#### **Notebook**

#### People, Places, Products

David Jenkins' Charterhouse Turf Machinery has moved to larger premises at Pink's Yard, Church Road, Milford, Surrey. Tel: Godalming (04868) 24411. The move has been brought about by increased demand for products handled by the company, which include Rolawn Power 5 gang mowers, Vertidrain, Vredo overseeders, Team sprayers and Gates belts. The new building incorporates a reception, offices, spare parts stores and workshops.

Anyone seeking special-purpose tyres should see the Carlisle range from Axleline Eastern, Station Road, Hubberts Bridge, Boston, Lincs. Tel: 0205 67005/65080.

A new catalogue details Turf Handlers, suitable for ride-on mowers, mini tractors and golf carts; Gripping Performers for hand carts, snowblowers, lawn and garden equipment; Smooth Operators, to fit vehicles needing a light tread; Big Biters, also for mini tractors, ground tillers and snowblowers; High Riders for fitting to all-terrain vehicles with either three, four or six wheels, and Sure Followers, for goods carried on car trailers.

The catalogue details sizes, ply ratings, mounted diameters and widths, rim widths, load capacities and maximum air pressures. The information is presented in easy-to-follow charts, supplemented with photographs.

Chain-saw safety was the main concern when over 30 senior representatives from the industry met at The Speech House, Forest of Dean recently. The workshop was organised by Forestry And British Timber and Hyett Adams, UK suppliers of Husqvarna chain saws.

The morning session included forest demonstrations outlining safe-working techniques, correct saw maintenance and protective clothing. During the afternoon, three papers were given on the importance of correct equipment, training and operators' attitudes.

The IOG's Young Groundsman Of The Year—1984 award is open to trainees and students aged between sixteen and nineteen and will be in three parts—a multiple-choice questionnaire, a series of research projects and, for semi-finalists, a personal interview.

The competition opens on April 1 and the winner will be announced at a special ceremony in London on Monday, December 3.

Entry forms from the IOG. Copies of the initial questionnaire will be sent to colleges and institutes.

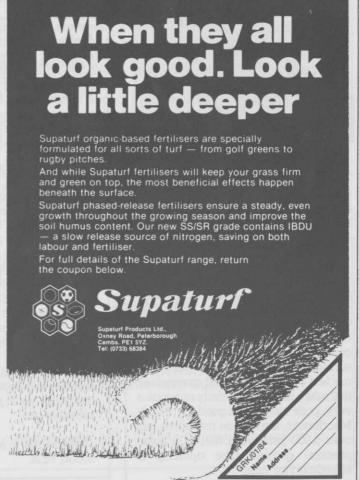
As part of the IOG's golden jubilee celebrations this year, the annual conference will have Fifty Years Of Groundsmanship as its main theme.

The conference, at Writtle Agricultural College, runs from April 2-5. Papers by guest speakers include: Earthworm Biology—the implications for turf management; Plant Breeding—a review of past achievements and a study of the latest developments; Land Drainage

Continued on facing page...



Vicon have a way of doing things better



Techniques—and their effects on different soils; Artificial Surfaces-a review of the latest developments, and Safety-developments in grass cutting machinery.

W.H. Bowles, president of the institute and head groundsman of Eton College for almost 50 years, will present his reminiscences in a lecture.

The Institute's AGM will follow the conference on Thursday afternoon, April 5. This will be open only to members of the institute.

Further information and booking forms from The Conference Secretary, Institute Groundsmanship, The Pavilion, Woughton-on-the-Green, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK6 3EA. Tel: Milton Keynes (0908) 663600.

SISIS has announced the death of Albert Howe, who was 75. Albert worked for the company from 1946 until retirement in 1975. He started his career as chauffeur to the late William Hargreaves, founder of SISIS, and later became a sales rep.



Albert Howe.

The latest STRI Sports Turf Bulletin contains articles on artificial surfaces, frost protection, turf nurseries and rollers and rolling. Tel: 0274 565131.

In 1866, the Prince of Wales and a party of 32 guests reputedly paid a staggering £10,000 a day to stay at Costessey Park Hall, five miles west of Norwich. Today, a new 18 hole golf stands in parkland surrounding the historic hall with modest membership and green fees that make the prince's daily rate look a very poor deal! Designed by Frank Macdonald, the course measures just over 6,000 yards and there's a large practice ground. The opening is scheduled for June.

