tel: 093782 631
- Peter White Limited
Elslack, Skipton BD23 3AU
Tel: 028284 3262
- SCOTLAND**
Bryce Houston & Son Ltd
Dunbar Road, East Linton
East Lothian EH40 3DE
Tel: 0620 860454/860348
- Bryce Houston & Son Ltd
Stenhouse Mill Lane
Edinburgh EH11 3LR
Tel: 031 4436034
- Rickerby Limited
Carnegie Street, Dumfries DG1 1PG
Tel: 0387 53328/9
- WALES**
Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Abbay Garage, Denbigh
Clwyd LL16 3DR
Tel: 074571 2166
- Riverlea Tractors
(J. W. M. W. Hill & Son)
Crymch, Dyfed SA41 3OX
Tel: 023973 387472
- Riverlea Tractors
(J. W. M. W. Mill & Sons)
Whitland, Dyfed SA34 0QQ
Tel: 0994 240644/5
- Saville Tractors Ltd
Village Farm Industrial Estate
Pyle, Bridgend
Mid Glamorgan CF33 6PP
Tel: 0656 743120
- West Midland Farmers Assoc Ltd
Usk Road, Raglan, Gwent NP5 2HU
Tel: 0291 690205
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Y-Flo, Pwllheli, Gwynedd LL53 6YL
Tel: 0766 810792
- Burgess (Agricultural Engrs) Ltd
Anglesey LL77 7PL
Tel: 0248 750302
- NORTHERN IRELAND**
Saville Tractors (Belfast) Ltd
3 Barbour Gardens, Dunmurry
Belfast BT17 9NX
Tel: 0232 301211
- REPUBLIC OF IRELAND**
Maher Tractor Sales Ltd
The Bush
Dunshaughlin
Co. Meath
Tel: 0001 259175

OUT AND ABOUT

Parkers annual greenkeepers tournament

Cuddington Golf Club was once more the venue of Parkers, of Worcester Park's Annual Greenkeepers Tournament and again the event enjoyed superb weather.

The course was in excellent shape and there was some very keen competition between the representatives of over sixty clubs before Andy Clarke, of Knole Park, was declared the winner with a stableford score of 40 points.

At the prizegiving he was presented with Parkers Rose Bowl by Mrs Margaret Parker, wife of Parkers Managing Director, Jim Parker. Mike Smith of Thorpe Hall was runner-up.



Go anywhere 4wd tractor from Marshall

A two cylinder, diesel powered truck, selling at £3,499, has been launched by Marshall Tractors.

Similar to the popular continental concept of basic low-cost multi-role carriers, the Ranger could prove a strong British-made attraction as a golf course pick-up.

It is cheap to buy and run and remarkably versatile, with a drop sided, tipping flatbed capable of taking a 900kg payload.

It has a cab to provide protection in bad weather, and it is inherently safe on rough terrain.

The Marshall Ranger's steel frame chassis is articulated in the middle, allowing the payload area approx 15cms of independent oscillation.

This improved safety on very rough surfaces, enabling all four wheels to maintain contact with the ground.

The 4 wheel-drive has taken two years to develop with its flat-design automatic transmission, providing eight forward and two reverse gears.

The Ranger with a top speed of 20mph has disc brakes at the front, drum brakes at the rear. The live rear axle is unsprung, but the two seater cab has a coil spring and telescopic damper system.

The deluxe model of the Ranger has a 25hp engine, in-cab electronic monitor, hydraulic tipping, CB radio kit and electric winch, all for £3,999.



Elanco starts new business unit

The Plant Science Division of Elanco Products Limited has announced the appointment of Mr. Steven Frost to the new position of Business Manager, Professional and Environmental Speciality Products.

Previously Steve was manager of New Product Planning and Licensing, Europe, before which he was manager of Agricultural Science and Product Registration for Europe based at the Lilly Research Centre in Windlesham, Surrey.

In his new position Steve will be responsible for developing a new business unit which will concentrate on the UK opportunities for Elanco's extensive range of speciality products in non-agricultural markets. This follows the company's success in these business sectors in the US where sales approaching \$50million per annum are being achieved from the wide range of products in turf, ornamentals, aquatic and horticultural markets. Commenting on his new position Steve Frost said: "Elanco already has several products which are currently being sold into non-agricultural markets in Europe. The new business unit will develop and expand these markets in the UK and enter new markets with the launch of unique new products."

British dairy farmer turns to golf

A £15 million, 180-acre golf and leisure complex to rival the best in Europe is being constructed at Portal, Tarporley, in the heart of the Cheshire plain by entrepreneur farmer and developer John Lilley.

Included in the project will be a new 150-bedroomed luxury hotel, set amidst some of the most beautiful gardens in the country and complete with three restaurants, a swimming pool, sauna, squash, tennis, snooker, jogging facilities and trout pool. The 18-hole championship course currently under construction by the Brian Pierson organisation has been designed by Donald Steel.

Although work on the course is expected to be completed this autumn, it is unlikely to be open for play until the summer of 1991. "Our aim is to allow the course to mature and really become established long before people play on it," says John Lilley. The entire playing area has been treated with round-up and is to be reseeded to a high specification. Fairways and tees will be sown with a mixture based on Hunters of Chester's Sports Supreme mixture and containing Agram, Wintergreen and Lustre chewings fescues, Baron smooth stalked meadow grass and Highland Brown Top. Roughs will be sown with Hunter's Sports Sovereign - Lustre/Wintergreen chewings fescues, Boreal creeping red fescue, Baron SSMG and Highland Browntop - while greens are to be turfed.

The course will be open to everyone on a pay-as-you-play basis and the new clubhouse will cater exclusively for golfers. A second course is already being planned and, when completed, it is likely that membership will be considered.

It is estimated that more than 50 per cent of Britain's dairy farmers are looking for alternative uses for their land and in John Lilley's case he believes his solution is ideal, through his newly installed embryo transplant unit and turning over land to leisure and sports facilities.

Iseki UK expands to Cambridgeshire

Iseki UK has opened the doors of Britain's first specialist compact tractor centre based in Cambridgeshire.

The move to the new three and half acre site at Bourn, adjacent to the A45 Cambridge - Bedford road, comes just two and a half years after the companies formation in Great Britain and mirrors Iseki's growth in the market place to offer some of the best facilities in the business. Speaking at the opening of these spacious new premises, Iseki's managing director John Hawkins said, "since our formation we have consistently wanted to increase the facilities offered to our dealers and professional turf users. The move to Bourn provides us with more room for our increasing parts and service area and for training, whilst outside we hope to establish the best in demonstration areas too."

The new Iseki premises comprise some 20,000 sq.ft under cover, a new modern office and administration block, an assembly hall and containerised storage for products recently arrived from Iseki's parent company in Japan.

Iseki's approach to the compact tractor and professional market is to supply a total package for the end user. The range of products distributed now includes not only the Iseki range of tractors, but also the Greencare range of Coremasters, Turfblazer out front mowers and the Mura-tori, Sitrex and associated brands of loaders/backhoes and attachments.

The opening of Britain's first compact tractor centre is an important milestone for Iseki UK. "We now have the facilities to match our growing share in the market."



Turf Irrigation Services Limited

Betchton, Sandbach, Cheshire CW11 0TS
Tel: 04775-255 & 256 Telex: 367122 TIS G.

TURF

irrigation

TORO

IRRIGATION PRODUCTS



Always ahead of the game

said Mr Hawkins, "We can offer the dealers and users we serve the opportunity to view, test drive and evaluate the products we sell as well as training and supporting them with a wide range of educational courses for the user, salesmen and fitters.

Johnsons launch Jupiter to replace imports of creeping red fescue

"The best new cultivar to have reached the sports and amenity grass sector for many years" - that is the description applied by Johnsons Seeds to Jupiter, an outstanding fine-leaved cultivar of the slender creeping red fescue group, which was introduced by the company towards the end of June. The first product of Johnsons' amenity grass breeding programme and launched after 15 years of assessment, commercial development and trials, Jupiter offers all the attributes which sports people and amenity turf managers look for in a cultivar, notably: Bright emerald green and distinctive strong winter colours; uniform and compact low growth for low maintenance and fewer heads; compactness - Jupiter has higher shoot numbers per unit than many other Chewings fescues, thus giving extra density and resistance to wear and weeds; tolerance to drought in summer and cold in winter; disease resistance, particularly to red thread and dollar spot, where it has proved to be more resistant than other leading cultivars, bred and produced in Britain.

Entered into trials by the Sports Turf Research Institute in 1984, Jupiter is currently the only cultivar to have been

awarded five 'A' ratings for compactness, freedom from red thread, freedom from dollar spot, greenness in summer and greenness in winter. The new cultivar received 'B' ratings for 5mm mowing and short growth.

Trials carried out by Johnsons between 1983 and 1987, in which Jupiter was compared with leading cultivars of slender creeping red fescue, plus the widely-used commercial stong creeping fescue Boreal, showed the new cultivar to be well in advance of other varieties.

