



Ideal for fairway maintenance - the Turner Hustler

Company Chairman Tony Turner, is a high flyer in more ways than one.

Evidence of one of his aeronautical achievements is parked on the lawn outside his rambling country house at King's Coughton near Alcester in the shape of a four seater light aircraft.

At the other side of the house is the results of more than 25 years of innovative design and sheer dedication in the shape of a modern designed factory employing 110 people, manufacturing a wide range of quality machinery for the farming and turfgrass industry.

Turner International (Engineering) Ltd have come a long way since Tony Turner first gave thought to the production of his first flail mower and the company is now among the leading group of British engineering firms producing grass cutting equipment.

Now a division of Elswick plc a Group with a Stock Market share quotation, Turner Engineering are moving increasingly into the amenity turf market, but still developing the flail mowers that gave them their reputation as the 'Rough Cut Boys'.

Changing from a fixed to a swivel flail blade made the company breakthrough in the African bush where the Turner flail cut through the tough sisal grass which previously wrapped itself around the machinery and brought grass cutting to a stop.

The need to provide quality grass cutting machinery for increasing areas of motorway embankments, roadside verges, parks, sportsgrounds and the many varieties of amenity turf, has led the company towards developing machinery that can cut grass quickly, economically and by a finely adjusted rotary system, neatly as well.



'Flailure' creates success for West Midland Grass Machinery Company

The four seater aircraft, more than capable of trips to the Continent has a grass runway kept in playing field condition with the latest ride-on machines in the range - the Turner Hustler.

For sheer versatility it will take a great deal of beating.

The Kubota four cylinder diesel engine provides hydrostatic drive to the drive wheels. The rotary blades are belt driven.

The steering is unique; no normal steering wheel, just two aircraft type control sticks which gives the operator unbelievable control. It will turn completely within its own length by counter rotating the independently powered drive wheels.

As a rotary machine for cutting golf course rough it is the answer to a greenkeeper's prayer. There is a ground speed of 10 mph and a cutting speed of 4-5 mph, with simple adjustments to vary the height of cut from four inches down to fairway length.

The control levers are so sensitive that it can be driven up to a sapling and the grass cut to within inches of the tree without fear of damage.

The padded driver's seat is designed for operator comfort and fatigue reduction an essential requirement in harness with the 11 gallons fuel tank which will operate the Turner Hustler all day without refuelling.

The grass cutting attachments for the Hustler can be supplied as a 60" 3-way rotary mower, the 72" 3-way rotary mower or the heavy duty 72" dual trim rotary, incorporating a rear discharge of cut grass and off-set facilities on either side.

Other attachments include a grass collection box a 60" rotary broom for sweeping leaves and other debris and a 54" blower with a hydraulically controlled directional spout, ideal for clearing the car park around the clubhouse during winter snowfalls.



The new Turner Grass Master



"We left home at unbelievable hours in the morning and drove hundreds of miles to demonstrate the machinery but it was all worthwhile once the customer had been convinced it was the equipment he needed".

The latest Turner campaign "Save a Sapling" is aimed at sparing hedgerow trees. Mechanical cutting has achieved the retention of Britain's hedges. Without a cost effective machine farmers would have ripped them out and moved over to prairie style farming.

Now with cutting machinery so responsive to the operator's control, there is no need to cut at the same height all along a hedge.

The "Save a Sapling" campaign launched at The Royal Show is linked with yellow weatherproof tree tags to mark the sapling destined to grow into a roadside tree.

"All part of our preservation, health and safety and country conservation policy", said Graham.

He knows what he is talking about. Why kill off the tree that in ten years time will require the services of a Turner's Wood Chipper!

TECHNICAL 2

The versatile Turner Tiger

A smaller rough cut mower the Turner Tiger is also new to the company range. Petrol driven with either a Kawasaki or Kohler engine the rotary cutters come in a side or rear discharge. Although not as manoeuvrable as the Hustler the Tiger is ideal for cutting fairway rough and at a price starting at £3,500 + VAT it is good value for money.

Turner's are also deeply into future development. They are well aware that to keep ahead of the opposition a company of their size needs to invest time and money in research and development. Currently they are investing around a quarter of a million pounds a year with the emphasis on producing machinery for the finer cutting of leisure turf.

Greater emphasis on conservation and recycling waste products has led to an increase in the demand for wood chippers. Brush hedge trimmings and even small trees can be turned into beneficial organic mulch or used as an inexpensive and attractive base material for paths and walkways.

Turner's 70TR Chipper mounted on a 40 hp tractor by a three point linkage can turn out between two and three tons of chippings an hour and cope quite easily with wood up to 9 inches in diameter.

Sales Director Graham Satchwell, an energetic 40 year old has been with the company for 20 years.

"My days as a demonstrator were the happiest of my life,"

says

Graham Satchwell

He started life with Turner's in the factory and has moved along the path of demonstrator, fitter, sales representative and sales manager and is currently the director responsible for both the marketing and sales.

In addition to dealers in various European countries they now have wholly owned subsidiary companies in Atlanta, USA and Melbourne, Australia, with around 40% of the production exported.

In this country Turner's machinery is distributed through a 27 outlet dealer network, backed by company demonstrators, fitters and a spare parts facility.

Enthusiasm, dedication and company involvement by all employees has had considerable influence on the success of the firm, Graham Satchwell, with a wistful look in the eye, still believes his days as a demonstrator were the happiest days of his life.

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