Nicholas Winterton, Macclesfield's MP, with his wife Anne (MP for neighbouring Congleton) opened a new research and development building at SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) recently. Mr Winterton congratulated SISIS on the factory's 'family' atmosphere and described the company as "highly progressive and epitomizing all that is best about smaller firms in this country." Dr Peter Haves of the Sports Turf Research Institute recalled the long and cooperative relationship going back to the 1930s between the institute's director Mr R.B. Dawson and William Hargreaves, founder of SISIS, which has continued with subsequent directors at Bingley and the present company chairman Derek Hargreaves. Eric Staniforth, managing director of SISIS, presented Mr Winterton with a pair of engraved SISIS tankards and a fountain pen to commemorate his visit.



In the foreground, Mr and Mrs Nicholas Winterton and Eric Staniforth of SISIS.

#### Help, Please

I am a second year turf management student at Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon and very much want to arrange an eight to ten week working visit to a linksland golf course somewhere in the British Isles.

I am 29 years old and married. I have been in the golf business for 14 years, working in a pro shop for five years and the rest of the time as a greenkeeper, construction crew member, assistant greens' superintendent and head greens' superintendent (for three years).

I am a member of the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America and the Oregon Golf Course Superintendents' Association. I was a member of the Wyoming-Montana Golf Course Superintendents' Association for three years, where I was on the board of directors and chairman of the new membership committee.

I firmly believe that American golf courses are overpampered, overmaintained and overwatered and that maintenance costs are going to raise green fees to the point whereby only the affluent will be able to play. Americans must adopt many traditional practices and learn to take advantage, as you do, of our natural terrains.

Employment in Great Britain is hard to obtain—as in the United States—so my services would be offered very reasonably. My sole interest lies in studying 'your' practices and gaining as much fruitful knowledge as I possibly can.

Please write to me—John F. Didier—at 1105 NW 26th, Corvallis, Oregon, 97330. USA.

#### Two Of A Kind

During 1983, both the Links Management Committee of St Andrews and Sunningdale Golf Club decided to purchase the Verti-Drain aerating machine.

Given the degree of traffic the links of St Andrews and the courses at Sunningdale have to cope with in a year and the resulting compaction problems, Greenkeeper met the two men in charge. Walter Woods is links supervisor at St Andrews and a prominent member of SIGGA and Jack McMillan is course manager of Sunningdale and president of EIGGA.

"At St Andrews, we have every type of aeration equipment necessary to assist us in the elimination of turf compaction, which is an obvious problem at the home of golf," Walter said.

"Just about every greenkeeper knows that by failing to aerate you encourage shallow-rooted grass, which is expensive to keep and shortens the playing season.

"Over the last few years, manufacturers have improved aeration equipment tremendously. All types of equipment can be purchased to spike greens in days rather than weeks, which was common years ago. I am a believer in all types of aeration, such as slit-tining and solidtining. Hollow-coring is something I do every third or fourth year when I take the opportunity to overseed my greens.

"Many things have been said recently about the types of spiking that can compact the side walls where the tine has penetrated. My opinion is that if spiking is done at the beginning of the winter, natural elements, such as frost, assist you and help achieve the necessary results. We are always on the look-out for better and more efficient aeration equipment and the



These pictures offer a persuasive argument for the Verti-Drain's capabilities.

Verti-Drain appeared to offer deeper aeration.

"After discussion and authorisation by my committee, Charterhouse Turf Machinery—the UK distributors of the Verti-Drain-were contacted and delivery dates to St Andrews organised. On arrival, and after instructions from the installing engineer, the Verti-Drain was immediately taken to aerate our worst greens, allowing time for any repairs to or recovery by the turf to take place. Due to the weight of the machine, our most powerful tractor, a Ford 3000, had to be serviced and overhauled and then a special creep gear was fitted into the gear box so the aerator could operate at walking speed.

"The speed of the tractor relates to the spacing between holes. The slower you move, the more holes you make, but you also create more turf upheaval. It is important that you experiment first. Before starting on your greens, instructions to the operator are necessary and some practice in turning is essential.

"The machine fits at the rear of the tractor on a three-point linkage and can be lifted and lowered by hydraulics. The power, which operates the extended aerating tines, is through the pto shaft from the tractor. The tines are 12 inches in length and they are interchangeable to various thicknesses. We achieved penetration down to at least 11 inches. When these tines are fully extended they are tilted backwards, rather like pushing back on a garden fork handle after it has been driven into a lawn. This action lifts the soil, breaking any

Continued on page 36...