Assessments were made covering colour, texture, density and disease-resistance on a 0-9 basis. Jupiter merged as the top cultivar with an overall score of 7.17.

Disease-resistance was rated on an A-D scale with only two varieties achieving a pair of 'A's for red thread and dollar spot, Jupiter being one of them.

Plant breeders rights were granted to Johnsons for the UK/EEC and North America in 1985 and it is now Johnsons' declared aim to build up seed production in the UK, avoiding the scarcities which are experienced with some contemporaries of Jupiter.

The company have pledged that, by increasing the number of growers and the acreage of Jupiter, supply will keep pace with demand and there will be enough seed available to satisfy current and future needs.

In fact, the acreage of Jupiter this year will exceed the total UK acreage of creeping red fescues in 1986, while in 1990 production will be triple that amount.

Johnsons are recommending that Jupiter should be a component of the major mix-

tures for fine turf and they are including it as a key cultivar in their mixtures for areas such as cricket squares, golf greens, tennis courts and bowling greens.

Such is the versatility of the cultivar, however, that mixtures are also being marketed for golf fairways, cricket outfield, shaded areas, embankments and general purpose applications.

The source material for Jupiter was selected from a natural turf area in the south of England. Parental clones have been retained to ensure that Jupiter will remain uniform and stable for commercial production.

Derek Whelbourn, director of Johnsons' wholesale division, commented: "There can be no doubt that Jupiter adds a new dimension to the options which are available to anybody with an interest in sports and amenity turf. It is a truly outstanding new cultivar - we have called it Jupiter because we believe it is out of this world - and we are very proud to have produced such a fine cultivar from our amenity grass breeding programme."

The current value of the UK amenities seed market is placed at between £15 million - £20 million with a demand for some 5000 tons a year. The domestic market is about 1/2 of this again, giving a total UK seed market of 7500 tons. Johnsons share of this is claimed to be 25 per cent and with the launch of Jupiter the company forecasts this share will rise rapidly as domestic production begins to replace import of creeping red fescue. Material grown on British farms is estimated to be 200 tons, about 10% of the total imports of this variety.

Hole Cups

 The Rider Hole Cup R. & A. Approved Size. The best hole cup on the market today" (Derrick Ganning - The Belfry)

£4.99 each
available in cartons of 10.

Teeing Ground Area Markers



High visibility, 8" dia, 3" high. Half Golf Ball design, cast in heavy aluminium, ribbed for added strength. Designed for maximum abuse.

£8.95 each

Traffic Control Stakes

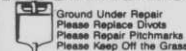


Aluminium shaft 1/2" dia., 2' 6" high, black or white top complete with hook. A multi-purpose stake when used with chain or rope make instant fencing. As no ground sockets are required they are easily removed and replaced to other areas of G.U.R. etc.

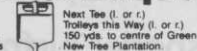
£3.99 each

available in packs of 10.
10% discount on 5 packs or more.
50 yards of bulk reel chain. £85.00

Information & Etiquette Signs



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



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



Over 50 Signs available, or your own special sign. Please enquire. Plus Blank for individual message.

Exclusive design in heavy duty cast aluminium.

£9.50 each

Swivel Flagpoles



Slimflex
6" fibreglass

£6.99 each*



Links
6" fibreglass

£7.99 each*



Tournament
7" fibreglass

£8.99 each*

All poles can be supplied in two colours i.e. Black/White, Red/White or Yellow/Black. Add £1.00 extra per flagpole. All poles complete with bung and Tacit's unique swivel action at no extra cost. Will accept any type of tie-on flag. Quality nylon flags £1.50 each. P & P carriage at cost.

* Available in packs of 10.

Special Event Pack

Longest drive/nearest the pin sets, plus customised flags and teemarkers (send for details).

PLAYERS "STANDEASY" BUNKER RAKE

A small bracket keeps the rake handle above the sand and wet grass enabling golfers to keep their hands (and gloves) clean and dry.



£12.50 each

TACIT

Unit 3, 3 Millers Lane, Monks Kirby, Rugby CV23 0RJ. Tel: (0788) 832166

For Less

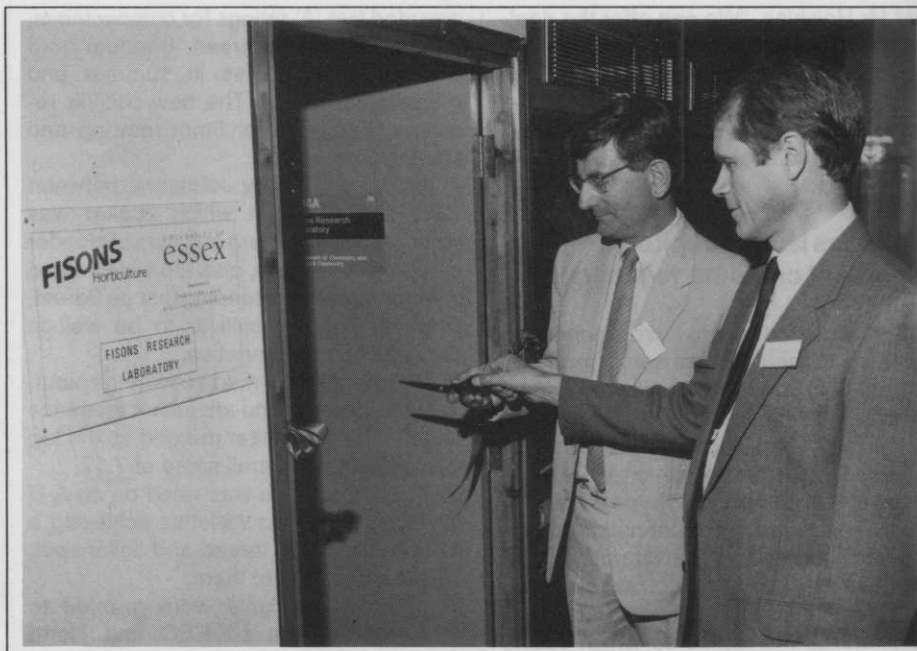
Fisons lecturer in pesticide chemistry

Fisons Horticulture Division has signed an agreement, valued at £90,000 over three years, with the University of Essex to establish the post of Lecturer in Pesticide Chemistry, together with supporting laboratory facilities.

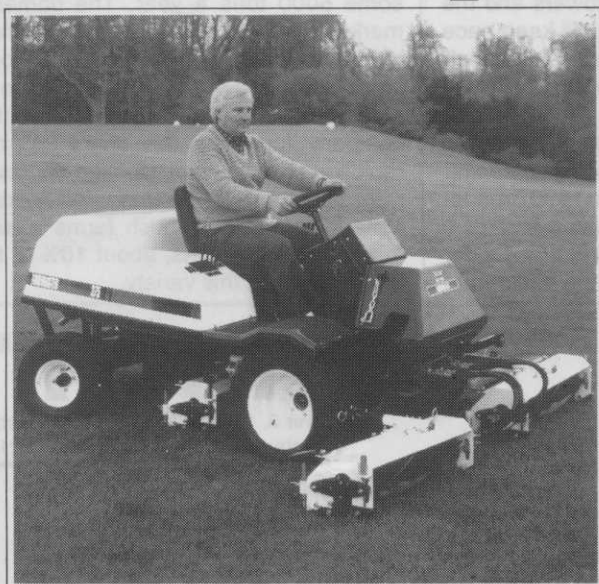
The Horticulture Division of Fisons plc sells the extensive Murphy range of pesticides on the UK home and garden market. In addition, Fisons Horticulture has a specialist pesticide range for the professional horticulture industry, including products such as the Fungicides Filex, Basilex and Turfclear.

Under the new agreement, the appointee will lecture within the University of Essex to established courses and carry out pesticide research to the benefit of both Fisons and the University.

Dr Roger Turner, research and development director of Fisons Horticulture, said, "We are delighted to be able to establish this lectureship and the extra laboratory facilities here at the University of Essex.



Dr Roger Turner (right), Fisons Research and Development Director and Professor M. Harris, Vice Chancellor, University of Essex.



TURFMASTER

CARING FOR CUSTOMERS

Turfmaster Machinery Ltd

Corringham Road Industrial Estate, Gainsborough, Lincs DN21 1QB
Tel: 0427 4776 Fax: 0427 4779

HIGH OUTPUT ALL DAY LONG

- That's what you seek with the Turfmaster 375 and 390.
- They're fast on the job – up to 7½ mph cutting speed. And fast between jobs – up to 14½ mph transport speed.
- They cover a lot of ground – up to 7½ acres an hour.
- They'll work all day without refuelling.

And, thanks to special Turfmaster features, they provide exceptional stability and traction for working on slopes, banks and difficult areas.

We know our customers' needs.

£38 million a year spent on maintaining British courses

The total annual cost of maintaining Britain's golf courses is currently running at £38 million. This is a massive increase of nearly 25 per cent compared with the £30 million spent in 1986. The total excludes labour costs at £66 million which also compared to 1986 shows an increase of nearly 25 per cent.

