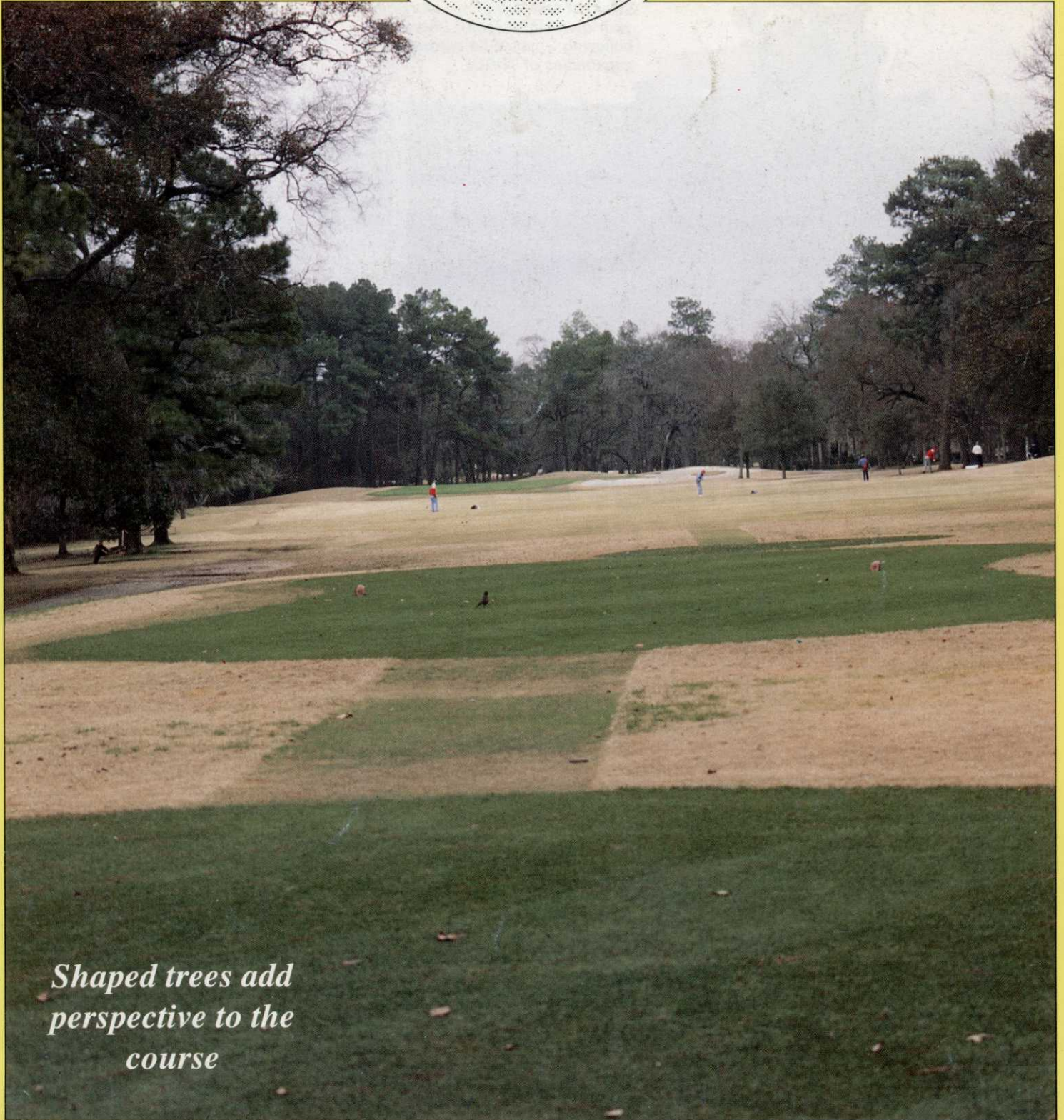


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GCCM/3/88

The Suzuki LT range it's hard to manage without one

Farm management is a demanding business. For instance, making sure that the feedstuffs reach the livestock in all weathers takes some very special skills.

The Suzuki LT range of all-terrain vehicles has been designed to put those skills at your fingertips. Developed with the benefit of Suzuki's 30 years experience in manufacturing their world famous motorcycles and lightweight 4-wheel drive vehicles, the LT's are



tough, versatile and extremely practical.

Available in 2- or 4-wheel drive, the Suzuki LT's have the power to tow a trailer and specialist agricultural machinery or most types of agricultural machinery over any terrain, while the super-wide tyres will keep you on the move without leaving deep furrows in the ground.

The Suzuki LT range. The art of successful farm management.



Please send me more information on the Suzuki range of LT vehicles.

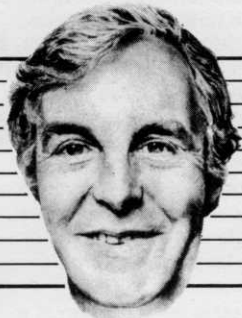
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Heron Power are the Sole UK Concessionaires for the Suzuki LT Range.

Send to: Heron Suzuki GB Ltd, PO Box 154, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1JR

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Greenside Comment...



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A BOLD MOVE FOR BRITAIN'S MAJOR TURFGRASS SHOW

One of the year's premier events for those involved in turf management is undoubtedly the Institute of Groundsmanship's annual exhibition in September. It is the opportunity for the industry to present its products, announce innovations and demonstrate equipment to an audience that has grown not only in numbers but knowledge of the subject, over the years.

We announced last month that the organisers, who from small beginnings, at Hurlingham in 1938, then Motspur Park followed by Windsor Race Course have taken the decision to move once more, this time to the East of England Showground at Peterborough in two years time.

This would seem to be an ideal venue, certainly from the point of view of easy access. The showground is adjacent to the A1 trunk road, already subject to considerable improvements, with a further £62 million scheduled to be spent on the northern section during the next ten years.

Windsor has always been a difficult site, because of the entry and exit points for both visitors and trade exhibitors. Hours spent in traffic queues by visitors

travelling long distances for one of the three days has wasted much of the time that should have been usefully spent exploring the stands.

Manufacturers have also experienced grave problems setting up exhibits and a great deal more when the show ends and heavy equipment has to be moved out on the Thursday evening. Nothing is more frustrating for those who have put every effort into a concentrated three days than to be marooned in a car park for a further three hours because the road out of the site is jammed with articulated vehicles.

The race course has also a history of being a rain soaked event. This would be tolerable if the stands were along-side well made up roads, but attendees have learned that a pair of wellington boots is a pre-requisite for any trip to Windsor. Once the show is over the ground can become a quagmire as the HGV's move in to take the thousands of tons of machinery on to the next venue.

The Windsor Show has also been governed by the dates of the September race meeting, the reason why the event has to be

held in the back half of the month.

Moving to Peterborough has allowed the organisers to bring forward the show date to the 4th September, a period of usually more settled weather.

Not only is the site more central, it is twice as big as Windsor, has parking space for 30,000 cars and can also offer 60,000 sq. metres of demonstration areas in close proximity to the stands.

Although Peterborough cannot offer the same amount of hotel accommodation as the area around Windsor, within a few miles at places like Stamford, Huntingdon, Cambridge or Grantham it is readily available at not only improved quality, but at a more reasonable price.

The airport at Stansted has connections to the continent and Peterborough itself is on a fast direct rail link to central London, York, Leeds and Newcastle. A glance at the road map will show only those in the West of England, could be at a disadvantage, but most will welcome the IOG's bold decision and applaud their choice of the new site.

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For further information or advice on specific problems, contact your usual supplier or Environmental Products at the address below.



Environmental Products Regent House, Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4TZ. Tel: (0277) 261414.

The control of vegetation and its associated problems calls for professional management and cost effective solutions. Environmental Products supply a wide range of herbicides, fungicides and insecticides, as well as products to control moss and to restrict grass growth. In addition to the range of pesticides, ancillary products including "Dyon" spray colourant, "Lurmark" filters and nozzles, knapsack sprayers, granule applicators and dispensing pumps are available.

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RHÔNE-POULENC GROUP

BSC IN HORTICULTURE LAUNCHED

Writtle Agricultural College, in association with Hatfield Polytechnic now provides a BSc in Horticulture (Amenity or Commercial) — the first such degree to be offered by a United Kingdom College.

The four year sandwich course has been specifically designed to provide a combination of knowledge, skills and expertise not otherwise readily available to the horticultural industry. This follows the 1984 Trans-Binary Report and calls from industry for a new initiative in public sector horticulture for the provision of a degree level training suited to the current needs of the market.

The BSc Horticulture bridges the gap, both in academic and practical experience between BTEC HND schemes and contemporary university degrees. Writtle already offers the only HND in Commercial Production Horticulture and one of only two HND courses in Amenity Horticulture.

The aim of the degree is to provide graduates with management skills suited for either

amenity areas such as parks, gardens, landscape features, conservation and recreational facilities or for intensive plant production in areas such as nurseries, glasshouses, vegetable units and fruit farms. Students will be more employable with less need for instruction on practical matters from employers.

Equally, the stronger science element of the commercial option will provide the basis for graduates to gain employment in analytical laboratories. Both the amenity and commercial courses also offer a route to a teaching career.