John Campbell Golf Course Consultant



## **GIVE YOUR COURSE** A NEW LOOK!

EXPERIENCED ADVISORY SERVICE ON ALL TURF MANAGEMENT AND GREENKEEPING PROBLEMS.

COURSE SURVEYS MADE TO IMPROVE PLAYING STRATEGY AND MODERNISE FACILITIES FOR EFFICIENT AND ECONOMICAL MAINTENANCE.

All enquiries to: John Campbell, c/o Greenkeeper, 121/123 High Street, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex.

#### The Gentle Touch

A £60,000 investment in equipment from the Cushman Turf Care System is helping London's second largest borough keep on top of its workload all-year-round.

Over the last year, Hillingdon has purchased two Cushman Four-Wheel Turf Trucksters, two Three-Wheel Turf Trucksters and a full range of Huxley equipment and attachments. With almost 3,300 acres of public open space to maintain, Hillingdon has plenty of work for its Cushman and Huxley machinery complement.

The manager of Hillingdon's parks and woodlands Norman Leddy explained why Huxley's machinery was chosen.

"Our main tractor fleet, which had previously carried out all sportsfield. amenity area and open space work. was presenting a growing problem due to the increased size and weight of the machines," he said. "As most of our grass and fine turf lies over clay, water cannot escape readily and this hindered the movement of large tractors and equipment. When winter maintenance work became necessary, they sometimes caused unacceptable surface marking and rutting. It was often better to stay off the land and we knew an alternative had to be found."

Mr Leddy stressed that low ground pressure was an important factor when assessing replacement machinery. "We were looking for a prime mover with approximately 3psi tyre pressures," he said.

"Versatility, reliability and service back-up were also major considerations when it came to the final selection. The Cushman Turf Care System fitted the bill in all areas for all-round practicality and flexibility."



Norman Leddy, manager of parks and woodlands for the London borough of Hillingdon, stands beside a Cushman Three-Wheel Truckster at Harefield Place Golf Course, Uxbridge. Mounted on the rear hydraulic linkage is a variable-depth moleblade with turf-slicing disc coulter for relieving compaction and improving drainage on greens and surrounds.

The borough's three golf courses return a net profit of £100,000 and Mr Leddy obviously wanted this balance maintained.

"With the assistance of the Cushman System, we can now keep the courses open for more than 90 per cent of the year," he added. "I am a strong believer in regular aeration and slitting during the winter to keep the surface in peak condition. With the help of Cushman and Huxleys, this is now part of the planned winter maintenance programme. And with the excellent transport attachment, the bunkers can be topped up with sand, when before it was washed away and could not be replaced without producing excessive wheel

Mr Leddy also commented on savings, direct and indirect, that had been apparent.

"As a result of the improved maintenance standards and playing conditions on the golf course, more people have used the facilities," he said. "Jobs around playing fields and stadiums have been speeded up as we can move materials and tools across green surfaces without damage and along public roads quickly and safely. I would estimate that time savings of up to 20 per cent are now being achieved."

Cushman and Huxley grass and turf care equipment is distributed in the UK and Ireland by Huxleys Grass Machinery centres at Hillside, Thorpe Lea Road, Egham, Surrey and The Dean, New Alresford, Hampshire. The company has a nationwide network of 24 dealers. Further information on the company and its products can be obtained from Paul Huxley on Alresford (096273) 3222.

# FOR RELIABLE MACHINERY MAINTENANCE

We offer you a personal service with high quality reliable workmanship tailored to your needs for ALL professional turfcare machinery.

Allett Sisis Ransomes Nickerson

Ferrari

F&M

Massey-Ferguson
Ford
Toro
Jacobsen
Lloyds

In season 24-hour call out service backed up by an extensive parts stock. All work carried out to quotation. Contact: Richard Knifton or Robin Noble, Fabrications and Mowers Ltd., The White House, Dancers Hill Road, Bentley Heath, Barnet, Herts., EN5 4RY. Telephone: 01-440 6165 or 01-440 5462.



#### **Grass Regulation Cuts Mowing Costs**

Substantial savings in labour time and replacement of worn out grass-cutting machinery have been achieved by head greenkeeper of Glasgow's Eastwood Golf Club Alan McDougall using May & Baker's new grass growth regulator Mowchem.

After using the chemical for one season. Alan believes at least £100 and many hours of cutting can be saved through its application.