The expenditure by clubs now on maintaining the golf course indicates a big swing towards the improvement of playing conditions to the attitude just three years ago.

The total acreage of land utilised in 1989 as golf courses in Britain is estimated at 287,130 acres (114,852 hectares) and of this area nearly 66 per cent is maintained and mown regularly. The South East accounts for the most land used for golf with 28 per cent of the total followed predictably by Scotland with 23 per cent, and Northern England with 18.5 per cent.

The figures have just been released from the UK Golf Course survey 1989 which shows the average wage of a head greenkeeper has risen by £1,500 since 1986. The national average annual pay for a head greenkeeper is now £8,630 - a figure however that falls well below the recommended scales of pay just issued by the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association of £13,409.

The survey was conducted by Turf Management and is published this month. It shows that each club budgets for an annual capital expenditure and while this varies from year to year the information provides an accurate figure to the amount being spent in buying new equipment or

replacing worn out machinery. In the South East golf clubs spend an average of £16,000 a year compared with clubs in Wales which record a meagre £2,400 a year. A national average however indicates that £16.4 million, a rise of 15 per cent, is spent on new machinery by clubs annually.

The most popular manufacturer supplying equipment to the golf course industry is Ransomes although a majority of clubs indicated they used equipment from more than three suppliers.

John Deere and Iseki were two companies that featured in this analysis while Toro holds an estimated national share of 18.4 per cent, other firms showing a significant market share were Sisis 14.8 per cent, Cushman 11.4 per cent and Jacobsen with 10.2 per cent. The Jacobsen share of the market shows a significant increase and is nearly double the figure reported in the 1986 survey.

Another company who has seemingly made impact on the British golf course market is Kubota. This company now holds an estimated 6 per cent share of the machinery and equipment sector compared with 1986 when it featured only in the 'others' category. While Kubota claim to be the largest supplier of compact tractors in Britain the dominant market position for golf is held by Massey Ferguson and Ford.

The total average expenditure on pesticides is calculated at £5.9 million which indicates that golf clubs have a major requirement for these materials. The amount consumed for the golf course market is a significant proportion of the total amount of pesticides used in amenity horticulture.

Golf clubs also spend a considerable amount on fertilizer with the survey showing a total of £3.1 million spent annually. This is a considerable increase of some 38 per cent. The region spending the most on fertilizers is the South East followed by the North. Clubs in East Anglia use the lowest amount of the whole country with only £835 spent annually.

Copies of the market survey are available at a price of £155. All enquiries should be sent to TURF MANAGEMENT, 201-205 Kingston Road, Leatherhead, Surrey. KT22 7PB

Golf Course Europe

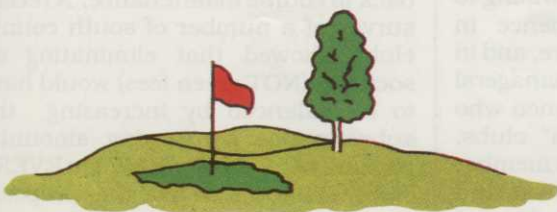
Interest has been considerable, especially from continental clubs after the announcement that Expoconsult are organising a conference and trade show in Weisbaden 4-6 October. The event is for golf course managers and greenkeepers together with others from the golf course construction and maintenance industry.

The conference programme will cover such diverse topics as Irrigation, Golf Course Maintenance principles, Public Courses, Financing of new course, Club House Architecture and infrastructure. All lectures will be delivered in the English language with a simultaneous translation into French and German. The exhibition is expected to attract thousands of trade visitors from all over Europe who will visit the stand of over seventy exhibitors. All available know-how products and technology will be on display.

For further details contact: Expoconsult, P.O.Box 200, 3600 AE Maarssen, The Netherlands. Tel: + + 31 3465 73777.

HAVING SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE SOUTH COURSE AT WENTWORTH - WE ARE NOW WORKING ON THE EAST COURSE

GOLF LANDSCAPES LTD.



ASHWELLS ROAD
BENTLEY, BRENTWOOD
ESSEX: CM15 9SR

Telephone: (0277) 73720
Telex: 995215 GOLF LG

*The proven experience in the field
for construction, drainage and irrigation*

Big shortage of good course managers

As more and more golf courses are being built in Britain and Europe Jim Arthur expresses his concern that many will suffer because of the shortage of good, well qualified managers

It is not only in golf greenkeeping that concern is being expressed about the effects of 'traffic' on sports turf. One sees comments in the tennis world from such a respected head groundsman as Jim Thorn at the All England Club that management techniques have not kept abreast of the effects of stress and pressures from play and that unqualified, unskilled people are put in charge of court maintenance at many Clubs, merely because they had been club professionals. The same applies to cricket - where criticisms are made of wickets not standing up to increased traffic, again because techniques have not kept pace with the effect of extra traffic.

However, it would be neither appropriate nor wise to venture into such areas in a golf greenkeeping Magazine! We have enough problems of our own.

In generalising about trends, it must always be taken into account that the excellent condition of the relatively few courses in improving condition which not only have withstood all the effects of misguided policies of the past two decades but also the effect of increased play and wear caused by two relatively mild and certainly open winters, may make a dispassionate assessment difficult. Equally the appalling condition of our worst courses - I will not venture into assessing what proportion of the total they constitute and certainly not to identify them! - nor to mention the number of courses where greens are shut for weeks on end in winter, or even, as in some, members being condemned to temporary greens and playing off mats ALL winter, may induce too pessimistic an approach!

How many times have I stressed that there is no more important person on any golf course than its head man.

Those in long term charge of member

clubs especially must accept that they are very, very vulnerable since there is a desperate shortage of experienced trained and skilled head men and this situation will get worse. This is exacerbated by many factors.

First and foremost, any sensible employers (in whatever industry, and golf today is certainly an industry!) make sure (or should do) that their indispensable key men are so well looked after - not just financially and with pension schemes but in the esteem in which they are held, - that they are almost 'unpoachable'. Therefore there is a reduced availability of senior men looking for better prospects. Secondly, by the historical accident that so many Greenkeepers came back after the War from the Forces, equally many will be retiring at the same time. Parallel with this, of course, is the decline in numbers of school leavers making it imperative that greenkeeping sells itself as a respected, well paid profession with excellent opportunities to Careers officers and others responsible for guiding our BEST school leavers into greenkeeping - instead of, as in earlier decades, regarding it as a last option for those "wanting an outdoor life" - often synonymous sadly with the description "strong in the arm and thick in the head".

The main threat comes, of course, from the new courses being built as part of hotel and leisure complexes, or by developers both in Britain and Europe. Such bodies know they have to poach and are more than willing to do so, having long experience in paying the going rate and more, and in treating their managers as managers! The relief of those excellent men who have moved from members' clubs, where every upstart or novice member feels qualified to criticize them and where Captains playing off 20 and

worse, regard themselves as having a God given right to fire good men, just because a long serving experienced head man reckons he knows rather more than the Captain about greenkeeping, is illuminating!

At a conservative guess we are going to need some 500 head men in the next decade (or less), if current estimates of new course projects are even half accurate. On top of this we need back-up trained staff replacement of retirees.

When 'labour' is in short supply wages escalate - and this has been true ever since the Black Death. If 'member clubs' whose parrot cry to any attempt to lead them into the twentieth century is to vote down any increase in subscriptions and who claim to own as well as have the right to run their club - whereas in truth they are merely temporary custodians for future generations, - fail to respond to this financial pressure, they will soon find they have only second class greenkeepers, trainees, or those stalwarts motivated by loyalty, love of their course or reluctance to move, to look after their courses.

The problem of finance has induced Treasurers to increasingly encourage and rely on societies - not all of whom are proficient players. Whilst this revenue, which sometimes exceeds the total of members' subscriptions, may balance the books it is not free! In fact, wear is disproportionately higher and an appreciable proportion of this revenue ought, but rarely is, diverted back to course maintenance. A recent survey of a number of south county clubs showed that eliminating all societies (NOT green fees) would have to be balanced by increasing the subscriptions by varying amounts, generally £50-£100 p.a. Yet in EVERY club, members voted the proposal down, often overwhelmingly. Too mean

LOOKING AHEAD

to pay an extra £1 a week to enjoy more fully their own club's facilities! It defies belief!

So much for the problem - what of solutions? Obviously the first priority must be to see that GOOD men are proportionately rewarded - and provided with pensions and other perquisites but also to see that they are treated as skilled professional managers - if they are! Failure by their employers to regard school teachers as being a respected and worthwhile profession is far more behind their present discontent than mere salary levels.