A unique feature of the programme is that the core studies include one complete skills course in each of the three in-College years. This element is absent from existing alternative degree courses.

The first and final year will be at Writtle with the second year at Hatfield Polytechnic. The sandwich period in industry covers year three.

Those opting for Amenity Horticulture will study applied ecology, landscape studies, planning, recreation and conservation management.

The Commercial Horticulture option encompasses crop science, production and labour, biotechnology, mechanisation, buildings, environmental control and crop storage and packaging.

The existing facilities for practical horticulture, science, machinery, library and management are outstanding, with the College boasting one of the largest computer centres of any agricultural college.

Commenting, Mr. Lance Sanderson, Head of Horticulture at Writtle, said: "This exciting new degree fulfils the requirement of industry for graduates with a balanced academic and practical education. As such, it will provide the Amenity and Commercial managers of the future — fully versed in the requirements of their profession".

For further information contact: Pam Wright, Student Services, Writtle Agricultural College, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3RR. Tel: 0245 420705.

This course has full approval.

NEW SOUTH COURSE AT WENTWORTH

GOLF LANDSCAPES LTD., of Brentwood, Essex have been awarded the contract for the construction of the new South Course at Wentworth.

Work is already underway with the latest developments and techniques in golf course construction being used. Planned completion is in October of this year.

The terrain is similar to that of the East and West courses and when complete, the new South Course will certainly be of equal stature.

Supervision of the contract will be the responsibility of Martin Gillett, one of **GOLF LANDSCAPES LTD.**, specialist Contract Managers, with liaison with the Company's two Directors Peter and Bob Dunning.

Peter Dunning said "We are delighted to have been awarded the South Course Contract. As one of the leading golf course builders in Britain we are proud that the Wentworth Club chose **GOLF LANDSCAPES LTD.**, to undertake the construction of such a prestigious golf course."

GOLF COURSE DECORUM THE 'Schwepping' WAY TO GOOD GOLF

A new 16 page glossy pocket book entitled "Good Golf — Etiquette & Decorum has been published under the sponsorship of Cadbury Schweppes plc.

There are nine pages of text and seven cartoons with a front and back cover depicting the Belfry Hotel with an asking price of £1.75!

As advocates of better behaviour on the golf course (see last month's Greenside Comment) we would certainly approve of any publication calculated to improve standards, but this is hardly value for money and it is difficult to see how the sponsors

intend to obtain a wide distribution at this price.

Most of the etiquette advice is commonsense and already widely known among all golfers other than complete beginners. It is the more obscure questions of conduct that should have been included such as the practise of taking the ball out of the hole with the face of the putter and standing away from the hole when attending the flag.

Slow play merits a special page in a publication of this type, a principal aggravation creeping into the game. A mere 60 seconds lost by each player in a

fourball at each of the eighteen holes can delay a round of golf for those behind by an hour and a quarter.

Lining up putts, dropping bags yards from the ball to be played, marking cards on the green rather than the next tee, pacing out distances, stopping for refreshments and holding post mortems are but some of the delaying tactics that can spoil a game of golf for others on the course. The booklet mentions a few of these bad habits but loses the opportunity to give some sound advice in this direction.

... Editor

ISEKI U.K. LAUNCHES COREMASTER NEW TURF AERATION SYSTEM COMES TO BRITAIN

Iseki U.K. are now distributing the well proven Coremaster Turf Aeration System in Great Britain. This well established machine is already a favourite with Greenkeepers and Groundstaff in America and the Antipodes, and now comes to Britain with its reputation for both productivity and all round versatility.

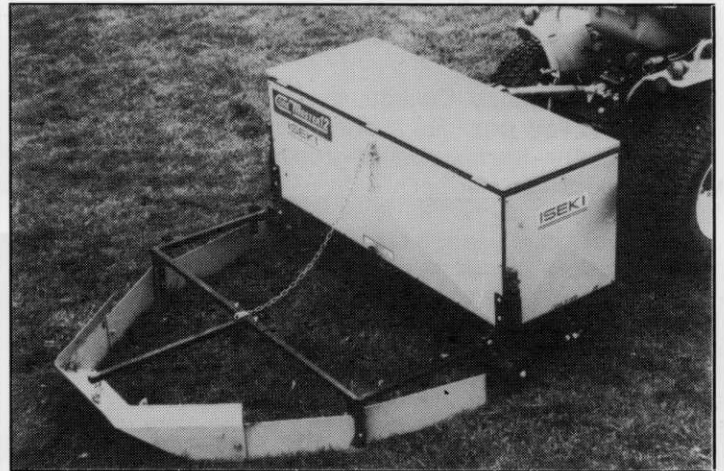
Coremaster in itself is a revolution in turf aeration because it not only improves coring productivity, but also has the ability to work with several different core patterns, so the greenkeeper can choose the pattern required for each individual area. From a close pattern for renovating problem areas with the cores two

inches apart to spread patterns for large areas like tees and fairways, six inches apart.

Depth controls operated by a simple crankhandle at the rear of the machine, gives variable depths between zero and four inches. Coremaster also offers a full range of tine sizes.

Trials undertaken by Iseki in Great Britain indicate that all 18 greens can now be aerated in under a day.

For further details on the Coremaster range contact Colin Gregory at Coremaster Department, Iseki U.K. on 0480 218100.



The Coremaster Hollow Tining Machine, now available in Britain, brings new workrates and productivity to coring greens, tees or parkland.

RESTRICTION CHANGE FOR HERBICIDES

The Ministry of Agriculture has announced, following the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides to Ministers, a series of restrictions on the way in which herbicides containing ioxynil and bromoxynil may be used.

The changed conditions of approval are intended to reduce the potential of exposure to spray operators who do not wear appropriate clothing, to reduce the risk of residues in food and to warn of dangers to fish.

In the professional amenity area the key change relates to use in hand-held and knapsack sprayers. This is now prohibited, although use through powered sprayers is permitted, the minimum dilution rates stated on labels must be adhered to.

May & Baker Environmental Products are issuing labels to all their main distributors so that these can be placed on existing stocks of Iotox and Actrilawn 10.

"May & Baker are fully commit-

ted to ensuring that the Minister's instructions are carried out," says John Arthur, Business Manager of Environmental Products.

"We are currently carrying out trials as a result of which we hope that these restrictions may be raised".

Ioxynil and Bromoxynil belong to the chemical family called the hydroxybenzotrioles (HBN's).

Products containing HBN's are particularly used on newly sown turf and in re-seeded areas where their ability to control speedwells and chickweed is exceptionally good.

Iotox and Actrilawn 10 are trademarks of May & Baker Ltd.

NEW FROM CHIPMAN: MASTERTEE

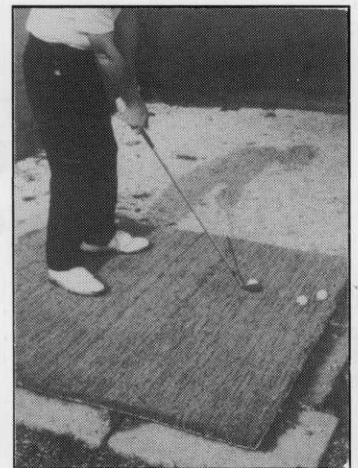
The artificial tee that really comes up to scratch.

A real asset for all types of Golf Courses and Driving Ranges which until now, during bad weather, have had to rely on small size unresponsive mats.

MASTERTEE is manufactured from a composite of coconut fibres and polypropylene. The pile is so tightly woven that no sand infill is required and it stands upright to a height of some 30mm.

Chipman **MASTERTEE** for Golf Courses, is designed to fit flush with the surrounding turf which makes it less obtrusive, more pleasant to play off and provides a new answer to the problems caused by waterlogging and heavy usage throughout the worst months of the year.

MASTERTEE is also available with a thick resin backing which adds strength to the base and in this form is ideal for Driving Ranges or for use on hard standings such as concrete bases.



For further details please contact:

David R. Knight, Managing Director, Chipman Limited, CHIPMAN LTD., Horsham, Sussex RH12 2NR. Telephone: Horsham (0403) 60341/5. Telex: 877223.

PLYMOUTH'S £6 MILLION DEVELOPMENT

New 18 hole golf course to be financed from Hong Kong

MWT Architects — a member of The Company of Designers PLC — have submitted an outline planning application for a £6 million leisure development at Saltash, Cornwall on behalf of the China Fleet Club UK Charitable Trust. The proposed indoor and outdoor leisure and recreation centre, includes an 18 hole golf course, and will be constructed on a 160 acre greenfield site to the north-west of Plymouth.

The building costs of the new country club will be met from the assets of the China Fleet Club in Hong Kong, which has been established for more than 80 years.

Membership of the new Country Club will be open to serving naval ratings of the Royal Navy. Ex-ratings may also use the facilities and consideration is being given to restricted use by organised local groups.

In addition to the 18 hole golf course, with separate putting and practice areas, there are

plans for outdoor facilities to include footpaths, bridleways and a trim trail with exercise locations, hides for bird watching, floodlit all-weather tennis courts, coarse fishing in new lakes, children's play areas and an adventure playground, as well as picnic areas and more formal lawns, gardens and terraces.