One of Scotland's voungest head greenkeepers. having appointed headman at Eastwood in 1980 aged 22, Alan decided to use Mowchem on a trial basis last year. He was introduced to the product by local distributor Richard Aitken.

Alan-who is SIGGA West section secretary and treasurer—applied Mowchem in mid-May via a C.P. 3 sprayer with six nozzles on a four-foot boom to banks around the clubhouse and between a spinney of treesareas that require extensive grass management by traditional mowing methods.

Following May & Baker's recommendations, it was found that Mowchem's persistence worked up to at least ten weeks with limited growth coming through after 13 weeks enduced by late August rains.

No side-effects or scorch were noticed, even though the period of control saw a drought. The active ingredient of Mowchemmefluidide—controlled the annual meadow grass, fescues and bents present in the sward, with a suppressant effect on Yorkshire Fog. although it had little effect on smooth stalked meadow grass (Kentucky Blue Grass).

Alan had his confidence in grass growth regulators restored after a



Alan McDougall examines Mowchem treated grass beside Eastwood's clubhouse.

disastrous earlier experiment with Maleic Hydrazide.

"Maleic Hydrazide is like playing Russian Roulette. While it can work reasonably well, it can so easily go against you. We once had a turf disaster area following application of the chemical with a weedkiller. Rain washed the chemical down a slope and caused scorched grass."

It is, however, the economics of using Mowchem that have convinced him. He reckons on burning out at least two hover mowers a season at a replacement cost of £400. Alan calculates that ten litres of Mowchem at £300, applied in the first week of

May and then ten weeks later, will regulate the grass right through the growing season. That's a saving of £100 without taking labour into account.

"This year we intend to spray Mowchem with a tank-mix of herbicide for clover and pearlwort control on banks round the clubhouse, on the tees and greens-in fact, anywhere that traditionally required mowing with a hover. The aim is to cut hover mower work to a minimum. They are not designed to work eight hours a day and the sooner we can get rid of them from the course the better."



Monument Way E., Woking, Surrey GU21 5LY

Tel: Woking (04862) 70303

30 Bannockburn Rd., St. Ninians, Stirling FK7 6BP

Tel: Stirling (0786) 70252

WATERMATION is the leading British Company in this specialized field of golf course irrigation. We have designed and installed automatic systems for more than 200 courses, at home and abroad, including the top championship courses. We can offer you the most advanced equipment, plus years of experience and what is more, the determination to see your job done well.

Sole distributor for **Weather** \* matic. turf sprinkler equipment



#### Be A Dab Hand At Spotting

A treatment rate of about 2,500 weeds an hour for safe and accurate application of a systemic herbicide, without damage to surrounding plants, is claimed for a new, 34in long, lightweight, hand-held tubular dispenser.

The Dab Hand Spot Weeder, from Tavislodge, Great Shelford, Cambridge, has a retractable sponge—spring-loaded and enclosed within a cylindrical guard—for application of minute doses of Tumbleweed, a glyphosate-based chemical. Slight hand pressure on the top of the one inch diameter shaft operates the sponge.

It takes the stooping, bending and uncontrollable drift spray out of traditional methods for control of perennial and annual weeds and grasses.

The 7fl oz herbicide reservoir within the handle will treat approximately 3,000 weeds. The rate of application depends on the density of the weed infestation.

Tests at Notcutt Nurseries, Woodbridge, where the Dab Hand Spot Weeder was developed as a prototype by technical manager Richard Cox, have covered millions of weed-killing operations.

The injection-moulded production model has three 0-ring seals to ensure a leak-proof, corrosion-free reservoir for the weed-killing chemical and make it ready for instant use. The weeder is stored in an inverted position when not in use.

The Dab Hand Spot Weeder, including a cartridge of Tumbleweed, costs £14.95 (inc VAT). Full details from Tavislodge, Great Shelford, Cambridge CB2 5AN. Contact Tony Wheeler. Tel: (0223) 841995 /843236 (night).

#### **Trio Get The Bird Treatment**

Three new product lines have been added to the range of turf and grasscare equipment distributed and serviced by R.S. Bird—suppliers to the professional market in South Wales and the mid-west of England.

The equipment, from Lely Iseki, Sewol and Turner, is handled by R.S. Bird's centres at Crossways, near Cowbridge, South Glamorgan; Bancyfelin, near Carmarthen, Dyfed and Veals Lawnmower Services, Easton, Bristol.