Secondly we need better and more intensive education. Whilst there are VERY few colleges teaching good greenkeeping, we are in general training no more GOLF greenkeepers in a year, than we were a decade earlier. What is worse is that in many cases they are not being trained in any way differently than 20 years ago - it is only the skill and devotion of a mere handful of dedicated college lecturers interpreting and re-thinking an outmoded and often totally wrong syllabus in order to meet today's problems, which prevents the whole education scheme being a fiasco. This is why it is so depressing for a meeting of college lecturers convened to discuss standardising, modernising or interpreting the City and Guilds syllabus to dismiss my pleas with the words "you are not going to do a Baker on us".

Seminars do not address themselves to current problems, the chief of which is the effect of traffic, but waste time and money inviting speakers from the other side of the Atlantic. Many of them have ideas which (however relevant they are, and this is sometimes debatable, to their own special conditions) are totally irrelevant not only to Northern European conditions but are (as one of the USGA Green Section's Agronomists told me when he stayed with me this year), equally irrelevant to most of the States also. We waste vast sums, not only in copying the mistakes made earlier, but in research, to PROVE wrong what we have known to be wrong for years. PURE sand greens (not a 'sand soil' mix) designed to take the massive irrigation required under arid, very hot conditions and where extreme heat kills off any invading meadow grass have no relevance to our conditions. If these 'hydroponic' greens are not fed NPK they die and if they are, they degenerate at once to annual meadow grass.

There is insufficient 'post graduate' training for skilled men - really only

two satisfactory 5 day courses, once a year and always over-subscribed. The money is there as never before but there are too many debates about how it is to be used and too much dilution of resources. Frankly, greenkeeping education has by and large stagnated, since those optimistic days when we thought we could standardise curricula and concentrate education at a few controllable centres.

The situation is I am assured no better in the States, where a far smaller proportion of clubs take advantage of the USGA Green Section's advisory service than do clubs here with S.T.R.I. Furthermore I am told that an even smaller proportion of U.S. superintendents are member of the GCSAA than the proportion in the U.K., who joined B.I.G.G.A. though their vast numbers at their annual jamborees makes this difficult to believe!

Respected golf writers such as Michael Williams and Donald Steel plead for better courses, better able to stand up to the vagaries of our weather (we do not have a climate!) and to produce not only first class conditions for major events but the same standards all the year round. Who is more important? A handful of talented and overpaid young men who care only that it is right on the day, or the all year round golfer, who should surely expect his course to be at the very least playable, whenever he wants to play it.

There are pleas for an end to the divisions that seem to beset the greenkeeping world, which are often less basic than it would appear. There are suggestions for a ruling authority to lay down standards for course management and presentation. Surely this is there already in the Royal and Ancient, working through its appointed body, the Golf Section of the Sports Turf Research Institute.

What we must eliminate are bad greenkeepers, and there are still many relying on fertilisers and water to tart

up their courses, be this for a major Tournament or their own Captain's day - not understanding, or worse not caring, that this way lies thatch, annual meadow grass, temporary greens and course deterioration. I have no patience with those who say we have to learn to live with annual meadow grass - even though I accept that past bad greenkeeping has often left an impossible legacy and control will necessarily be slow. So many of those who regard their awful meadow grass greens as inevitable have excellent bent approaches and fairways!

Finally, everyone from those in charge of clubs to those in charge of courses should note the avowed intention of the PGA to gain more control of the game. Whilst I rate many club professionals as my personal friends, there is no doubt that the interests of too many professionals in either group are opposed to those of members and players. This in no way implies that the interest of any club's professional in his Club's course should be discouraged, but he must not interfere with course management, any more than Greenkeepers should interfere with the way he runs HIS business. In far too many cases, malcontent members find their professional a willing focus for their grumbles - and once this happens, disaster and deterioration follow. Whilst undoubtedly the best way to run anything is through an amiable dictator there are two main problems - how to keep him amiable and how to stop him giving up - because it really is one of the most thankless tasks in the world to try to meet the opposed desires of the average membership - half of which are totally incompatible with the other.

The message is - especially to member 'controlled' clubs - to look after your good men, remembering that skilled staff are impossible to find and even bad ones are scarce.

Kellands Ltd

(MAIN KUBOTA AGENTS)

No 1 FOR TURF EQUIPMENT

BEAVER - Ex demo TM508 Hydraulic 5-gang mower c/w floating heads optional front rollers 140" cut. New £9,246 reduced to £6,995 save £2,251

KUBOTA - Ex demo P2000 4-wheel drive 60" outfront deck. New £9,130, reduced to £6,850 save £2,280

MODUS T - Ex demo top dresser, deep aerator, light aerator, scarifier, mole, plough and main frame. New £5,671 reduced to £2,950 save £2,721

HAYTER - used Condor hydro drive, 30" rotary a.n.c. Our price £950

KUBOTA - B6100, 14hp 4WD tractor. Our price £2,950

KUBOTA - B7100, 16hp 4 WD tractor, c/w rear-mounted RM48 mower. Our price £3,200.

(all prices exclude VAT) Selection of quality secondhand cylinder machines always in stock
Box Road, Bathford, Bath, Avon. Telephone: (0225) 858288

New Jubilee course opens at St Andrews

Originally regarded as a ladies course when it opened in 1887, the new Jubilee reconstructed course marks a further stage in the development of these famous links

Last month saw the opening of the 'new' Jubilee course at St Andrews. The original course was opened in 1887 on the day when Queen Victoria's Jubilee was celebrated, but it was regarded then as the ladies' course, an alternative to the gentler challenge on the ladies' putting green. In 1912, the course was extended from 12 to 18 holes and, in 1939, Willie Auchterlonie, then club professional to the R & A, with a few men began its construction. By 1946, they had made a pleasing course on the bayside of the dunes, not over-demanding, but ideal for beginners and high-handicap players, so wrote Pat Ward-Thomas in his book 'The Royal & Ancient'.



The central dune looking down the proposed 15th (the Golf Course May 1987)



Walter Woods admires the bunkering

The Jubilee course has been redesigned by Donald Steel with the main feature being the use of the huge main sand dune that used to be an unused spine down the centre of the course. This now comes

into play on four of the new holes. As our illustrations show work by constructors Brian D. Pierson (Contractors) has required considerable earth moving and contouring to maximise the links qualities of the terrain. Walter

Woods the St. Andrews Links Supervisor has worked closely with the contractors and is particularly pleased with the quality of the greens which will be every bit as demanding as those of the Old Course. The Links Manage-

CONSTRUCTION

The 15th



Autumn 1987



Spring 1989

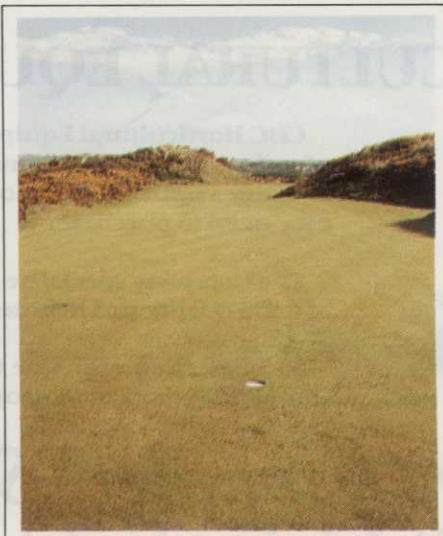
The 16th



Autumn 1988



Autumn 1987



Spring 1989

ment Trust are committed to providing even better facilities for visitors to the 'Home of Golf' and they together with Messrs Steel, Pierson and Woods are to be congratulated on producing an exciting course that will appeal to the visitor and take some of the strain from the old course. Steel has also been given the task by the Links Management Trust of redesigning the Eden course. Not only to make it a more valued test of golf, but by using some of the land recently acquired at the far end of the course.

***An exciting
new course that
appeals to all
golfers***

Steel's design allows the vast flat area that formed the 1st, 17th and 18th holes to be drained and provide a permanent site for the Open Championship tented village. With poor weather at three consecutive Open Championships the tented village area turned into a mudbath how with easy access next to the Old course, 16th green and the Old Course Hotel, this well drained area will provide an ideal site.

Staff constructed a lake that guards the entrance to the 8th green that has to be played over to the short 9th. A lake may seem a strange addition to the St. Andrews scene but it is an effective feature. A reproduction of the 'Principal's nose' is also incorporated in the design of the 16th hole. Next year on the land bought from the Strathstryrum Estate between the Eden and the road into the town, a further 18 hole layout is to be built, again designed by Donald Steel and built for the Links Management Trust by Brian Pierson.

Material is being collected from the other courses to form the sand dunes to the flat pastureland site for the Strathstryrum course, into a links in keeping with the St. Andrews tradition.



CHAPEL WORKS
WALDRINGFIELD
WOODBRIDGE
SUFFOLK IP12 4PT
TEL 0473 36 791
FAX 0473 36 370

CDC GOLF & LEISURE DEVELOPMENTS Ltd. *The Golf Course Constructors*



CDC Golf and Leisure Developments Limited are one of the few Companies in the Country to offer the complete service in the field of golf course design and construction using skilled personnel to full completion.