Of the Hong Kong based club members, some 60 per cent have returned to bases in or around Plymouth. The remaining 40 per cent are stationed around the country or on overseas service and the trustees of the China Fleet Club consider it important that these members should be accommodated so that they can enjoy the facilities of the new China Fleet Country Club.

MWT Architects report that work is expected to start on site in the Autumn of 1988 with completion of all the Country Club facilities ready for opening in the Spring of 1991.

Australian Hole Cutter promises smoother greens

One of the major moans from golfers, not to mention greenkeepers, is uneven or rough putting surfaces, particularly in those areas where pin placements have been moved.

An Australian company, Better Methods, manufactures equipment that not only cuts a perfect hole, but, more importantly, the plug fits perfectly flush back into the hole when changing the position of the pin, resulting in a smooth putting surface.

Called the Turfmaster Golf Hole Cutter, it is marketed in Britain and other EEC countries through a subsidiary company, Better Methods Europe, based at Parkstone, Poole, Dorset.

The patented hole cutter has two semi-circular blades which make a totally clean cut in the green. The cutter also has an

accurate depth control gauge.

The cutter's two blades are 1.6mm (0.06 in) thin, case-hardened and sharpened with an outside bevel to a razor's edge. Because it makes such a clean cut, there is minimal root damage to the grass.

The diameter cannot be varied and careful use of the depth gauge ensures that the plug will fit perfectly back into the old hole first time, every time. Time wasting corrections to the surface level are eliminated.

The company claims its cutter will work at 100 per cent efficiency no matter what type of soil is used in the putting green.

For further details contact:-
Better Methods Europe,
11 Kimberley Road, Parkstone,
Poole, Dorset. BH14 8SQ
Telephone: (0202) 740142.

STANDARD GOLF NOW IN UK

Following their recent appointment as the sole UK distributor of The Standard Golf Range of Golf Course equipment and accessories, Maxwell Hart now provide a Club's requirements from tee to green, to a level of product quality not previously available in this Country.

In the USA, where Standard Golf products are manufactured, the range is market leader.

It includes tee markers and signs, ball washer consoles, shoe cleaners, bunker rakes, flagstuffs and a whole variety of flag designs, litter baskets, hole cups, putting green equipment and many others.

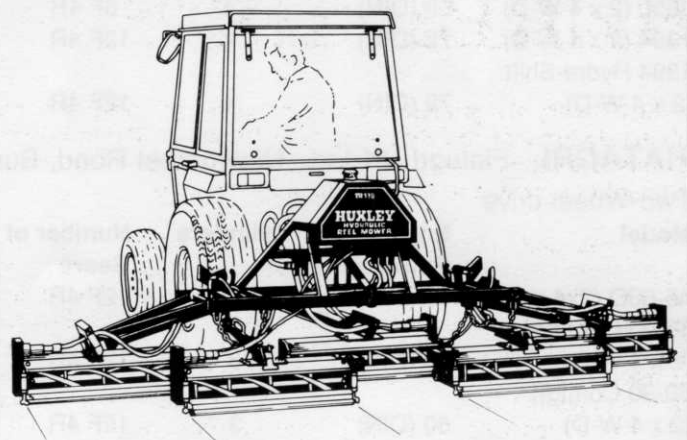
INTER SEEDS RECRUIT NEW CONSULTANT

Danny Godfrey (N.D.T., F.Inst.G.) has joined Inter Seeds Ltd. as Sports and Amenity Grassland Consultant where his role will be to give advice to local authorities and landscape architects.

He formerly worked 8 years with a major UK seed company before becoming Estate Manager at Lilleshall National Sports Centre. His considerable in-depth knowledge of amenity grass seeds for landscaping, sports grounds and golf courses will add greatly to the high calibre technical service offered by the company.

His appointment, will help consolidate their position in the amenity grass seed sector.

Mowers for weight-watchers. Not weight-lifters.



Huxley Hydraulic Reelmowers for compact tractors prove that you don't have to be a heavyweight to be strong.

So, if your turf could benefit from a reduction in pressure, without a reduction in performance, please ask us to demonstrate.

We could save you pounds.



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



TRACTOR REVIEW

Leading models and current prices

Massey-Ferguson accounted for almost one in every five new tractors sold in the world market place in 1987

Finance facilities are available via Massey-Ferguson Leasing Limited, including Contract Hire, which the Company pioneered to give users a method of operating tractors at costs that remain fixed from year to year. Called Powerplan, the scheme has many advantages for customers from local authorities to individual users and contractors because it releases capital from being tied-up in a depreciating machinery asset, and all the maintenance, repairs, tax and insurance are taken care of by the M-F dealer network. The 10 models in the Company's specialist groundcare and maintenance line-up, extending from 16hp to 63hp, are claimed to offer a wider choice than any other manufacturer. However, for big work outputs from small machines that will fit

into the tightest spaces, M-F's compact tractors are the ideal solution. These models—the M-F 1010 (16hp), M-F 1020 (21hp), M-F 1030 (26hp) and M-F 1035 (31hp) are all powered by 3-cylinder indirect injection diesel engines with 2-speed rear pto and category I linkage. They are available with 2 or 4 wheel drive and can be fitted with either agricultural or turf tyres. The 1010 and 1020 are also offered with a choice of manual or hydrostatic transmission, and the latter are additionally equipped with a mid-mounted pto. The 12-speed manual transmissions of the 1020, 1030 and 1035 include creeper gears giving speeds as low as 0.18m/hr. As well as a comprehensive specification, these tractors are notable for their ergonomic layout and operator convenience,

which produces machines that are highly functional, despite their small size. The 200 Series machines, the 40hp, M-F 230 and 47hp, M-F 240 will both meet specialist applications where a more powerful machine is required. The 230 offers all the advantages of a tractor without a cab, and the 240 is fitted with a quick detach cab that enables it to be used in areas of restricted height. Both these tractors are powered by 3-cylinder direct injection Perkins diesel engines, with Ferguson System hydraulics providing precise control of a wide range of implements. Other standard equipment includes an 8-forward 2-reverse speed transmission and live engine speed with ground speed 540 rev/min pto. The 52hp M-F 350 and 63hp M-F 360 are both offered in 2 or 4-

wheel drive with 8 or 12 speed synchromesh transmissions and 'big tractor' features such as dual clutch live or independent pto, category 1 and 2 three point linkage and powerful external hydraulics. Despite their extra power, dimensions remain compact for excellent manoeuvrability epitomised by the 4-wheel drive versions, which feature a 50 degree steering angle. These 200 and 300 Series machines, the latest successors to nearly two and threequarter million tractors that have been made to date in Massey-Ferguson's Coventry plant, can be equipped with turf, industrial or agricultural tyres.

CASE IH J I Case Europe Ltd., Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, South Yorkshire. DN2 4PG Tel: 0302 66631

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 385L (2 W-D) | 45 (DIN) | 3 | 8F 4R | 2.02 | 10,010 |
| 485L (2 x 4 W-D) | 52 (DIN) | 3 | 8F 4R | 2.02-2.16 | 11,002-13,478 |
| 585L (2 x 4 W-D) | 59 (DIN) | 4 | 8F 4R | 2.14-2.16 | 12,544-15,751 |
| 685L (2 x 4 W-D) | 69 (DIN) | 4 | 8F 4R | 2.25-2.16 | 13,078-16,457 |
| 1394 (2 x 4 W-D) | 72 (DIN) | 4 | 12F 4R | 2.10-2.14 | 13,916-17,306 |
| 1394 Hydra-Shift (2 x 4 W-D) | 72 (DIN) | 4 | 12F 4R | 2.10-2.14 | 14,816-18,206 |

