

## The Make or Break Year

The two day turf grass exhibition on Tuesday and Wednesday 12-13th May is aimed at both the amenity turf industry and those concerned with golf course management.

The event, which is organised in association with the Metropolitan Borough of Sefton, will be showing such items as tractors, trucks and trailers; turf-care machinery and equipment; seeds, trees and shrubs; fertilisers and chemicals; outdoor furniture; and other goods and services of interest to the greenkeeping professionals.

An important section of the exhibition - manned by the Institute's Education Committee - will be presenting information on the various practical weekend training courses which take place throughout the UK. They will also explain the opportunities which exist for young men and women interested in entering a career in sports ground management and maintenance. This sector will be supported by a number of leading colleges, including Cheshire College of Agriculture, Evesham College of Further Education, Hampshire College of Agriculture, Hertfordshire College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Welsh College of Horticulture and Merrist Wood Agricultural College. Also taking part will be the Sports Turf Research Institute from Bingley, West Yorkshire.

The Southport Show is primarily a manufacturers and main distributors exhibition as opposed to the regionally organised October event at Ribby Hall supported by northern dealers.

Last May, despite an opening day registering thirteen hours of sunshine a biting wind from the Irish sea kept many potential visitors away. Attendance figures for the two days reached less than 3,000, a fraction of the visitors to Windsor and this must have been a disappointment not only to the exhibitors but to the organisers.

Although the exhibition has already been booked for 1988 and 1989, this year, those who pay out large sums to take stand space plus the additional cost of transporting equipment great distances will be looking very critically at the results.

There has been an under-current for some years from distributors who believe there are too many shows around the country. They fully realise they need to be seen, demonstrate the product and be available for discussion, but the time and effort needed to present a display to the standards necessary is not always cost effective.

From the provisional exhibitors list already circulated only 50 stands have been booked, though more may come in at the last moment. This is half of last year's total. Iseki Tractors, Ford, Massey Ferguson, Yanmar and Kubota have not indicated an appearance. In this field the tractor manufacturers would seem to have agreed to give Southport a miss with the exception of Sisis whose Hydrotrack could be classed loosely as a tractor power unit. Ransomes, Toro and Lloyds will exhibit their grass cutting machines as will Brouwer through their main distributor Turfland, but Jacobsen are very noticeable by their omission from the official catalogue.

The loG moved into the exhibition business many years ago and to date as far as golf courses are concerned have a total monopoly.

A F TRENCHERS	F14-16
Gosbecks Road, Colchester, Essex CO2 9JS Tel: 0206 44411 W. D. Baker	
JOHN BRADSHAW LTD Wansford, Peterborough, Cambs PE8 6LW Tel: 0780 782621 Adrian Wood	J1-4 ward
BRITISH SEED HOUSES LTD Pitt Street, Warrington, Cheshire WA5 5LE Tel: 0925 54411 Paul Hankinso	D18
CAMERON Littlehampton, W. Sussex BN7 7BA Tel: 0903 713985 Richard Bank	<b>K16-18</b>
CHESHIRE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE Ed Reseaheath, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DF	ducation
EUROPLUME LTD Worcs WR15 8QT Tel: 08867 202 J. Tangye	E11-12
EVESHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION En Cheltenham Road, Evesham, Worcs WR11 6LP	ducation
FLEET LINE (LINE MARKERS) LTD Malvern Link, Worcs WR14 1AJ	G11-13 McGuffie
GANNON UK LTD Welbourn, Lincoln LN5 0QL Tel: 0400 72475 G. D. Overton	D4
GEM PROFESSIONAL Brookside Lane, Oswaldtwistle, near Accrington, Lancs BB5 3NY Tel: 0254 393321 John Harris	D10
ICI PROFESSIONAL PRODUC Farnham, Surrey GU9 7UB Tel: 0252 724525 Cornelia Nor	
HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION Ed Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants SO21 2NF	ducation
LELY (UK) LTD Station Road, St. Neots, Cambs PE19 1QH Tel: 0480 76971 Graham Dale	E15-18
LLOYD & CO LETCHWORTH LTD Birds Hill, Letchworth, Herts SG6 1JE Tel: 0462 683031 D. Haley	C11-14

The newly formed B.I.G.G.A. have already considered their role as far as shows are concerned and cast envious eyes across the Atlantic at the highly successful G.C.S.A.A. three day indoor event. It may take a year or two before this could become a viable event, but a Greenkeeper's Golf Course Show perhaps linked to a week long educational session is certainly a practical proposition for the early 1990's.

The Exhibition will be open from 10.00 a.m. until 5.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 12th May and Wednesday 13th May, 1987. Admission is by catalogue ( $\pounds$ 1.50) and an extensive car parking facility will be available at  $\pounds$ 1.00.

LIST OF EXHIBITORS	
MALLARD TRUCKS LTDM1-2Lincoln LN3 4HUTel: 0522 754131D. R. Brown	
MAXICROP INTERNATIONAL LTD/WALKOVER LTD D14 Tel: 0223 844024 P. W. Bidgeon (Walkover Ltd)	
P. W. Ridgeon (Walkover Ltd) Miss S. L. Cooper (Maxicrop Ltd) MERRIST WOOD AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE Education	
MOWING MACHINE	
GRINDERS LTD E4-6	
RANSOMES SIMS &JEFFERIES plcC6-10Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9QGTel: 0473 270000Richard Bishop	
RIGBY TAYLOR LTD K1-3 Bolton, Lancs BL1 4AE Tel: 0204 394888 John A. Stott	
SCOTTISH AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES plc D2-3 West Lothian, Scotland EH54 5QW Tel: 0506 39281 Mrs. J. Heeks	
SISIS EQUIPMENT (MACCLESFIELD) LTD C1-5 Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2LZ Tel: 0625 26363 Ian D. Camp	
SPORTS TURF RESEARCH INSTITUTE Education Bingley, W. Yorks BD16 1AU	
SYNCHEMICALS LTD D5 44-45 Grange Walk, London SE1 3EN Tel: 01-232 1225 Allan Stow	
TRELLEBORG LTDF3-890 Somers Road, Rugby, Warwicks CV22 7ED Tel: 0788 62711A. Collins	
TURFLAND PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT LTD G1-4/	
Dutton, Warrington, 7-10 Cheshire WA4 4LL Janet Watmore	
VITAX LTD B10-13 Burscough, near Ormskirk, Lancs L40 0SB Tel: 0704 893311 T. T. Martin	
WELSH COLLEGE OF HORTICULTURE Education	