- Detailed greens complex and contours
- Drainage calculations and layout
- Initial land survey, planning application submission
- Specification and Bill of quantities
- Budget costings and construction programme
- Turf establishment and management. Advice after completion

**WE ARE ABLE TO
UNDERTAKE ANY DEVELOPMENT
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**

CDC HORTICULTURAL EQUIPMENT Ltd.



CDC Horticultural Equipment has a comprehensive fleet of maintenance equipment for hire and can supply machines until clients know precisely the equipment that they need to purchase.

The Company specialise in the acquiring and refurbishing of good quality turf maintenance equipment for resale.

Satisfied clients include Golf courses throughout the United Kingdom and Europe.

For The Complete Service
Telephone Waldringfield 0473 36 791

THE NEW READY FOR USE GLYPHOSATE

STIRRUP

HERBICIDE BY MONSANTO

A translocated non-residual herbicide uniquely formulated for unsurpassed control of grasses and broad leaved weeds

COMPLETELY SEALED SYSTEM AVAILABLE IN PACKS OF 750ml (Nomix Compact Lance) AND 5ltrs (Chipman SuperPro Lance)

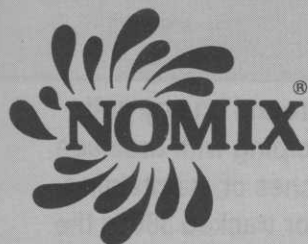
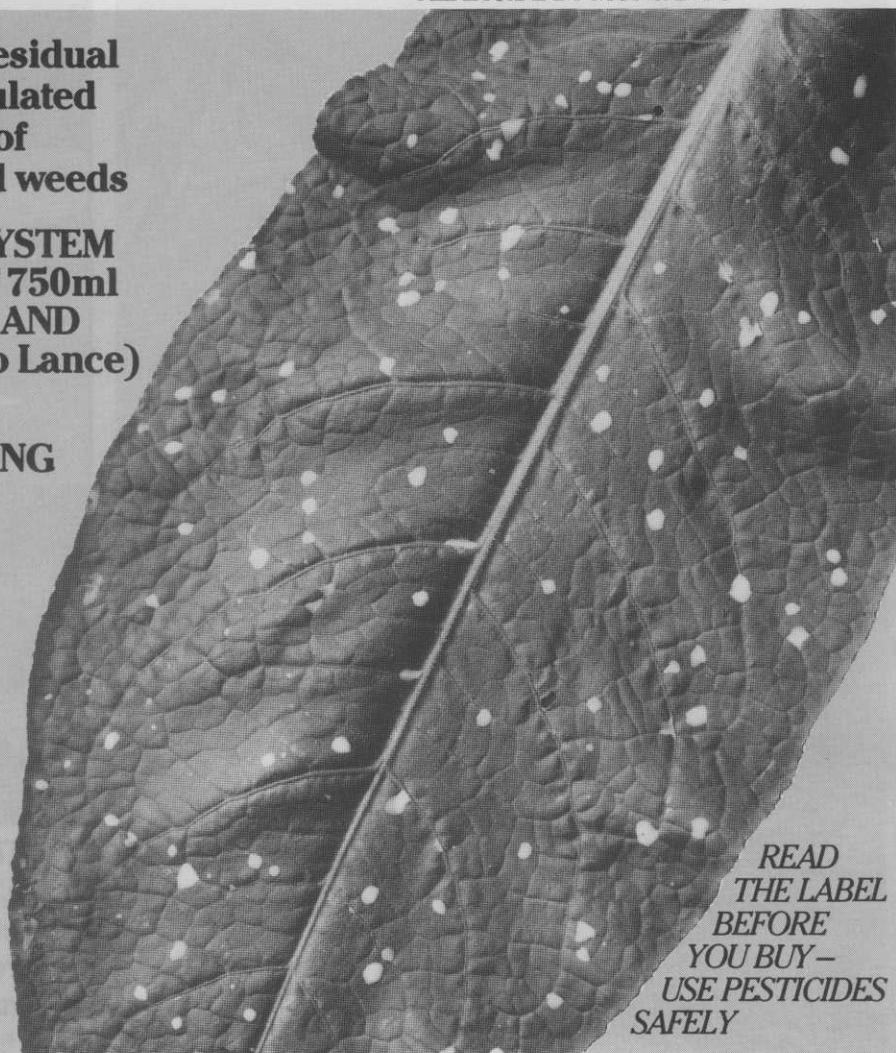
NO WATER REQUIRED

NO MIXING NO MEASURING

NO COMPLICATED CALCULATIONS

CLEARLY VISIBLE ON LEAVES

APPROVED FOR USE ONLY THROUGH



APPLICATORS

READ THE LABEL BEFORE YOU BUY - USE PESTICIDES SAFELY

Distributed by



**HORSHAM, WEST SUSSEX, RH12 2NR
TEL: 0403 60341 FAX: 0403 64799 TELEX: 877223**

For further information send to Mark DeAth
Chipman Ltd., Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 2NR.

Name _____

Position _____

Company _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

GC

ON COURSE FOR SUCCESS **ATLAS 360**



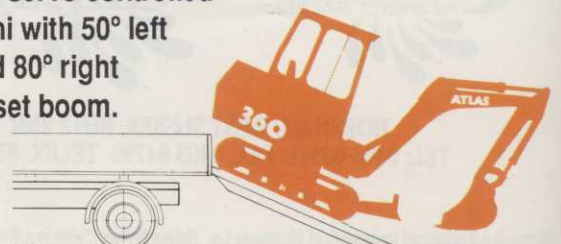
The small excavator for every task



Atlas Hydraulic Excavators,
Wharfedale Road, Euroway Estate,
Bradford. BD4 6SL
Tel: 0274 686827
Fax: 0274 687889

The ATLAS 360 gets around on any golf course. Whether it's helping with drainage work, cleaning out ditches or maintaining bunkers, the wheeled or tracked 360 is the ideal machine to use. Small, compact and powerful, it makes the perfect partner for any greenkeeper. But don't take our word for it, talk to Dunsar Golf Club in Bolton where the 360's been hard at work on one of the North's premier courses.

Also available is the 1.2 ton servo controlled mini with 50° left and 80° right offset boom.





Royal Troon's Norman Fergusson gets the capital B.E.M. Left to right: Colonel Bryce Knox Lord Lt. of Ayrshire, Norman Fergusson B.E.M. D. H. D. Forsyth Captain Royal Troon, Major R. W. Henderson Deputy Lt. of Ayrshire outside of the clubhouse.

Royal Troon prepares for the 118th Open Championship

John Lelean, looks at the course preparation for Royal Troon's sixth staging of the most prestigious event in the golfing calendar.

It has been quite a year for Norman Fergusson, Royal Troon's Head Greenkeeper. He was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Years Honour's list and now seven months later, will be taking the stage once more as the presenter of the golf course destined to be seen through the medium of television, by the largest audience since the Olympic Games. Providing the facilities for world wide television is just a part of Norman's vast programme of work at Royal Troon. Their commentary positions extend almost half the length of the 16th fairway, all to be linked into British Telecom international cables.

The latest request is for separate toilet facilities for the estimated 600 crew which have to be connected to the main sewerage system. This will mean yet another section of the fairway to be dug up for pipes to be laid, though he might well incorporate this excavation with a public crossing point to overcome the problem of relaying the turf. Answering the call of nature for the

army of broadcasters appeared to be quite a problem at Royal Lytham last year as they were missing for up to three quarters of an hour queueing at the public conveniences!

Greenkeeping at Troon is a family profession, Norman has been in charge for 30 years, succeeding his father, who held the top job for 40 years. Brother William is first assistant. He was born in the greenkeepers bungalow on the edge of the course, where his well tended garden is a constant conversation opener with guests at the adjacent hotel.

Royal Troon in the middle of June, with barely six weeks to bring the course to perfection, resembled a cross between a building site and a full scale army manoeuvre. Whilst the twelve greenkeepers were battling to nurture the grass on greens, tees and fairways, yellow British Telecom vans were everywhere, tent framework was under construction and a virtual battalion of scaffolders were erecting stands at every vantage point

around the course.

Add to that the TV towers, positioned to home in on every shot over 7,094 yards and greenkeepers at least will realise Norman and his crew were working under more than a degree of difficulty.

The mild winter enjoyed by all golf courses in the UK did enable the staff to progress a great deal of work on the course, including revetting 60 of the 80 plus bunkers. They have also put in a new sand trap on the left of the fairway up the eighteenth and built a championship tee some 27 yards further back to give the finish a bit of bite. The final hole now measures 452 yards, which will require at least a 5 iron for the second shot for even the big hitters.

If there is a north westerly gale blowing down the fairway from the clubhouse, then many will find it difficult to get up with a much longer iron.

Wind, the feature of all links courses can be particularly punishing at Royal Troon. Those who can remember the

ON THE COURSE



The 7th green with the Postage Stamp in the background

last time the Open was played here in 1982 will recall that Nick Price, runner up last year at Royal Lytham was in a commanding position, three shots clear of the field as he stood on the 13th tee. By the time he sunk his final putt on the 18th he had dropped four shots and handed the Open Championship to Tom Watson.

