

Fulford's greens voted the best

THE greens at Fulford Golf Club, near York, are the best of all the courses on the European circuit, according to a poll of the tournament players. The club itself gives much of the credit for the award to the continuous programme of drainage maintenance and renovation which it carries out.

Ever since 1971, Fulford has been the venue for the Benson and Hedges Championship, the longest running tournament at the same venue in Europe. Last year, asked to assess the courses on which the official European Tour events were held, the professionals gave Fulford's greens top marks in a field which included such names as Muirfield, Wentworth and Royal Birkdale.

Fulford was opened in 1935, having been reclaimed from heathland and scrub. Clay tiles were mainly used for drainage, with ash as backfill, although in some places ash was used on its own. In both cases, the drains were often only one foot



Fulford Golf Club, York

deep. This system is constantly being renovated by the club in order to maintain optimum playing conditions.

Like any golf club, Fulford has to have a drainage system which removes surface water as quickly as possible. To meet this need the club now uses clay pipes at a depth of at least 2ft, back-filled with a minimum of 12 in of hard stone, and with

falls wherever possible of around 1:20. Trenches are hand-dug by the greenkeeping staff. For laterals, 3in. pipes are used feeding into 4in. or 6in. mains.

"We need a very free-draining system to get rid of surface water", explained club secretary John Gledhill. "Clay is a natural material - there is nothing like it for absorbing water and drawing it out of the ground."

Kawasaki's good news!

OVER the last few months, Kawasaki have been embarrassed by their KLF 185 ATV - or rather by their lack of stock. For this well-proven work-horse has proved such excellent value for money that they had completely sold out, while still waiting for the replacement model.

The good news is that the new model not only still provides superb value for money (it retails for £1,899 plus VAT), but also incorporates many worthwhile advantages.

Designated the KLF220, this gives an indication to the most obvious change: the enlarged engine capacity gives a worthwhile boost in torque to this reliable four stroke engine, which retains both electric and recoil start systems. Next



major update concerns suspension: the KLF220 retains independent swingarms with dual shock absorbers for the front suspension, but at the rear there is now Kawasaki's refined Quad-Link system that offers a progressive, rising-rate action. Previously, stopping was via a single rear drum brake, now this is supplemented by drum brakes for each of the front wheels.

The new styling is practical as

well as attractive: twin headlamps provide a wider spread of light than the original single unit, while being located under the front carrying rack means that loads do not obscure night time vision.

Features that remain unchanged include the five speed gearbox with automatic clutch and reverse gear, shaft final drive, and the use of a vibration-reducing balance shaft in the well proven engine.

NOTEBOOK...

Simon awarded Cup for best performance

SIMON LAWSON of Nettelham, Lincoln was awarded the Sparsholt Woman's Institute Cup for the best performance on the certificate course in horticulture (Greenkeeping & Sportsground Management) at the Sparsholt College Hampshire.

Simon, who was awarded his certificate with distinction, also received a prize for his outstanding project. Simon was a former pupil of William Farr School, Welton, Lincoln and was a student at the Riseholme College of Agriculture & Horticulture before coming to Sparsholt.

Prior to the course Simon worked at the Fourseason's Hotel golf course at Dunholme, near Lincoln.

Following his success at

Sparsholt, his course tutor, Bob Young, said "Simon has progressed extraordinarily well and I am delighted that he has been accepted on the National Diploma course at the Lancashire College".



Appointments

MAXWELL HART have announced the appointment of two executives to their southern recreation and amenities sales team.

Paul Harper joins the company as regional sales director responsible for business development in the South of England and heads up Maxwell Hart's field sales force. Paul previously spent over eight years with Sinclair Horticulture.

In addition, Alan Roach is the new Hart sales representative for the Eastern Home Counties region and will be servicing the needs of existing and new customers in Sussex, Kent and Essex. Alan joins from Fisons, where he was a horticultural sales representative.