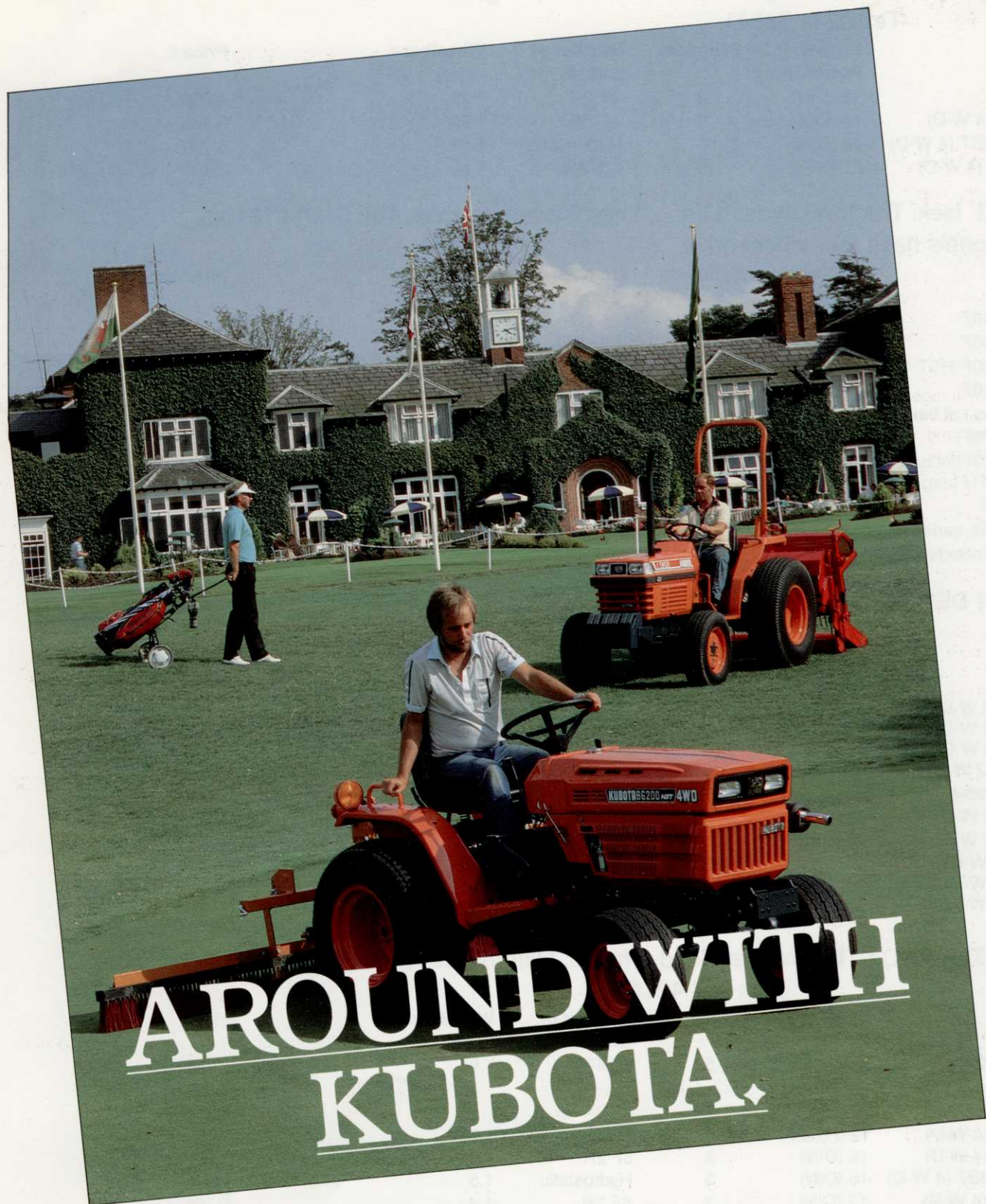
FIATAGRI Fiatagri UK Ltd., Newmarket Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. IP33 3YA Tel: 0284 68441

Two-Wheel-drive

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 45-66Q (2x4 W-D) | 45 (DIN) | 3 | 12F 4R | 2.00 | 11,550-14,300 |
| 55-90 Comfort (2 x 4 W-D) | 55 (DIN) | 3 | 12F 4R | 2.23 | 12,600-15,750 |
| 60-90 Comfort (2 x 4 W-D) | 60 (DIN) | 3 | 12F 4R | 2.23 | 13,650-16,800 |
| 70-90 Comfort (2 x 4 W-D) | 70 (DIN) | 4 | 12F 4R | 2.34 | 15,000-18,200 |

FORD Ford New Holland Ltd., Cranes Farm Road, Basildon, Essex Tel: Basildon 3000

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| LGT140 (2 W-D) | 14 (DIN) | 3 | Hydrostatic | 1.2 | 4,400 |
| 1210 (2 x 4 W-D) | 16 (DIN) | 3 | 10F 2R | 1.40 | from 5,308-5,751 |
| 1710 (2 x 4 W-D) | 26 (DIN) | 3 | 12F 4R | 1.60 | from 6,206-7,424 |
| 1910 (2 x 4 W-D) | 32 (DIN) | 3 | 12F 4R | 1.68-1.70 | from 7,136-8,354 |
| 4110 (2 x 4 W-D) | 54 (DIN) | 3 | 8F 2R/8 x 4 | 1.96-2.09 | from 11,429-14,192 |
| 4610 | 61 (DIN) | 3 | 8F 2R/8 x 4 | 2.15-2.13 | from 12,813-15,576 |



AROUND WITH KUBOTA.

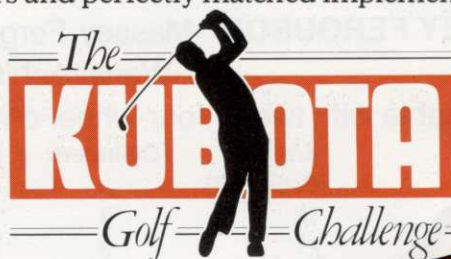
We challenge you to a round with Kubota.

We challenge you to find a range of compact tractors and perfectly matched implements that are better equipped on course.

We challenge you to find a range which gives more manoeuvrability, more versatility or more economy.

We challenge you to improve on the two year warranty, and the tunnel block construction which ensures that your sacred turf remains unsullied by oil leaks.

It's the 1988 Kubota Challenge. And once again, everyone's a winner.



SEE YOUR ASSOCIATION
FOR QUALIFYING
DETAILS.

GREENS Green's, Fergus Square, Arbroath, Angus DD11 3DR

Tel: 0241 73841.

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|---------|
| C172 | 18 (DIN) | 3 | 9F 3R | 1.29 | 4,950 |
| C174 (4 W-D) | 18 (DIN) | 3 | 9F 3R | 1.29 | 5,495 |
| C174HST (4 W-D) | 18 (DIN) | 3 | Hydrostatic | 1.29 | 6,750 |
| E2304 (4 W-D) | 25 (DIN) | 3 | 12F 4R | 1.60 | 6,400 |

ISEKI Iseki Tractors, Bydand Lane, Little Paxton, Cambs. Tel: 0480 218100

All models have four-wheel-drive

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|---------|
| TX 2140F | 14.5 (DIN) | 3 | 6F 2R | 1.28 | 5,445 |
| TX 2160F | 16.5 (DIN) | 3 | 6F 2R | 1.28 | 5,895 |
| TX 2160F-HST | 16.5 (DIN) | 3 | Hydrostatic | 1.38 | 6,560 |
| TE 3210F | | | | | |
| Includes roll bar | 21.0 (DIN) | 3 | 12F 4R | 1.50 | 7,050 |
| TE 4270F} | 27 (DIN) | 3 | 18F 6R | 1.65 | 8,875 |
| TE 4370F}includes | 36.5 (DIN) | 4 | 18F 6R | 1.80 | 13,495 |
| TD 4451F}cab | 45.0 (DIN) | 4 | 12F 4R | 2.01 | 14,834 |
| SX 75F | 70.0 (DIN) | 4 | 24F 8R | 2.16 | 18,500 |

Note: TX series require no roll bar. TE 3120 and 4270 prices include roll bar. TE 4370, 4451 and SX 75F prices include cab.

JOHN DEERE John Deere Ltd., Langar, Nottingham. NG13 9HT

Tel: 0949 60491.

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1550 (2 W-D) | 44 (DIN) | 3 | 8F 4R | 2.05 | 11,045 |
| 1750 (2 W-D) | 50 (DIN) | 3 | 8F 4R | 2.05 | 12,012 |
| 1850 (2 W-D) | 56 (DIN) | 3 | 8F 4R | 2.05 | 12,905 |
| 1950* (2 W-D) | 62 (DIN) | 3T | 8F 4R | | 13,818 |
| New Model | | | | | |
| 2250 (2 W-D) | 62 (DIN) | 4 | 8F 4R | 2.26 | from 14,098 |
| 2450 (2 W-D) | 70 (DIN) | 4 | 8F 4R | 2.26 | from 14,598 |
| 655 (4 W-D) | 16 | 3 | Hydrostatic | 1.29 | 6,180 |
| 755 (4 W-D) | 20 | 3 | Hydrostatic | 1.45 | 6,960 |
| 855 (4 W-D) | 24 | 3 | Hydrostatic | 1.62 | 7,470 |

KUBOTA (UK) LTD Dormer Road, Thame, Oxfordshire. OX9 3UN

Tel: 084 4214500

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| L4150 (2 W-D) | 45 (DIN) | 5 | 8F 8R | 1.94 | 9,880 11,395 (with cab) |
| B4200 (4 W-D) | 12.5 (DIN) | 2 | 6F 2R | 1.23 | 3,900 |
| B6200 (4 W-D) | 15 (DIN) | 3 | 6F 2R | 1.4 | 5,165 |
| B6200HST (4 W-D) | 15 (DIN) | 3 | Hydrostatic | 1.5 | 5,990 |
| B7200 (4 W-D) | 17 (DIN) | 3 | 6F 2R | 1.4 | 5,750 |
| B7200HST (4 W-D) | 17 (DIN) | 3 | Hydrostatic | 1.5 | 6,500 |

MASSEY FERGUSON Massey-Ferguson (UK) Ltd., Stareton, Near Kenilworth

Warwickshire. CV8 2LJ Tel: 0203 304500.

All available with two or four-wheel-drive.