Who will eventually be proclaimed "Champion" was far from Norman's mind in June, his thoughts were how to ensure the course met with the requirements of the members and the R & A Championship Committee. Although his ultimate goal is a superb course without blemish for eight days at the end of July, it is after all a members course for their playing pleasure.

Not only does he have to maintain Royal Troon, given majestic status following the 1973 Open Championship, but also the 18 hole Portland course and the nine hole "childrens course", though both these courses will be submerged under tents and car parks for the duration. But leading up to the closure for play two weeks before the main event they have to be kept playable for the members.

The private clubs of Royal Troon and Portland are under the same committee management, but have separate clubhouses. To further complicate the arrangements, the ladies play the Portland course, but on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, they are allowed to play Royal Troon, though it must be said they find it a bit tough.

Last winter an exceptionally high tide swept up the Firth of Clyde, over the dunes on the sea side of the course, leaving a dreadful mess of debris that took weeks to clear.

It also washed away part of the outer edges of the opening holes, but the problem was solved by bringing in sand from further down the coast, banking it up and pegging down plastic netting. This has provided a secure base for the vegetation to grow through giving the fringe area greater strength. Though according to Norman, once the local press had the glimmer of a story that there had been a sea invasion it was not long before they were predicting that the Open Championship course was floating off into the Irish Sea.

Water is the one commodity that is needed prior to the beginning of July. This part of the Ayrshire coast has suffered in common with others from a pre-longed period of drought. Fairways need cutting barely once a week and the rough is little longer than the cut grass.

There is however plenty of water for the irrigation system, mainly Water-mation, changed over some years ago from Toro. A 22,000 gallon storage tank is fed from the Gyaws Burn, which conveniently runs through a pipe under the soil and machinery shed.

Under a wooden trap, some fifteen feet below runs pure Scottish water, "Quite good enough to drink", says Norman, though he agrees he has not tried it. A submersible pump switches in when the storage tank drops by a third. "Even in the longest period of drought there has always been running water through the burn", he added.

His irrigation will need updating with the latest computerised system at some time in the future, but for the time being it handles the two courses adequately. Two new safety cut outs have been incorporated recently, but

he finds they are so sensitive, the slightest malfunction will switch off the whole system.

Despite all the digging and cable laying around the course, to date there has only been one hiccup and that was up in front of the club house when a scaffolder, anchoring down a seating structure severed the main pipe. It was not long before Norman had a telephone call to his bungalow asking if course alterations were to include a lake.

A new piece of equipment, acquired this year on a recommendation from the consultant agronomist from the STRI has been the Australian manufactured Multi-core. This versatile machine has sets of hollow tines of various sizes, including some as slim as a pencil.

Royal Troon has been using the machine with the smallest tines in a close pattern to remove cores over some hard packed areas that despite the use of wetting agents will not take in water. Norman told me that it is as if the section of the greens affected had acquired a waterproof layer, probably caused by a one time fungal infection. The close pattern of small holes made by the machine hardly disturbs the surface and putting is not affected. After a top dressing of sand the green surface quickly returns to normal.

His most useful equipment item is a large soil riddler that will load top dressing on a conveyor belt into the Cushman. There were problems initially from fumes in the extensive soil shed, but this was overcome by feeding pipes out through the wall.

His soil shed would be the envy of most greenkeepers, spacious, good light and easy access from either end. An ideal place to prepare compost on

ON THE COURSE

a wet day.

Another good buy in recent years has been a small Kubota compact tractor, offered initially by a local caravan site owner in financial difficulties, who had used the machine with rotary cutters. The club thought at the price it would be ideal for rough cutting, but they have discovered the compact is multi-functional and is in constant demand for all manner of jobs around the course.

Norman added that they never thought they had need for a small compact tractor, though since it arrived it has never stop working.

One hazard for golfers playing the links over which he has little control is the nearby Prestwick Airport. Jumbos taking off for the USA and Canada, fly directly up the length of the course, with ear shattering noise. During the Open Championship, air traffic control have agreed that if conditions are right they will endeavour to change the flight path to direct aircraft away from the event, but if the prevailing wind is not in their favour then there is nothing to be done.

It is to be hoped Concorde will not be making an appearance as a spell of recent training flights shook the sur-

rounding properties to their foundations.

There is always a warm welcome at Royal Troon for visiting greenkeepers and course managers, a welcome that Norman thought might be extended to him on a recent trip to the USA. He mentioned to the Committee that he would like to visit Augusta and as Charlie Yates, winner of the Amateur Championship in 1938, had an official position at America's most exclusive club it was suggested he should be contacted to make the necessary arrangements.

Norman, not wanting any special treatment, decided it was not necessary, so he drove the 100 miles from his holiday home to the course and arrived unannounced.

He explained to the gate keeper, who he was, where he had come from and was somewhat "miffed" to be told to turn his car round and go. "I don't care where you've come from, nobody, but nobody comes past these gates". So he had no option but to drive a hundred miles back without seeing a blade of grass.

Later however he was introduced to other golf courses in the USA, where he said the welcome was quite outstanding. Not only was he given a

conducted tour but a golf buggy and set of clubs were put at his disposal. It was only after his return that he discovered Charlie Yates lived in the same town where he was staying and he passed by his house almost every day!

"I may have another go sometime in the future", said Norman, "but this time we will make prior arrangements". We are sure this warm and friendly Scot, will be given the red carpet treatment.

But to return to the Open Championship. Just who will emerge as the 1989 winner. Will it be a repeat for Seve Ballesteros, can Nick Faldo, the US Masters Champion add another crown, will Curtis Strange make it an Open double? Norman Fergusson has a sneaking regard for Nick Price. He would have won at Lytham had not Ballesteros produced a final round of 65, a score only achieved once previously on the last day of an Open Championship.

Although it is said a competitor only has one chance, Price has been there twice, perhaps it could be third time lucky. I am going to take Norman's tip with a small wager.



**FOR COURSE CONSTRUCTION,
RENOVATION, DRAINAGE,
VERTI-DRAINING, OR
ANY CONTRACTING**

**USE THE
PROFESSIONALS
YOU WONT BE
DISAPPOINTED!**



British Association of
Landscape Industries

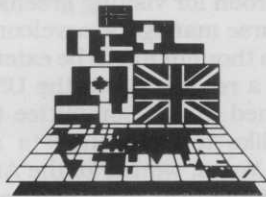


S|C|C Lands Maintenance Ltd

37 ROMAN WAY, TURPINS RIDE, HAVERHILL, SUFFOLK. CB9 ONG TEL: 0440 62369



The Greatest Show on Turf



THE IOG SPORTS & LEISURE WORLD TRADE EXHIBITION

Advisory Services
Agrochemicals · Demonstrations
Education and Training
Mowing and Maintenance · Irrigation
Recreation and Playground Equipment
Seeds, Turf and Plants
Sports Goods
Waste Disposal

Aboriculture and Forestry
Buildings · Engines and Motors
Lectures and Films · Outdoor Furniture
Plant and Machinery · Protective Clothing
Safety and Security
Technical Books and
Trade Journals

THE MAIN EVENT

FOR ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE LANDSCAPING, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF SPORTSGROUNDS AND LEISURE FACILITIES.

- 400 + of Britain's leading commercial enterprises
 - 150 organisations from over 24 countries
 - 35,000 + UK buyers and specifiers
 - 1,200 + trade visitors from Europe and overseas
 - 20,000 + m² of working demonstrations
 - educational and training exhibits
- stand space available from only £10m²

Further information and Booking Forms may be obtained from:

The Exhibition Organiser
The Institute of Groundsmanship,
19-23 Church Street, The Agora, Wolverton, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK12 5LG
Telephone: Milton Keynes (0908) 311856
(Office Hours: 9.00 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. Monday-Friday)

1989

WINDSOR

19-21 SEPTEMBER

THE ROYAL WINDSOR RACECOURSE
MAIDENHEAD ROAD · WINDSOR · BERKSHIRE
10 a.m. till 5 p.m. daily



1990

PETERBOROUGH

4-6 SEPTEMBER

THE EAST OF ENGLAND SHOWGROUND
PETERBOROUGH
CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Are you over par without us?



Wherever you find successful turf management, and professional greenkeeping you'll also find Rigby Taylor.


Because, from golf courses, tennis courts and bowling greens to parks and sports grounds Rigby

Taylor is committed to providing the right product at the right price within a service framework that's simply unbeatable.

We understand your problems and have the experience to interpret situations quickly with both thoroughness and reliability. For technical advice and ordering your requirements phone free 0800 424 919.

With Rigby Taylor the job's done right. After all, if it wasn't we'd be over par!

Rigby Taylor



A **GROWING** FORCE IN LEISURE

Fertilizers, Top Dressings and Composts, Pesticides, Grass Seeds, Tools and Golf Course Equipment.