THE DRIVING

The ICI range of turf care products has been developed for professionals. Whether your target is turf weeds, insect pests or turf diseases – whether the location is fine turf or outfield, look to the driving range.

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GAMMA-COL* turf. Underground pest like leatherjackets and chafer grubs will cause ugly bare patches as they eat grass roots and stems. Gamma-Col turf will kill these pests and remains in the soil to give effective and long term control. The easy to use liquid formulation has contact and fumigant action.



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ICI Professional Products, Woolmead House East, Woolmead Walk
Daconil turf contains chlorothalonil; Tornado contains carbaryl; Super Verdone contains dicamba, 2,4-D and ioxynil; Gamma-Col turf contains gamma HCH.

NOTEBOOK...

BSH grass is half cut!

BRITISH Seed Houses claim that their new A22 amenity grass mixture needs cutting only half as much as other grasses.

Independent trials at the Long Ashton Research Station have proved that the A22 mixture required only 50% of the mowing requirement when compared with other ordinary grasses in order to maintain a 3" height.

Copies of the Long Ashton trials report will be available on the British Seed Houses stand at the IOG show at Windsor. The theme of this year's stand is 'Save cash with grass' and particular emphasis will be placed on their successful low maintenance grass seed mixture A22. A22 contains the slow growing Lorina Perennial Ryegrass and Logro Creeping Red Fescue

which requires 50% less cutting than standard ryegrass mixtures.

A22 could have quite a significant impact on future grass maintenance costs. Estimates put the total annual bill for mowing amenity areas in the UK at something in excess of £300 million. So in cash terms the savings could be substantial.

In the long term savings could well continue to rise. The Long Ashton report states that in addition to the rapid recoup of initial outlay due to lower maintenance costs, A22 was significantly shorter, required less mowing and produced less yield.

For more information please contact Jonathan Franks, British Seed Houses Ltd., 37 Five Mile Drive, Oxford. OX2 8HT.

Video Collection recaptures classic golf

THE golfing season has so far provided some of the most memorable golf ever (and in the UK, the wettest weather too!). Three of the world's four major tournaments have now taken place and each has produced classic golf and nail-biting finishes.

International Sport Showcase has already released a video of Sandy Lyle's unforgettable triumph in the US Masters and on August 19th delivers two more essential items for golf fans - the 1988 British Open and the 1988 US Open.

Both titles will retail for just £9.99 and The Video Collection is confident that they will continue the amazing sales of golf videos to the public.

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DIY top dressings much cheaper

REGULAR and even top dressing is considered by many greenkeepers and groundsmen to be one of the most important factors in promoting and maintaining fine turf surfaces in optimum condition.

With the help of Royer soil processing equipment, supplied by UK distributor, Huxleys Grass Machinery, Stewart McMillan, head greenkeeper at Leatherhead Golf Club in Surrey and his team of four assistants produce all of the top dressings used on the course. So, instead of paying for ready-prepared material at a cost in excess of £30 a tonne, the club is able to buy-in their own raw materials at one-third, or less, of that price and make their own dressing in the quantities and at a time to suit course requirements and workloads.

Little and often has been the key to the success of the top dressing applications to the greens at Leatherhead Golf Club, explained Mr McMillan.

The old-fashioned method had been to put on heavy dressings just a few times a year. Now, by applying the mix in small quantities at much greater frequency, the greens respond to the treatment much faster and the disturbance to golfers is minimal, with all greens playable again in just a few hours.

Application rates are varied to suit the specific requirements of the surfaces and the season, with approximately 120 tonnes in total applied as a top dressing during a year. Extra is prepared for course repairs and tee rebuilding, with all preparation taking place during quieter periods or poor weather.

Mr McMillan explained that he purchases both fine sand and loam in bulk from local sources ready for processing by his Royer equipment.