Lely Iseki equipment includes the TE, TX and TS ranges of lightweight two and four-wheel drive tractors, comprising 29 models with power outputs from 14.5hp to 38hp. Attachments for the tractors include front-end loaders, dozer blades, flail

and rotary mowers, tillage equipment and a one-ton trailer.

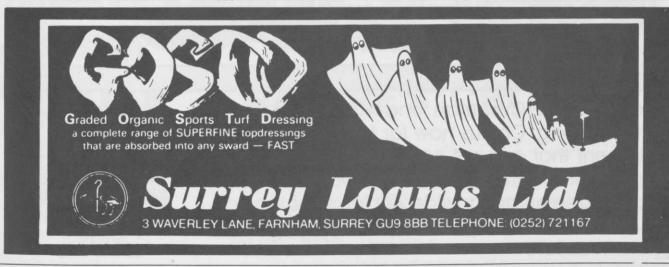
Rugged 18in and 21in rotary mowers with a choice of two and four stroke engines comprise the Sewol product range.

Finally, the company has secured the distributorship of Turner pedestrian and tractor-mounted flail mowers, verge trimmers and snow throwers. Turner machines have established a reputation for reliability, performance and ease of operation and R.S. Bird will be looking to significantly increase the sales of the marque throughout its trading areas with the help of existing customers, demonstrations and a comprehensive workshop and spares back-up service.

For further information, contact Jeffrey Bird on Cowbridge (04463) 4744.



Roger Bird, joint managing director of R.S. Bird, signs the distributing agreement for Turner equipment. Also pictured is Graham Satchwell, sales director of Turner International.



#### **Tows Company!**

Hazlewood Trailers' range of multipurpose exhibition sales trailers has become a regular fixture at shows around the country.

Features include a translucent roof, access door, large display doors (12ft by 6ft) and corner levelling jacks—removable wheels can give a low flat floor. The standard size is 18ft x 7ft 6in x 7ft high and furniture, fittings and awnings are available as extras.

Full details from Hazlewood Engineering, Bishampton Road, Rous Lench, Evesham WR11 4UN. Tel: Evesham (0386) 792916.



Hazlewood's exhibition sales trailer at the recent North-West IOG exhibition at Ribby Hall Park.

The Magic Of Mascot

Rigby Taylor, of Bolton, Greater Manchester and Guildford, Surrey, has come up with a novel promotional idea for its Mascot range of chemicals.

When you pour a hot drink into one of the company's new china mugs, grass decorations stay while illustrations of weeds disappear!

Richard Lawrence, marketing manager of Rigby Taylor, said: "The effect of our Mascot range is the same as a hot drink in the mug—weeds disappear, while you relax, as if by magic."

The IOG has included an academic advisory section to assist with the content and running of its 1984 examination programme. The members are: Nicholas Bissett—Askham Bryam College; John Byrom—Marlborough College; Barry Dickinson—Norwood Hall; Peter Gillard—Mid-Glamorgan College; Dr Peter Hayes—Sports Turf Research Institute and Norman Sayles—City and Guilds.

Brown & Sons (Seeds) Limited 101 Whiteladies Road Bristol BS8 2PE 0202-36831

Stewart & Co. (Seedsmen) Ltd. Stronghold Works Mayfield Industrial Est. Dalkeith Midlothian EH22 4BZ 031-663-6617

Turf Maintenance Supplies Dromenagh Farm Seven Hills Road Iver Heath Bucks 098-583-2626

Sports Turf Maintenance Supplies 95 Pitfold Road Lee London SE 12 01-857-0062

T. Parker & Sons (Turf Management) Station Approach Worcester Park Surrey KT4 7NF 01-337-0861

Rigby Taylor Limited Victoria Works Garside St. Bolton Lancs. BL1 4AE 0204-389888

Rigby Taylor (South) Ltd Unit 7, The Riverway Estate Peasmarsh Guildford GU3 1LZ Guildford-35657

Mole Avon Trading Ltd Station Yard Axminster, Tel: 32441

Mill Street Crediton, Tel: 3277

Exeter Road Okehampton. Tel: 3886 Devon BREAK UP SOIL CRUSTING AND COMPACTION

ENCOURAGE ROOT GROWTH AND REDUCES THATCH

**AERATES** 

**PENETRATES** 

**ACTIVATES** 

liquid enzyme soil conditioner

# SoillfE NATURE'S CHOICE

ROMILT MARKETING
NORTH WYKE FARM
GUILDFORD ROAD
NORMANDY, SURREY
Tel: GUILDFORD (0483) 811933

Name:	
Address:	
Name of Club:	Tel:
Marie or Glob.	101.