Rigby Taylor has a wide range of specialist products for golf courses from the well known Mascot fertilizers and pesticides to grass seed mixtures, top dressings and wetting agents.



Rigby Taylor Limited

 **FREE 0800 424 919**

How to manage a course in the Swiss Alps

Ian Tomlinson, the greenkeeper who took his British "know how" to Europe and has never regretted the move. Here he discusses some of the problems he faces at Lausanne.

It is more than six years since I left England to work in the Romand (French) part of Switzerland, at Lausanne Golf Club.

Without hoping to seem too unpatriotic, I cannot see myself returning to the home country in the conceivable future because, to be frank there is so much opportunity on the Continent to enjoy such a high standard of living. Though hand in hand with the "good life" goes the necessity to earn it. That means hard work, long hours, accountability and all the responsibility required to manage one of the best golf courses in Switzerland.

The golf boom has hit Europe, including Switzerland, small as it is, in a big way. Our problem is finding suitable land for a course in a country where two thirds of the terrain consists of mountains and lakes, which raises the cost of an adaptable hundred plus acres to astronomical prices.

To give you an example of the money involved, the land around Lausanne Golf Club is currently fetching £105 per square metre, so with a calculator you will be able to work out for yourself the purchase cost to lay down a new 18 hole construction.

(Editor's note: For those without a conversion table there are 4,047 sq. metres to the acre).

Golf is still a sport for the rich in Switzerland and for that reason is not popular with the media. Because it is of necessity a pastime of minority interest to the bulk of the population, planning permission for new courses has become difficult to obtain even if someone is prepared to put up the capital.

One or two new courses have been built, but when this is equated with membership joining fees of £15,000 to £25,000, you can see why it is regarded as only a sport for the ultra wealthy.

So we find ourselves in a position not unfamiliar to the UK, where not enough new courses are under construction to cater for demand and those that are in existence, like ours at Lausanne are getting heavier play.

Last year in a Golf World survey Lausanne was rated in Europe's top 14,



Complete new drainage system of green 12

an accolade guaranteed to increase our fair share of visitors. Add to that the 1,130 members of the club, who also want to play the course and it is not difficult to imagine the pressure we are under throughout the playing season.

Unfortunately our greens were never constructed to take this volume of traffic so it was inevitable that problems had to arise. The first of these was drainage and you will see why from the photographs by the packed clay in the pipes.

Further investigation on a work plan to install a new drainage system on six of the greens, revealed what must be to a greenkeeper a "horror nightmare".

Within three to four inches of the green surface we found a layer of yellow and blue clay. Digging deeper to a couple of feet below the surface we discovered the original natural turf which had not seen the Swiss sunshine for nearly 70 years. Below this was a foot or so of quality soil. Words failed us, though one or two did pass our lips, but they are not repeatable even though I have learned to swear in at least two languages.

On three of the greens investigated no drains existed even worn out ones and this obviously promotes poa annua and resultant thatch.

Thatch is fairly prevalent on all the greens, which we are over coming by hollow tining four times a year, followed by the application of a sandy top dressing.

The obvious solution to such badly constructed greens would be to re-build them all, but then one is faced with the difficulty of convincing the members, who only seeing the playing surface are perfectly content as they are.

The course is at an altitude of 3,000 feet above sea level, closed by snow for three months of the year, so the prospects of shortening the playing season even further by having the greenstaff re-building the greens is certain to be a most controversial issue.

Since last year the club are now more aware of the problems we have with the greens as Jeff Perris from the STRI at Bingley was invited to survey the course and submitted a detailed report on its condition. Jeff's recommendation was a reconstruction of all 18 greens over a two or three year period, so it is now up to the membership to decide.

Last year a new Chairman of the Green Committee was appointed, who misunderstood his role from day one of taking office. He would decide a work programme and set down how and when it should take place.

MANAGEMENT

This was naturally a receipt for disaster, so after five months of disagreements he finally resigned. The outcome has been every greenkeeper's dream! The general committee decided to dissolve the green committee, not appoint a new green chairman and pass to me, the total responsibility for running the golf course.

It is a pity more golf clubs in the UK do not adopt a similar policy and allow the man in charge of the course to maintain it as he thinks fit and be accountable for its condition and playability.

The course suffers from the damage that has been caused to the trees from aerial pollution carried on the winds for hundred of miles from the industrial regions of other countries. It is a problem which is showing little sign of improvement despite the now growing acceptance and concern expressed in the European Parliament.

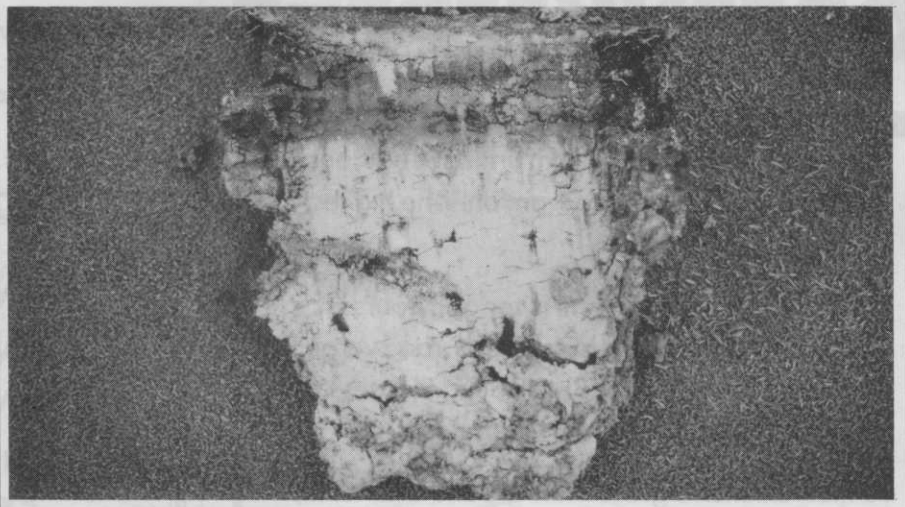
I have just marked another ten trees that need felling and the thought has occurred to me that if destruction continues at this incredible rate, how long will it be before the grass succumbs to environmental pollution. To give an idea how devastating is the problem, we have had to plant over 250 new trees in the last three years.

control cables with millions of volts, blasting the electronic decoders to bits, stopping at the T.W.I. controller which had to be replaced.

Watermation were called in to study the problem and this season we have had fitted 30 new lightning protection devices to the electric cables so if we

fairway drains in the near future, the price was equated against the £40,000 purchase of the JCB which has already more than paid for itself.

We needed to replace a 35 year old Dexta with its front loading bucket and the JCB used by our own staff has replaced a collapsed drain, shaped



Top 10" of green 4. Note no top soil just pure clay

are hit again it will take the sting out of the charge before it arrives at the central control box. Only time will tell if it works. Meanwhile every thunder-

new bunkers in hours and built new tees. After just one season in use this has proved to be a most intelligent investment.

Thankfully we have had little turf disease for the past two years, perhaps a sign that our management programme is moving the course in the right direction.

Despite all the work that needs doing on the course I have taken on the job of organising the first Swiss Romande Greenkeepers Golf Championship, which will include staff from six clubs over the border in France.

One of the missing ingredients to working abroad is the lack of regular contact with one's colleagues, unlike in England where one can almost lean over the hedge to discuss a predicament. If this event can become an annual affair it will bring us all together at least once a year to exchange views.

Here we have only 32 clubs throughout all Switzerland, necessitating a rucksack, climbing boots, ropes and crampons for an expedition over the mountains just for a chat!

One of those who has given me great help since I arrived in Switzerland is Leslie Beetham at the Club de Bonmont, opened in 1983, between Lausanne and Geneva. Leslie is to take over a new Robert Trent-Jones project in mainland Spain and I would like to take this opportunity to extend to him my best wishes and those of greenkeeper colleagues who have valued his friendship and advice.



Old drain of green 4

About four years ago we had a new irrigation system installed by Watermation, which apart from odd teething problems has been fantastic, that is until last year when we had a major catastrophe - lightning!

Because of the altitude and the surrounding mountains, the course is exposed to a number of violent electrical storms during the long hot summer.

Last year following one of the more severe outbreaks I arrived at the course to find lightning had gone to earth and charged up the underground electric

storm will be viewed with some foreboding.

As far as purchase of maintenance equipment is concerned the club have been most supportive. We bought our own Verti-drain to loosen up the heavy clay in the sub soil which has made an immense improvement to the root growth.

Another excellent buy has been a JCB, bought after we paid a local contractor to put in a fairway drain 200 metres long and a metre deep and the cost was £7,000! As we will need to replace a couple of miles of

ARE YOU A GRADE-A GREENKEEPER?

Grade A Amenity seeds from British Seed Houses are for groundsmen who want only the highest quality turf.

Whether your requirement is for golf courses, sports grounds, parks, urban areas, road verges and reclamation sites – British Seed Houses can supply the right mixture for your needs.