Provided the bought-in soil is absolutely dry, the first step



Bulk mixed soil and sand is loaded into the Royer 112. The shredder mixes, cleans and aerates the material before 'firing' it into a trailer ready for spreading. The club also uses a Royer Model 30 Powerscreen when grading or pre-cleaning is required.

is to pass all the soil through the club's Royer Model 30 powerscreen. This machine comprises a vibrating screen (1/4in mesh size) mounted above an elevator-conveyor which simultaneously sieves the soil, removing unwanted and oversize material, before carrying the graded soil away to the storage area.

Having produced a clean, evenly-sized product, the sand and soil are then bulk mixed together at the required ratio before being put through the Royer 112 soil shredder. This machine mixes, cleans and aerates the soil and sand by the continuous raking and tumbling action produced by its high-speed revolving inclined cleated belt.

Processed material is ejected from the Royer shredder beneath spring-loaded steel fingers at the top of the belt

while oversize and unwanted product tumbles back for further processing or rejection at the foot of the shredder.

In the case of Leatherhead Golf Club, the processed sand and soil mix is discharged directly into a trailer ready for loading into the top dressing spreader.

Mr McMillan said that the Royer equipment not only helped to reduce the cost of obtaining good, clean and consistent top dressings, but it allowed him to produce the material that he wants, when he want.

"It's not too labour intensive either" said Mr McMillan. "If necessary, all top dressing production could be carried out by one man. Provided the basic materials are dry, we can put up to 20 cubic yards through the machines in a couple of hours".

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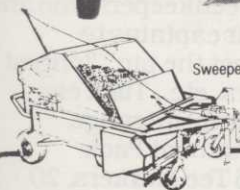
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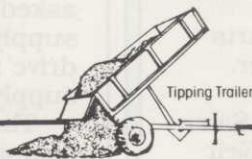


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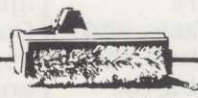
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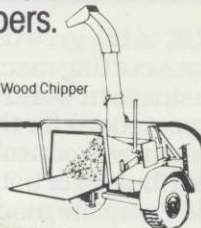
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NOTEBOOK...



Bill Robertson, head greenkeeper at Gullane, takes charge of the new Gradeall SS100

GRADEALL A HIT AT GULLANE

GULLANE Golf Club have just acquired a new Gradeall SS100, the revolutionary soil processor which is saving golf clubs labour time and maintaining turf excellence. The new portable unit stormed the soil processing market throughout the world and has recently expanded into the aspect of soil processing for golf clubs.

Many golf clubs such as Gullane have found the unit's innovative system to shred and grade topsoil as a worthy investment. The club is currently using the machine for preparing topsoil for use on fairways and greens and also extracting shells from the sand used in bunkers.

The Gradeall, SS100, known for its versatility, is loaded by a front end tractor bucket. It rejects the 3 1/2" plus material

such as stones and wood. The 3 1/2" minus material falls onto a variable feed belt which is controlled to feed the soil through a robust set of shredders. From here the material falls onto the main belt which takes it to an advanced two deck high frequency screen that sizes the material into the three sizes, ready for use.

Bill Robertson, head greenkeeper of Gullane, has tried several types of soil processors in the past. He believes the Gradeall SS100 is a great benefit to the club.

As well as the unit being so robust, the quality of the processed material is more than satisfactory. There is no doubt that the portable unit is saving the club time and helping maintain the quality of its course.

For further information on purchase or hire, contact the sales department, Gradeall International Ltd., 9 Farclough Road, Dungannon BT71 4DT, N.I. Telephone 08687 40484.



FOR those greenkeepers who are asked by their captains to supply 'nearest the pin', 'longest drive' markers, etc., Tacit can supply the complete range.