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|----------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|
| MF 1010 | 16 | 3 | 6F 2R | 1.29 | 4,875 - 5,300 |
| MF 1020 | 21 | 3 | 12F 4R | 1.44 | 5,700 - 6,250 |
| MF 1030L | 26 | 3 | 12F 4R | 1.72 | 7,185 - 7,900 |
| MF 1035 | 31 | 3 | 12F 4R | 1.72 | 8,050 - 8,850 |
| MF 350 | 47 (DIN) | 3 | 8F 2R* | 2.08 | 11,675-14,310 |
| MF 355 | 53 (DIN) | 3 | 8F 2R* | 2.08 | 12,285-15,210 |

MITSUBISHI E P Barrus Ltd., Launton Road, Bicester, Oxfordshire. OX6 0UR
Tel: 0869 253355.

All models four-wheel-drive.

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|---------|
| MT 372D-T | 15 | 2 | 6F 2R | 0.96 | 3,850 |
| MT 180D-T | 18.5 Diesel | 3 | 6F 2R | 0.97 | 6,170 |
| MT 180 HMD-T | 18.5 Diesel | 3 | Hydrostatic | 0.97 | 7,370 |
| MT 250D-T | 25 Diesel | 3 | 9F 3R | 1.275 | 7,295 |
| MT 300D-T | 30 Diesel | 3 | 9F 3R | 1.41 | 9,195 |

UNIVERSAL Bonhill Engineering Co. Ltd., 16 Ferry Road, South Cave,
Brough, North Humberside. HU15 2JF Tel: 04302 3388.
All models have four-wheel drive.

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|-------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|---------|
| 532DT | 59 (SAE) | 3 | 8F 2R | 1.85 | 8,720 |
| 603DT | 59 (SAE) | 3 | 8F 8R | 1.97 | 9,350 |
| 642DT | 70 (SAE) | 4 | 8F 2R | 1.99 | 9,820 |
| 704DT | 70 (SAE) | 4 | 8F 8R | 2.11 | 10,550 |

YANMAR John Croft (Machinery) Ltd., Thorpe Willoughby, Selby, North
Yorkshire. YO8 0SE Tel: 0757 210222.

| Model | Engine Power HP | Cylinders | Number of Gears | Wheelbase (m) | Price £ |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|---------|
| 186A (2 W-D) | 18 | 3 | 9F 3R | 1.35 | 5,510 |
| 169DA (4 W-D) | 16 | 3 | 6F 2R | 1.25 | 5,400 |
| 186DA (4 W-D) | 18 | 3 | 9F 3R | 1.35 | 6,675 |
| 226DA (4 W-D) | 22 | 3 | 9F 3R | 1.55 | 7,075 |
| 276DA (4 W-D) | 27 | 3 | 12F 4R | 1.6 | 7,415 |
| 336DA (4 W-D) | 33 | 3 | 12F 4R | 1.75 | 9,925 |



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REBUILDING AND CONSTRUCTING NEW TEES

Adrian Stiff, Head Greenkeeper at Tracy Park Golf Club, near Bristol, details the work that has taken place at his course over the past five years to improve the quality of the teeing areas.

Tracy Park Golf and Country Club, a 27 hole golf complex at Wick, between Bath and Bristol, was opened in 1976, less than a year after the initial layout was completed.

Like many new golf courses working to tight budgets, pressure on initial finance led to cost cutting which unfortunately reflected in a lower than desirable standard of construction.

A further nine holes are soon to be added, which could contribute to the club's ultimate ambition to stage one of the first major tournaments in the West of England.

Back in the '70s few tees were constructed, with nothing for the lady members apart from a mown strip on the fairway, though over the past five years the club has undertaken a major tee building programme, totalling eighty to date.

Such is the rapid expansion of the game of golf, coupled with the number of rounds demanded by visitors and members alike, the first batch are already proving inadequate in size and shape for our daily needs.

Tracy Park is not alone in this situation of inadequate teeing areas, an aspect of golf course construction that has been grossly underestimated on many of the courses in the United Kingdom. Tees for a progressive course catering for an increasing number of rounds should be of similar proportion to the size of the greens.

Certainly, in my experience, the par 3's should have a teeing area of 500 square metres and even at this size can still become very worn, unless they are regularly divotted, oversown and intensively maintained.

Long thin tees often satisfy the criteria in terms of area, but restrict the markers to only back-

ward and forward movements, with the added disadvantage of considerable variation of the yardage to the green and in turn, the degree of difficulty of the hole.

Wider tees offer the flexibility of multiple lateral movement of markers, increasing the overall playing area, particularly the area adjacent to the left marker, which in general, receives the least amount of turf abrasion.

Golfers spend as much time on the tees as they do on the greens

The initial planning stage for tee construction is critical. Consideration must be given to the siting, not only in relation to the hole to be played, but to the previous hole. Obstructions and bunkers in line from the last green to the next tee can create stressful conditions to the surrounding turf, concentrating traffic within narrow areas.

New tee building, should whenever possible allow ease of exit from the previous green, taking into consideration safety and flexibility of movement in the way golfers disperse from the

Fig. 1
Overlapping circles give shaped tees with rounded corners.

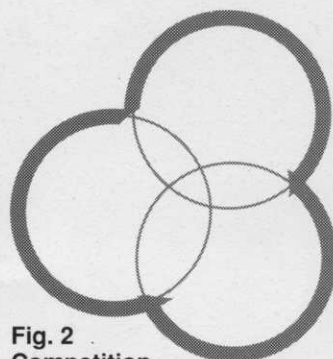
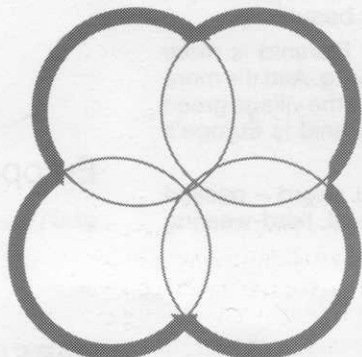


Fig. 2
Competition and forward positions can be accommodated using a three circle design. Overlapping circles give shaped tees with rounded corners.

last putting surface.

Where sufficient land is available it is well worth considering an extra tee as an alternative, which could be used during the winter period, perhaps with the inclusion of a synthetic surface.

The shape of the tee is another factor to take into consideration. It is not necessary, nor even desirable, to keep to the square or rectangular tee design.

Although design is a matter of preference and opinion, kidney shaped, oval, overlapping circles or more intricate patterns can add appeal and interest to the golf course.

Future maintenance must always be a primary factor and if it is decided to cut the tees with a greens triplex, rounding off the corners will make the mowing that much easier.

More important is the alignment. If you prefer your tees to conform to the traditional shape, they must be straight. The easiest method is to take the central axis of your fairway as the central axis of the tee and mark out the width equally on either side.

Drainage and movement of air within the tee area are essential factors which must be considered, particularly if the site is prone to holding water or restricted by shadow from woodland, shutting out essential sunlight.

At Tracy Park we have found internal tee drainage is not necessary as long as all four sides of the tee are elevated.

Construction of new tees will no doubt vary in different locations of the course, but if the underlying soil is of good quality, strip the top layer and stock-pile

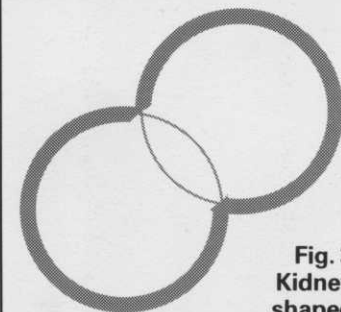


Fig. 3
Kidney shaped tees offer more marker positions.

it to be used later.

We apply Glyphosate to the teeing area and the surrounding banks prior to the initial construction and after two or three weeks rotovate to a suitable depth of six inches. The soil now becomes friable and easily pushed around or collected using a blade or bucket.

Pegging and staking is the next stage, followed by the placing of the infill material into the base to the required depth. We use a three man team for this part of the operation, two hauling and one to judge and spread the positioning of each load.

Five years ago we were able to buy at auction our own digger for

a mere £195 and fingers crossed, it has cost us very little to keep it running.

The height of the new tees will depend very much on the topographic conditions, but even on a flat site, raising the level by just twelve inches is sufficient to add definition as well as creating the impression that the golfer is playing from the tee, not just a piece of mown fairway.

Higher elevations can of course add to appearance, opening up the view to the green and bringing bunkers, ponds, streams and other features into a much more desirable perspective.

Consolidation of the base layer is very important in the initial stage of construction. Access to the right type of mechanical equipment can reduce the waiting period otherwise it is a matter of time to allow natural settlement.

Certainly on the larger tee constructions, the root zone top

soil mixture should not be applied until the subgrade material has fully settled and this can take a full season.