At their extensive grass trials ground at Lincoln, British Seed Houses evaluate hundreds of different cultivars. Only the best are selected for use in Grade A mixtures.

With 24 different mixtures available, advice on the appropriate Grade A mixture to use for specific site requirements can be obtained from our experienced and technically qualified staff.

GRADE A AMENITY MIXTURES

Send for a catalogue for more details of Grade A Amenity Seeds from British Seed Houses Ltd., Bewsey Industrial Estate, Pitt Street, Warrington, Cheshire WA5 5LE. Or telephone (0925) 54411.



BRITISH SEED HOUSES LTD

WARRINGTON 0925 54411 · BRISTOL 0272 823691
LINCOLN 052286 714 · EDINBURGH 0968 78480 · BANBRIDGE 08206 22207

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

for Prestigious Surrey Golf Club

Must be experienced in all aspects of turf management, modern machinery and watering systems. Would also consider younger man looking for opportunity to develop his management skills.

Attractive salary. No accommodation.

Please apply to Box No. 655 The Golf Course,
129a High Street, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex.
CO12 3AX

giving age, experience and qualifications.

RANSOMES TRAILED GANG MOWERS c/w MOUNTED FRAMEWORK

Fully reconditioned.

Excellent condition

£2,000 plus VAT o.n.o.

Tel: 0691 85 576/648

F. HIRD & SONS

Nationwide suppliers of railway sleeper and crossing timbers. Wooden and Concrete, all grades suitable for retaining walls, roads, path edgings etc. Prices available for delivery or collection from all areas.

For further information phone:

BARBARA

Doncaster (0302) 831339

GREENSWARD ENGINEERING CO.

SUPPLIERS OF HIGH QUALITY RECONDITIONED AND GUARANTEED TURF MACHINERY

MASSEY FERGUSSON 20E tractor Q cab very clean	£3,950
LLOYDS 3 Leda gang mowers	£1,850
RANSOMES Motor Triple	£2,950
RANSOMES Auto-Certes. New engine/frame	£595
RANSOMES 3 sportsouter trailed gang mowers	£1,850
RANSOMES 3 Magna trailed gang mowers	£1,850
RANSOMES 3 Hydraulic gang mowers	£2,250
RANSOMES 180 706 hrs c/w lift kit	£2,795
KUBOTA L225 c/w cab & turf tyres	£2,450
KUBOTA B7100 4 wd 178 hrs - immaculate	£3,450
CUSHMAN c/w top dresser, slitter, brush etc	£4,450
BUCHER flail mower for steep banks	£1,495
TORO GM 300 greens triple	P.O.A.

Ring NOW for full
machinery list.
National delivery
arranged.

LEEDS (0532) 751627

Harold Terrace, Headingley,
Leeds LS6 1PG



TORO®

The Professional's Choice

Wherever top sporting events are held, Toro automatic irrigation is invariably used as part of the all important turf management programme. We would say that of course - but don't just take our word for it, read what the leading professionals have to say on the subject...



"Toro single head control allows me total freedom to work on the golf course as and when I decide. Top dressing, fertilisers, silting and watering - the Toro 650 automatic watering system helps at every stage of my daily maintenance programme - I don't bother watching weather forecasts any more!"

Bob Moreton - Head Greenkeeper
The Berkshire Golf Club



"All the remedial work we carry out at Wimbledon is totally reliant on the automatic watering system. The Toro 650 system gives me complete control of my own environment - especially when I need to cut just nine days after seeding!"

Jim Thorne - Head Groundsman
All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club



"It's marvellous, the Toro system - a mixture of 650 and 690 sprinklers really is an invaluable aid to our day-to-day maintenance programme. Installed sixteen years ago, I cannot remember experiencing any serious problems with the watering system. . . Maintenance? We do most of it ourselves!"

Gordon Hiscock - Head Groundsman
Ascot Racecourse



"Water when I need it is essential to help maintain the Wembley pitch which requires constant overseeding. The Toro 690 automatic system is an important preparation tool which allows my staff to work on the pitch between watering - imagine it, it used to take 8 hours to put water on using mechanical sprinklers!"

Steve Tingley - Head Groundsman
Wembley Stadium Limited



"The best bowling surfaces are undoubtedly those which are firm, consistent in terms of speed - and as level as one can possibly make them. Ideally, a mixture of 20% soil to 80% sand helps promote excellent quality turf - this plus an automatic watering system such as the Toro 650 design really puts the groundsman in control. . ."

David Bryant - World Singles Champion
Willie Wood - World Singles Finalist

The bottom line: It costs no more to enjoy the same high level of automated excellence which the top professionals rely on! Hundreds of Toro users will vouch for that - but prove it yourself, ask Toro to bring you and your club up to date with the facts. Telephone or write today.

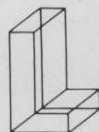
TORO®

Excellence in Irrigation

TORO IRRIGATION LIMITED
Unit 7, Millstream Trading Estate
Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SD
Telephone 0425-476261



 **ONCEPT**



EISURE

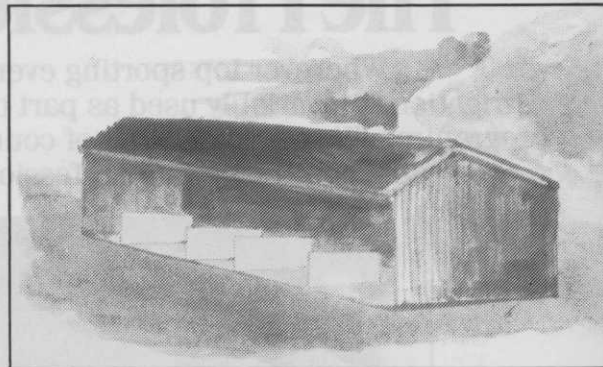
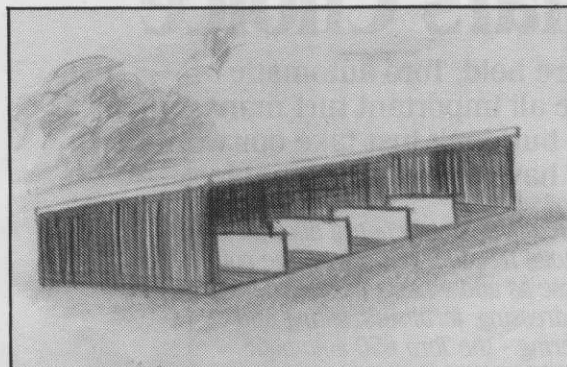


ESIGN



**Unit 6
Horsehay Works
Telford
Shropshire TF4 3PY**

Telephone: 0952 505771
Messages: 0952 503344
Fax: 0952 502152



The ideal 20th hole for your golf course

— *Just look at the benefits of covered practice facilities*

- ★ All weather availability
- ★ The facility for floodlit play
- ★ Vending machines installed
- ★ Minimum maintenance
- ★ No supervision
- ★ Maximisation of profits
- ★ Minimisation of tee damage

— in fact don't you owe it to your members to offer them all weather, anytime practice facilities!

From as little as

£800

(per bay — per tee)

Why not give Leisure Concept Design a ring and discuss your requirements. We will meet your design and environmental requirements offering a wide choice of materials.

We are the leaders in this field and list many satisfied clubs amongst our satisfied clients.

JACOBSEN. UP FRONT IN LIGHTWEIGHT FAIRWAY MOWING.

Introducing the all-new Jacobsen LF-100, the 5-gang designed to increase your lightweight mowing productivity.

The wing mowers are up front for better visibility. So the operator can hold a closer line—even at mowing speeds over 5 mph—to take full advantage of the 100" cutting width. This unique, up-front configuration also gives better access to all mowing units to quickly empty catchers and make mower adjustments easy.

Heavy-duty reels deliver a greens-like cut. New heavy-duty reel construction provides extra strength for long life in demanding fairway conditions. The fully floating, 22-inch steerable 7-blade reels are heavier, to follow ground contours closely, for that smooth, consistent Jacobsen cut that's the envy of the industry.

True lightweight mowing. Newly designed low-profile turf tires produce the lightest ground pressure, and the rear wheels roll on a different track than the front,

so your tender turf thrives with less compaction. And the wide 4-wheel stance offers excellent traction, increased stability and a tight turning radius.

Built to last. The LF-100 has a proven, rugged chassis, a durable and simple hydraulic system and liquid-cooled diesel engine for a longer, trouble-free life on your fairways.

What's more, the entire machine is backed by your Jacobsen distributor, so you're never far from dependable parts and service support.

See all the LF-100 differences. Ask your Jacobsen distributor for a free demonstration. Attractive lease and finance plans available. Or contact:

North Lynn
Industrial Estate
Bergen Way,
King's Lynn
Norfolk PE30 2JG
(0553) 763333.

JACOBSEN
TEXTRON

Jacobsen Division of Textron Limited

© Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc. 1988 J-27-8B