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Ransomes' great expectations

DUE to the growth of Ransomes grass cutting machinery business in world markets, and expectations for the future, the company is consolidating the distribution of both spare parts and complete machines into a senior management function. This has led to the appointment

of Stephen Drewery as Parts and Distribution Manager. Commenting on the new appointment, Ransomes Sales and Marketing Director, Keir Wyatt said "Stephen Drewery brings to the company 14 years valuable experience gained in after sales service support.

NOTEBOOK...

New aerators from Ryan

TWO new Ryan aerators are now available in the UK from the sole distributor, Victa (UK) Limited.

The GA30 is Ryan's first ride-on aerator designed for use on golf courses. It offers the unique facility of variable core spacing combined with the precision vertical action of the Ryan crank and return mechanism.

Greens and fairways can be aerated in one operation without leaving the seat. A coring depth to a maximum of 3 3/4 inches is provided.

For tight patterns on greens, the 2 1/2" x 1" coring pattern yields over 57 holes per square foot up to 5,625 square feet per hour. For broader patterns on fairways, the 2 1/2" x 5" pattern yields more than 11 holes per square foot at over 28,000 square feet per hour.

Any other spacing between can be set, simply by moving the adjustment control. The rate of travel automatically adjusts to the pattern selected. The six mph transport speed of the GA30 is claimed by Ryan to be faster than any other aerator on the market.

The new Lawnaire 28 is a self propelled, walk-behind aerator specifically designed for lawn care maintenance. With reciprocating, crankshaft-mounted tine arms, it features a vertical coring action similar to the larger Ryan golf course aerators.

It has an aerating swath of 28 inches and can cover up to 24,000 square feet per hour. Coring depth is 2 1/2 inches with 3/4" diameter tines and a core pattern of 3 1/2" x 5". The unit is only 35 inches wide overall.

An easy-to-use dog clutch releases the ground drive so that the machine can be pulled backwards and, with its tricycle front wheel and unique tine linkage, provides exceptional manoeuvrability.



Golf show at Alexandra Palace

THE fourth International Golf Show moves back to London for 1989, taking place at the Alexandra Palace exhibition centre, next February 10-12. Trade Public Exhibitions Ltd, a subsidiary of a major international business and communications group, are organising the show with co-operation from Golf Shows Ltd., the PGA European Tour and the PGA.

The International Golf Show has enjoyed regular growth over the last three years, and has become an annual event that the viewing public, and both existing and potential players, look forward to. The visitors

experience a 'value for money' day out, participating in many of the special events and activities.

The show will cover manufacturers of equipment, clothing and course furniture as well as travel, golfing holidays, course technology and maintenance. Popular features to provide visitor participation are also planned: putting and driving competitions, golf antiques 'road show', putting with show-business personalities arranged by the Entertainment Artistes' Benevolent Fund, golf clothes fashion shows and free golf clinics with PGA members.

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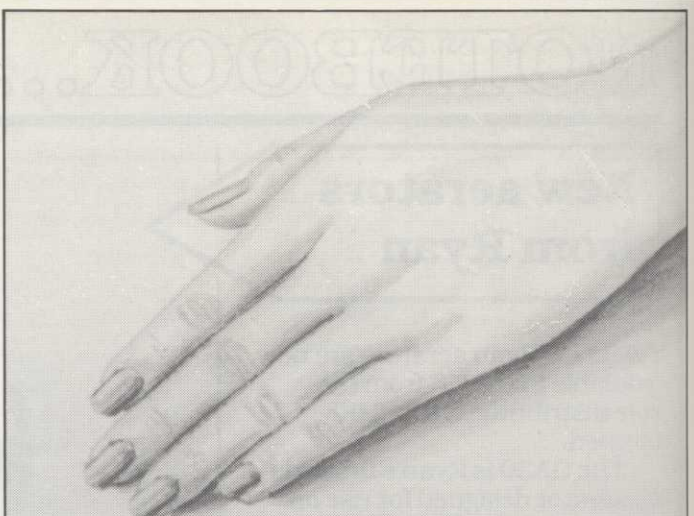
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