When we apply our top mix we ameliorate one part sand with two parts of top soil; this not only improves the quality and depth (now 9 inches), but also helps

When laying turf on a new tee, work forwards to avoid disturbing the prepared bed. Use a plank laid on the turf for each new piece

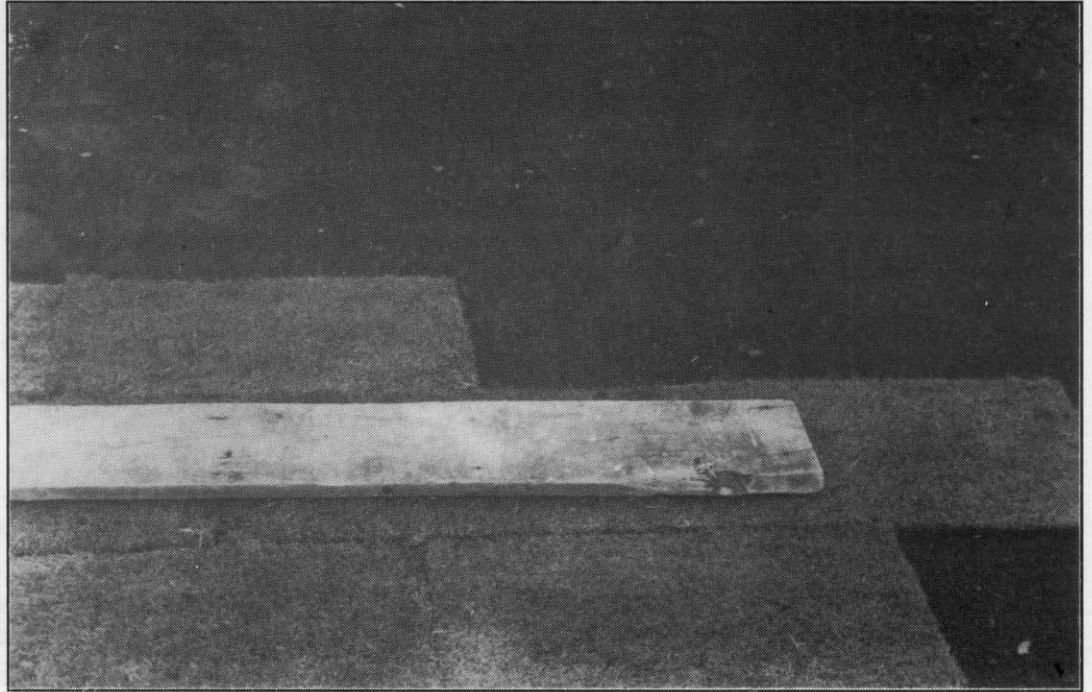


Fig. 4
Elongated tees only allow forward and backward movements of markers, often affecting standard scratch distances.

the final grading, which we achieve by raking and heeling several times until a satisfactory level surface is ready to receive seed or turf. Again the decision to use seed or turf will depend on need, time and location.

Shrub planting, timberwork or wall building can all add to the presentation of both the tee and the aesthetic aspect of the course. There is also the additional benefit of financial saving in maintenance cost where containment can prevent golfers dragging trolleys on to the tees, breaking down banks and taking short cuts across tee corners.

Smart neat tee markers, rather than painted flower pots, concrete filled drink cans and wood blocks, add to the general appearance of neatness. Functional ballwashers, unobtrusive rubbish containers, seats and directional plans of the hole, all help to improve the environment of the tee.

Golfers spend almost as much time on the tee as they do on the green. We all devote many hours caring for our greens, but do we spend sufficient time looking after our tees?



Fig. 5
Square tees create centre wear, with considerable wasted space.

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This year the British Wildlife Appeal and the Royal Society for Nature Conservancy are combining to sponsor the British Wild Life Classic in which every club will be invited to hold competitions leading to the Regional Finals.

Fred Hawtree took nature conservancy as the theme in his lecture to Northern Greenkeepers at Askham Bryan College last year. As you will read, his thoughts on the subject extend somewhat further than the birds and the bees.

Once upon a time if you wanted to build a golf course you got a piece of land, a scythe, and forty sheep and set about it. There was no Town and Country Planning Act 1947 (as amended), there were no Planning Officers; there were no conservation groups and no societies for the protection of endangered species; there were not even any golf course architects (a rare species which has come from nothing to being at risk of extinction in just over 100 years — the fastest piece of evolution on record). I will tell you why it is endangered later on.

For the moment let us stay in those carefree days when planning consent had still not been invented.

Golf courses were simple. Their impact on the ecological structure of their neighbourhood was negligible. It might in fact have been beneficial. It removed from the town a number of gentlemen who might otherwise have been engaged in drinking, gambling and smoking clay pipes — and sent them out into the fresh air for two or three hours on the links before they retired to the nearest establishment suitable for drinking, gambling and smoking clay pipes.

All they had done to the environment in the interval was tread down a certain area of turf helping it to keep free of coarse weeds and improving the grazing while making it more suitable for the matches of golfers following.

They had also taken a certain number of divots but since the clubs they used were mostly of wood, that was unlikely to have done more than superficial dam-

age.

But even in those days, they had trouble with the local pressure groups and residents' associations. The whole history of golf and of the St. Andrew's Links in particular, is sprinkled with incidents where golfers fell foul of other legitimate uses of the land whether it was the bleaching of sheets in the sun, the extraction of shell, the culture of rabbits, the exercise or welfare of other beasts suitable eventually for the table, or the pursuit of other pastimes whether warlike or not. All these tended to occasion disturbance beyond what the golfer can reasonably be expected to tolerate. Similar troubles at Bruntsfield Links (now in the heart of Edinburgh), at Leith, and later at Musselburgh on the outskirts, eventually drove golfers elsewhere to private territory.

St. Andrews worked out a compromise and has adhered to it ever since. But in London the Blackheath golfers had to move to Eltham and the Prince's Club went from Mitcham Common to Sandwich (though it left the course behind for others).

A number of other clubs on London commons like Tooting and Clapham, simply disappeared though Wimbledon split and only half became as it were, privatised.

I have dawdled perhaps too long in those early days but I wanted to show how the earliest courses were not inimical to the natural environment but only came into conflict with aspects of the human environment surrounding them.

I said earlier — that originally there were no golf

course architects. However as we leave the Commons and move forward to new inland clubs, in England, we find that the earliest professional golfers were consulted. They would visit the site, express enthusiasm, walk over it and put in 36 pegs before retiring with a cheque for 5 Guineas and mutual expressions of esteem.

Layout was indeed at the very heart of golf course architecture and has remained so ever since; to such an extent that there are still green committees who think that golf course architecture stops at the point when a consultant says "We will have a tee here and a green there."

Today that is no more than the first stage and from then on arise the problems of conservation which I have travelled 150 miles to discuss with you, expelling into the atmosphere on the way, in common with another million or so road users, brain damaging lead compounds, heaven knows how much carbon monoxide, acidiferous sulphates, carcinogens and other lethal substances.

I mention these matters solely in order to remind you that there is more to conservation than meets the eye, and that most of those who make most noise at the protest meetings, turn up in a machine whose exhaust is at once toxic, anti-social and offensive. But just you try and get them to walk a mile to the inquiry.

Now golfers do walk and I hope they always will. So that is one up to us for a start, at least in the matter of personal conservation.

The problems of conservation of other features of the

natural environment arose when the untold benefits of the game of golf to character, physique and society became so sought after that a few odd games on a seaside links during the summer holidays no longer satisfied the growing army of recruits. They wanted golf courses in the suburbs, in the shires, in the stockbroker belts. And they got them to the tune of some fifty new courses every year. But they paid a price.

Firstly the landscape had to be altered because the game was not designed for meadow, marsh or moor. I have quoted before what Gordon G. Smith (once an editor of *Golf Illustrated*) said on this subject in his book "The World of Golf" at the end of the 19th Century. If necessary I shall quote it again at the end of the 20th. He expressed his opinion as follows with the confident assurance which was a notable virtue in Victorians:

'It is quite certain', he said, 'that, had the ground, on which ordinary inland golf as played today, been the only available ground for the purpose, the game would never have been invented at all.'

That is the crux of much of our problem. We have to change things to make the game possible. If we change too much we shall risk destroying the precious heritage which natural processes have passed on to us. If we do not change it enough the club members will set about destroying their precious greenkeeper.

The second price exacted by the move inland was even heavier. The requirements of altering landscapes, placing bunkers and producing putting greens which demanded

golfing skills like those needed at the seaside, led to the appearance of a specialist consultant, generally an observant amateur golfer, who with the assistance of specialist seed-firms like Suttons or Carters or civil engineering firms like Franks Harris could produce plans and translate them into reality.

These people were called golf course architects and their status was recognised when an Act of Parliament specifically forbade, with two exceptions, the use of the word architect to describe a person not qualified in that profession by training. The exceptions were "landscape architect" and "golf course architect" and both have been recorded in favourable situations ever since, though not always with favourable comment.

It is no accident, therefore, that the term golf course architecture dates from the beginnings of golf's problems with conservation. Up to the Twenties, golfers would accept the stone walls of North Berwick, the roads of St. Andrews, the quarries of Blackheath. But the internal combustion engine began to be applied to other machinery than the motor-car.

The Ruston Bucyrus firm began to produce mechanical shovels which could rotate quickly and reach to a tolerable radius although they moved very slowly. Applied to golf course construction, they ended the gangs of forty or fifty men hitherto needed and could level out and feature a green in a couple of days.

You can still identify the greens which were cut and filled by a machine like this. They did not travel like a bulldozer, consolidating as it goes, but stood still in two or three suitable locations. The greens which they made in the Twenties have all sunk on the fill side and stayed up on the 'cut'. But on the whole they are still acceptable for putting even if holing space is a problem.