#### Continued from page 29...

pan and relieving compaction. There is some surface disturbance, but with top dressing afterwards and light mowing, disturbance has been eradicated.

"We started on the Old Course greens in November. We then moved to the heavily compacted areas between the greens and tees and then to the tees themselves and on to the fairways."

Jack McMillan's experience is similar. "We bought the Verti-Drain direct from Charterhouse Turf Machinery in mid-1983 and mounted it initially on a DB 88S. However, the gearing was not satisfactory, so we purchased an Iseki unit with a gearing down to a quarter of a mile per hour forward speed, which marries up perfectly with the Verti-Drain.

"In the autumn of 1983, we managed to aerate the greens and approaches of both the New and the Old Course down to an average depth of eight inches. This was after some early problems when the soil was too dry and the machine created a rippling effect. However, after remedial treatment with the Sisis Autocrat, hollow-tining and a wetting agent, the soil was ideal for the Verti-Drain.

Although there was still some considerable surface disturbance after top dressing and mowing, all areas quickly returned to normal.

"The effect has been dramatic-I believe it's the lift and heave that gives most benefit. It obviously promotes better drainage and a healthier root structure and we are already getting more growth in the previously highly compacted areas.

"I am continuing to experiment with the Verti-Drain, but I am sure that it is a valuable aid to beating compaction and achieving a better medium for long-rooting grasses to prosper. It will certainly help us with our year round aeration programme."

#### Rigby Taylor Tie-Up With German Giant

BASF, one of the world's largest chemical producers, has not yet ventured into the amenity turf market despite a heavy involvement in UK agriculture. The company does, however, have a strong range of suitable products that are market leaders in Europe.

Brian Beech, pesticides manager of BASF UK, recently announced that: "Following an intensive study of the UK amenity market, BASF has decided to market Contact turf fungicide and Systemic turf fungicide through Rigby Taylor under the Mascot label. These products are for the control of fusarium, dollar spot, grey snow, mould, red thread and leaf

"The choice of Rigby Taylor was

due to a number of factors highlighted in the market survey-in particular, Rigby Taylor's existing penetration of the amenity market and the company's ability to provide a complete service and range of products to users nationally."

Richard Lawrence, Rigby Taylor's marketing manager, said: "We are delighted BASF has demonstrated its confidence in Rigby Taylor, which we are sure will have tremendous benefits for all our customers. Since the introduction of the Mascot range in early 1983, my chairman Derek Phillips and the entire Rigby Taylor personnel have shown a commitment to the Mascot range, which has brought an excellent response.

"You can be sure that this exciting new development for the UK market will be followed by additional Mascot products in the near future."

## "FENDRESS" TOP DRESSING

High Quality Golf Green Top Dressing (FENDRESS) available in bulk loads of 15— 18-20 tonnes, delivered anywhere U.K. mainland.

A specifically designed mix of Fenland Peat/ Soils and Lime free sand carefully blended, shredded and sieved. Ready for immediate application to golf/bowling greens.

Save purchasing expensive equipment which stands idle for much of the year, also high labour costs, and problems of finding suitable ingredients of constant quality.

Pre-packed supplies now available.

SPECIAL MIXES TO YOUR SPECIFICATION ALSO PREPARED.

ALSO sedge peat "FENPEAT" in bulk.

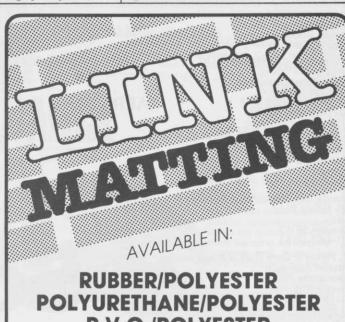
Lime-free sands, screened loam, top soils etc.

Please telephone for quotations.

Contact:

Fen Turf Dressings Ltd., 36, High Street, Market Harborough, Leics. LE16 7NL. Tel: Market Harborough (0858) 64346





P.V.C./POLYESTER P.V.C./HARD COTTON DUCK

IN VARIOUS COLOURS

FOR USE IN INDUSTRY, THE HOME, SPORTS & LEISURE

TELEPHONE: (0742) 29508 FOR DETAILS

163, Gilbraltar Street, Sheffield S3 8UF.