But, more pertinently, these machines could shift

walls and hedges very quickly, and could uproot trees. It is fortunate that the philosophy of golf course architecture was still restrained by tradition and, I suppose, money.

The earliest designers had always sought to use natural feature in their layouts just as they found it. Indeed a large part of their skills lay in identifying what existing features of their site would contribute to golfing interest, how best to use them, and then working them into the pattern of 18 holes.

This tradition carried on between the wars and indeed is still alive and kicking.

The new applications of the combustion engine were therefore restricted to improved green modelling, better looking bunkers, and bigger tees. True there were trees and hedges to remove but there were plenty of trees put back. Moreover, many of these new courses were laid out on farmland so there was a nett gain in habitat for the sort of wild life one could expect to find.

A large number of courses were built on the Bagshot sands to the west of London and pine trees had to be removed and drainage carried out. But here again, pine woods being what they are, the mingling of light and air and some grass would have been a benefit in conservation terms.

Golf courses therefore became havens for wild life in the twenties and thirties as bricks and mortar invaded the suburban and rural scenes — and indeed they still are.

Last month in Cambridgeshire I heard from a golf club secretary how he had been harangued by local government officers on the need to preserve certain rare species which they had found in the rough. He listened patiently but was finally obliged to indicate the bleak tracts of arable land all round him and point out to the experts that if it had not been for the golf course they would not have found anything worth conserving

within ten miles. The same might be said of a large number of golf courses, especially those within sight of the town dweller.

This bonus was largely bestowed by good fortune because the golf course architects of those days were not trained in landscape or any botanical discipline.

Harry Colt, who did work at Ganton, designed Wentworth, the New Course at Sunningdale and a host of others, began his life as a Hastings solicitor until the new course at Rye nearby caused him to change from the law. He became a golf club secretary at Sunningdale and then a golf course architect of great skill.

However I want to concentrate less on Colt than on his pupil, Dr. Alister Mackenzie, with whom he stayed when he was invited up to Alwoodley near Leeds. Mackenzie was doctoring at the time but had already taken a great interest in the design of courses and his models of greens so impressed Colt that he eventually left him in charge of the shaping of the whole layout.

Mackenzie was also the first course designer to lecture the Northern Section of the Golf Greenkeepers' Association which he did at Leeds in 1913. I still have a copy of that lecture as it was printed in the journal of the association, which was a technical year book published annually and certainly the first endeavour in this country to circulate helpful articles and suggestions amongst greenkeepers.

We now apparently need five publications to do the same job.

Mackenzie's greatest memorials are abroad, Cypress Point and Royal Melbourne amongst them. But the nearest examples to this room are Alwoodley, St. Ives at Bingley, Fulford, Moortown, Oakdale, Scarborough, Southcliff and Sitwell Park and Wheatley.

I do not know all of those courses but those with which I am familiar, illustrate just the

point I made earlier. The golf course architect came into conservation because it was the most economical and satisfactory way of producing character in a golf course.

Preserving the actual features gave each layout its own set of fingerprints. He did not have to manufacture them, although on a smaller scale he made a lot of interesting experiments with his hazards.

It is in fact a characteristic of the early architects that they envisaged a general form for the ideal layout but they never let that ideal impose on their adaptation of the contours which they found.

Modification of the site was held to the minimum necessary to secure visibility and a logical pattern of play. But they were even prepared to sacrifice a logical pattern if the site produced something different. Short holes might pop up at unusual moments in order to use some dramatic feature as a transition between two plainer neighbours.

It is still my belief that one can enjoy and grow fonder of a golf course conceived in this way than of those manufactured nearer our time in which feature, length, planting, water, and contour are produced artificially at enormous cost according to some abstract notion of what a golf course should offer in order to attract an adequate, if ignorant, clientele to recoup the investment.

A golf course which needs publicity to make its way is generally the one which has paid scant heed to conservation. At the risk of causing you sleepless nights I will try to describe to you the risks we are running not only in the damage to our golfing heritage but also in the antagonism which will undoubtedly injure our future peace of mind.

Today's problem, as I see it, is this. (And this is why the pure golf course architect may be an endangered species). There are certainly a number of projects which are

initiated by a group of enthusiasts who want the best they can afford and provided they engage a competent designer will get it.

Most of the economies he will make will be due to conservation factors because the less he disturbs, the less he is spending.

Then there are farmers and landowners who see a golf club as alternative income. Here, also, I think we are relatively safe because there will not be a lot of money to splash about and a competent golf course architect will produce a plan which will ensure that the golf course provides all the traditional requirements without requiring an astronomical budget.

The real danger comes from the financial groups, the long-term investors, the big developers, the hotel builders, the diversifiers. Very naturally they wish to make sure that their venture is successful. They only know one way of doing this — engage a big name to sign the plans whether or not he has prepared them himself.

Now the big name player has spent most of his life on the practice ground and has probably not had much time to study the finer points of landscaping. He will know all about greens and tees though not necessarily how best they can be constructed. He therefore takes unto himself an expert or two to see to these details.

But he has noticed as he travelled the world how some of the crankier holes get talked about and he imposes an overall requirement on his underlings that every hole should be memorable, the total length 7,500 yards plus, there must be lakes at every hole, reinforced by ten acres of sand, all green surfaces should roll like the ocean and he should be provided with a five acre plot for a ten-bedroomed villa by the first tee.

He then flies off to sunnier climes but will appear twice more to provide an opportunity for the golfing press to be

briefed on progress and to dazzle them with the vast sums that are being spent.

Now that is all very well in a big country and in the parts of that country where even the Red Indians never penetrated but it is not right for us. The number of so-called prestige developments that we can take are strictly limited commercially and there are other dangers.

Firstly, in order to achieve this transfiguration (it's all right — I looked it up) there is an unfortunate tendency to strip the top soil off upwards of fifty acres, remodel the contours in a way that is foreign to the district, plant trees which are unsuitable, drain marshes, dig lakes, and generally cause hackles to rise among the neighbours unless they are golfers (and probably on *them* too).

The old idea of using the natural feature God gives you has gone — you produce your own. In the old days, they used to give exaggerated names to holes from some local feature. 'The Himalayas' were some modest sand hills at Sandwich. Nowadays a name like that would be 'for real'.

So the new approach upsets the whole ecology of the site and the insensitive treatment produces an unpleasant 'them and us' atmosphere in the district.

This will not be a very happy situation for you gentlemen as you laboriously try to recreate what has been destroyed. And what staff will be required to deal with the maintenance.

All I can tell you is that the number employed on the Muirfield Village golf course earlier this year was a modest 43. Yes you heard it right — 43 and the annual cost amounts to about £500,000.

This is one time you *can* believe what you read in the papers. Donald Steel was there and he is currently Chairman of the British Association of Golf Course Architects.

I therefore ask you to assess the consequences of

the new golf course architecture chiefly practised by professional golfers. Planning authorities will become suspicious of new golf courses if they have seen or heard how others have turned landscape inside out.

The community spirit on which many golf courses thrive will disappear. Nobody will be able to afford to play on them because the constructional costs and maintenance costs on top can only lead to a prohibitive green fee. And the men in the white coats will be coming to take away the head greenkeeper for a session with his psychiatrist on a regular basis.

Now you are part of a big organisation now speaking with one voice. We have not heard it much yet but you can speak up for the future of golf in the way you work and proclaim the old virtues of your profession.

Dr. Mackenzie produced a list of 13 points for the ideal golf course. No. 7 reads as follows:—

'The course should have beautiful surroundings and all the artificial features should have so natural an appearance that a stranger is unable to distinguish them from nature itself.' Well the good golf course architect should have achieved the right shapes for you to work on.

Henceforward you will find that if your maintenance only emphasises that natural appearance, conservation will follow as the night, the day.

If you asked me to summarise all that in one paragraph I expect that it would read something like this.

Conservation is here to stay and its proponents will not get any quieter as population, money and other pollutants increase.

Both golf course architects and greenkeepers had better listen to these strident voices and have an answer ready. The answer for architects is certainly not standing the whole site on its head.

A traditional golf course will

fit into the natural pattern and suit both site and golfer best of all. The bizarre productions of recent years come from the need for publicity, instant fame, and instant fortune. They also make it impossible for you to maintain except in a bizarre, immaculate artificial fashion, the sort of style which public parks used to demonstrate but happily no longer.

Your technique will best steer a way between the demands of golfers and of conservationists if you plant your feet firmly in tradition (and the greenkeepers of this kingdom are more familiar with golf's tradition than most).

To comfort you, I think we can all expect things to get easier. The World Wild Life Fund has just given up pure conservation in favour of a policy which takes account of human needs. Mankind is now an endangered species. Just work on that thought, otherwise, oddly enough, you may conserve yourself out of a job.

And further comfort comes from Sir David Attenborough "Golf Courses," he is quoted as saying, not quite grammatically, "have always and will always provide splendid wild life habitats for whatever reason they are conserved."

So next year the British Wildlife Appeal and the Royal Society for Nature Conservancy combine in organising the British Wildlife World Classic.

Competitions on your courses will precede regional finals. Two thirds of your course is probably rough. That's where the habitats are, mostly. You had better start thinking about what you are going to do with it.

We seem to have got it right between us so far but it is up to the greenkeeper in the end.

TURFGRASS EDUCATION IN THE '90s

Big changes are taking place in the national system of training and education, and the turfgrass industry is responding to the changes and initiatives as eagerly as any. Leisure and recreation management is expanding in numbers and skills. The management of sports turf and amenity grass facilities, natural and synthetic, is an increasingly demanding profession.

The National Turfgrass Council is holding a workshop at Pershore College, Worcs., on Friday 17 June, to bring the industry up to date on the latest developments.

The Education Committee of the NTC has been closely concerned with several recent developments that will be explained fully, including the preparation of a BTEC Diploma in Turf Science and Sports Ground Management; the pioneering of a part-time route for this in addition to the usual full-time route; the integration into managerial training of the new award. "Master of Sportsturf Management (IOG)" as the new pinnacle of achievement within the educational structure of the Institute of Groundsmanship; and the creation of a Training Information Base for amenity horticulture.

Educationalists are particularly welcome to the NTC Pershore meeting to get the inside information on all that has been happening in the NTC Education Committee recently; to hear authoritative statements from NCVQ, NEB and BTEC on how they see the future of turfgrass training; and to put questions on any aspect of turfgrass education.

The cost is £29.00 (inc. VAT). Application form & details from: The Secretary, NTC., 3 Ferrands Park Way, Harden, Bingley, West Yorkshire. BD16 1HZ Telephone: (0274) 565131.

Last month in an article concerning course alterations at Moor Allerton, sharp eyed readers noticed changes to the 17th green will approach over a small lake some 30 yards from the green. A number of wags have suggested golfers will be a bit late home for lunch!

It should have read 30 yards. We also don sackcloth and ashes over the stated venue for this year's Open Championship, which was given as Royal Birkdale. It should of course have been Royal Lytham & St. Annes. At least we did get the right part of the country.

THE NATIONAL TURFGRASS COUNCIL ATTRACT MORE PATRONS

The Jacobsen Division of Textron Ltd., based at King's Lynn, Norfolk, and one of the leading manufacturers of grass mowing equipment, has become yet another of the Council's Gold Patrons for the year of 1988. Chris Smith, U.K. Sales Manager, in confirming the Patronage said, "We are delighted to support the Council in its work to

represent our industry and to co-ordinate effort, particularly in the education and training field. We feel it important to join with our colleagues in the industry to achieve the improvements we all want to see, and this is a fine way for us to do so".

Jacobsen joins Toro, Ransomes and Lely as major forces in grass machinery supporting the Council as Gold Patrons.

Also confirming a Gold Patronage to the Council is Kubota (UK) Ltd., manufacturer of compact tractors and ancillary equipment for turfgrass and the amenity field.

The NTC Premier Patronage Scheme has also recruited recent Silver Patrons for 1988 in Booker Seeds Ltd., W.W. Johnson and Son Ltd., and Howard Swan Ltd. The Sports Council has pledged three-year support as Bronze Patrons, in the company of three other newly-joined Bronze Patrons — The Amenity Grass Marketing Association, Farmura Ltd., and Mommersteeg International.

NTC Chairman, Howard Swan, commenting on these contributions, said, "I am exceptionally pleased to see that, at last, true support is being formed upon which we may build for the future. Our permanent Secretariat is being established in June and this will enable us to stride forward more purposefully. We are indebted to the generosity of our Patrons for their support which is making all this possible. The Patronage Scheme has proved to be highly successful and I have no doubt will be developed further for the future years. There remain a few of our major UK companies who have not supported us and I would hope that they would still consider supporting us as Patrons.

"My forthcoming meeting with the Minister of Sport will, I believe, underline the Council's role in our increasingly important industry, both at home and in our exporting, and I look forward to the Government's active support to help us in future".

ISEKI IS THE GREENKEEPERS CHOICE AT GLENEAGLES



Iseki is the Greenkeepers choice at The Gleneagles Hotel, where 3 Iseki Tractors have recently been delivered by Reekie Plant, for use on their world famous Championship Golf Courses.

The Gleneagles Hotel and Golf Courses, Auchterarder, Perthshire, has recently taken delivery of three Iseki Tractors to work on their world famous Courses.

Over recent years, The Gleneagles Hotel has grown both in stature and diversity with seventeen sports being available on the Estate and with new enterprises being available this year including the Gleneagle Mark Phillips Equestrian Centre.

The Iseki Tractors, two 30 horsepower TE 4270's and a 40 horsepower TE 4370, are now at work on the Estates four championship 18 hole Courses in preparation for such events as the Bell's Scottish Open Championship, which takes place in July, plus a whole host of company and pro-celebrity events planned for the year.

Gleneagles' Estates and Golf Courses Manager, Jimmy Kidd, left the choice of machinery open to each of his respective Head Greenkeepers and it is they who decide on the machinery most suitable for their own Course. According to Mr. Kidd "To have all three Courses decide on the same make was rare indeed and was really for two reasons; firstly, because of the complete specification offered on the Tractors and secondly, because of the back up from Reekie Plant, Iseki's Scottish Distributors who supplied the Tractors".

The three Tractors will be involved in a wide variety of work particularly for Vertidrainage and Power Gang Mowing, to prepare the Courses for the many prestigious Golf Tournaments which Gleneagle hosts each year.

Letters to Editor

Dr. Peter Hayes director of the S.T.R.I. says . . .

I am writing to complain about an article presented in "Golf Greenkeeping" February 1988 entitled 'The Continuing Saga of *Poa annua*'.

First of all, I wish to say that I have a very high regard for Stanley Zontek and what he states in his article is applicable to the United States. However, the first part of this article concerning chemical control is completely inappropriate to the British situation. I note on Page 13 that you have an important warning, however all the chemicals mentioned, other than mefluidide, are not sold on the British market and, what is more, it is *illegal to use them* under the present Government regulations as there are no turf recommendations on any of these products.

The first section dealing with chemical control, i.e. the use of Arsenical compounds, the use of Prograss, Cutless, Rubigan and the very dangerous recommendation on the use of Roundup, paraquat and simazine to control *Poa annua* on Bermudagrass, is not applicable whatsoever to the British situation of fescue/bent greens. The recommendation for Embark, which is sold as Mowchem in Britain, is the only part which is applicable and, certainly, May & Baker do not recommend it for the control of *Poa annua* on their label. Bensulide, Dacthal, Balan, Pendimethalin and Endothal are not recommended for turf use in Britain, and therefore the whole first two pages of this article are inapplicable and, what is more, dangerous to include in an article in Britain.

The second part of the article entitled 'Management' is certainly of value and should be included in any article on *Poa annua*.

Although you have included warnings, Pages 12 and 13 are inapplicable to the British turf scene. What is more, I feel that the first part of this article should not have been published as all the chemicals mentioned are not recommended for turf use in Britain, and therefore you should state this more clearly in your article.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Hayes,

Editors Comment

The article to which Dr. Hayes refers was first published in the *USGA Green Section Record*, a bi-monthly publication from the Agronomy Division of the United States Golf Association, circulated to all subscriber golf clubs in the USA.

The author, Stanley Zontek, the Director of the Mid-Atlantic Region, described the research taking place with chemicals in the control of *Poa Annua*, not necessarily recommending their use. In case some readers might have decided to experiment themselves we made a particular point of highlighting in a red tinted box the restrictions on Arsenical Compounds and the fact that even if certain chemicals are available they may not have been cleared by the Ministry of Agriculture. Dr. Hayes' interest is much appreciated and his letter is printed in full, though we cannot agree to his suggestion that the chemical aspect should not have been published. Chemicals are still used extensively to control vegetation, though their use is subjected to increasing restriction particularly in Europe. Until we adopt universal organic husbandry, if chemical control is a subject for discussion, then greenkeepers are entitled to read about it.

I see in the Greenkeeping press that the R & A has pledged £250,000 support to the S.T.R.I. at Bingley to investigate the fertilizer and irrigation needs of British golf greens.

Does this mean that the R & A have decided that this is the problem? Does this mean that the advice to date from the S.T.R.I. on these matters has been wrong or/and unfounded, or not even researched? Who advises the R & A on these matters?

Will this news make golf clubs paying for this advice, in good faith and coin, reconsider their position? How many greenkeepers have lost their jobs, and in some cases their health, on the 'say so' of these so called advisers?

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S.L. Farrington
Course Manager Frilford Heath Golf Club. Abingdon, Oxford.

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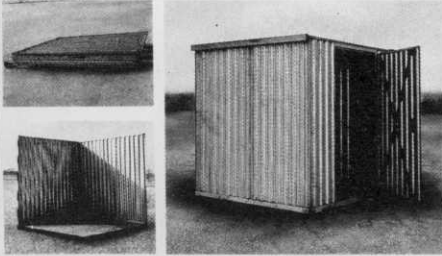
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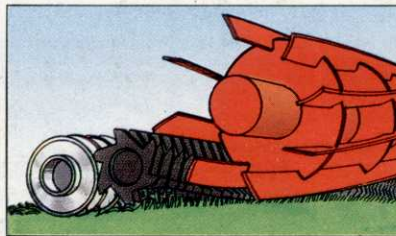


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