Notebook

People, Places, Products

Over 200 dealers and customers from all over the UK attended two open days in Surrey recently to see the range of equipment handled by Charterhouse Turf Machinery. The occasion marked the company's first anniversary and the opening of its new premises in Milford.

On show were the Rolawn Power 5 gang mower, the Verti-Drain, Vredo Seeders, Team Sprayers, the Morrison Triplex and a new range of Top Dressers.

David Jenkins, managing director of Charterhouse Turf Machinery, said sales so far this year, particularly of the Rolawn and Verti-Drain, meant that the company was certain to exceed the turnover target set when the company was formed in February 1983.

"This is not only encouraging news for Charterhouse Turf Machinery," David said. "It is good news for the whole amenity market because it reflects what we believe to be a continuing priority given to recreational needs, despite cutbacks. We also like to think it reflects the cost-effectiveness of our two major lines."

The demonstrations took place near Guildford at Rolawn's southeastern production base for its cultivated turf products.



The Mayor of Godalming cuts the ribbon on Charterhouse Turf Machinery's open day. David Jenkins is also pictured.

Steetley Minerals, manufacturer and distributor of the Key Range of fertilisers, is organising and sponsoring a golf tournament at Clevedon GC, Avon on Thursday, May 10.

Although the competition is limited to members of the BGGA sections in Devon and Cornwall, the south coast, the south west and Wales, it is a pilot scheme for a national contest in 1985 which will be open to all members of EIGGA and SIGGA, as well as the BGGA.

The 18-hole Stableford competition will be a team event, with six

members from each section forming the four teams. Two members will have a one to nine handicap, two a handicap of 10-18 and two a handicap of 19 plus. The best five of six cards will be the team trophy winner.

Steetley's Key distributor in Bristol, David Brown and Son Seeds, will present a special trophy to the best single card recorded.

The competition has been organised by Steetley in conjunction with Mark White (secretary) and Barry Reeves (head greenkeeper) of Clevedon GC.



Peter Candlin.

Peter Candlin, 32, has been appointed inventory manager for Charterhouse Turf Machinery. Peter will be responsible for the company's spare parts same-day despatch service, as well as administration and order processing.

Alan Hewitt, 33, has joined Supaturf and will cover the area around his Hatfield, Doncaster home. Alan's interest in golf developed during 16 years in the RAF, which included two tours in Germany where he helped build and maintain a nine-hole course. He can be contacted on Doncaster (0302) 845765.



Alan Hewitt.

Richard Lawrence, formerly marketing manager of Rigby Taylor, has been appointed a director of the company with full responsibility for marketing and, in particular, Rigby Taylor's range of Mascot products. Over 60 greenkeepers, groundsmen and forestry workers attended a chainsaw clinic held by Newton Mowers in Griffin Park, Porthcawl recently. Martin Davis of Sachs Dolmar chainsaws spoke on the development of his company's saws and the health and safety guidelines regarding chainsaws.

Mike Patton of Hemming and Wood

discussed chain maintenance and the prevention of 'kick back' in chainsaws.

From over 50 competition entries, only Ken Russell of Mid Glamorgan County Council managed to get all the correct answers. He was presented with a watch donated by Sachs Dolmar.



John Priddle (right) of Newton Mowers talks to Terry Clease, head greenkeeper at Cardiff GC. Huxleys Grass Machinery has appointed C. Tolliday & Son of Kings Road, Newnham, Cambridge as area dealer for its Cushman. Rover and Huxley professional equipment ranges in East Anglia. A member of the Kingston House Mowers Group of Harpenden, Herts since 1968, C. Tolliday & Son will now be supplying and servicing the Cushman Threewheel and Four-wheel Turf Trucksters for all-season transport and turf maintenance duties, the Royer range of mobile soil, compost and peat processors and Huxley grass and turf care implements designed for use with the Turf Trucksters. Tolliday will also handle the new Huxley TR66 Hydraulic Reel Mower for compact tractors.

E.J. Tong retail of Spilsby, Lincolnshire is the appointed dealer for Toro commercial products together with Lely Iseki. Gibsons of Kirkham, covering Cumbria and Lancashire with a branch in Clitheroe and previously offering Jacobson, is now a Toro commercial dealer also offering the Lely Iseki range of tractors.



Huard Parks and Garden Equipment of France has appointed Lely Import of St Neots to direct marketing and sales throughout the dealer trade in the UK and Eire. The vast Huard product range complements all Japanese compact tractors. For example, there is the reversible plough, rotary hoe and flail mower, as well as slashers, spring time cultivators, tool bar and log splitters.



Admiring a layout of Wentworth's new practice ground are (left to right) Richard Doyle-Davidson, secretary of the club, George O'Grady, PGA European Tour tournament director and Alan Callan, chairman of the Whyte & Mackay PGA Championship organising committee. Gerry Coley, course superintendent of The Wentworth Club, lays the first turves on the teeing ground. The new practice area, situated to the right of the 18th green on the East Course and which has been specially constructed for the championship, is over 270 yards long and wide enough for up to 30 players.

Cutting the pressure



A new compound fertilizer—SHL 8 has been added to the range of specialist fertilisers manufactured and marketed by Sinclair Horticulture and Leisure. It is designed to be equally effective when used as a general purpose fertilser or in the making of composts.

This addition to the company's professional range of products has a formulation of eleven nutrients, which include six trace elements added in a fritted form. This allows the nutrients to be released over a controlled period of time, making sure they are available as the plant requires.

SHL 8 is available in 25kg bags from all leading wholesalers.

Full details from Sinclair Horticulture and Leisure, Wigford House, Brayford Pool, Lincoln LN5 7BL. Ø Lincoln (0522) 37561.

The new Verti-Drain has been purchased by Brian D. Pierson (Contractors) and is available for hire throughout southern England. Brian believes that this type of specialist equipment should be available to clubs on hire, as the initial investment precludes many smaller clubs from ownership.

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The fifth International Turfgrass Research Conference will be held in Avignon, France from June 30-July 5, 1985. The main themes will include Breeding, Physiology, Management, Soil And Nutrition, Plant Protection (Weeds, Pests and Diseases) and Erosion Control. For each theme there will be scientific papers, a focus on technical points and a general presentation of research into the subject. There will be translation into English.

Steetley Minerals Vitax department has added a new Winter Tonic to its Key Range of fertilisers. The 24 per cent nitrogen, zero phosphate, 2.5 per cent potash compound—with an added 3 per cent iron—has been formulated for use during late autumn and early spring.

The Winter Tonic, which helps to control moss and is ideal for all fine turf areas, especially where phosphate levels are high, has been developed and launched in conjunction with Barry Reeves of Clevedon GC and Bill Curtis of Kingsdown GC. Shrewsbury-based agrochemical specialist Hodges & Moss has created a new environmental services division responsible for golf clubs, local authorities and other sporting and leisure organisations. Heading up the new team is Bob Bolland, who has been appointed H&M's environmental services manager for Shropshire and the border counties.

Apart from advice and

comprehensive range of weedkillers and fertilisers, H&M's environmental services division will also be able to offer its new customers specialist contracting equipment to undertake such programmes where required. This equipment includes low ground pressure vehicles, fitted with flotation tyres.

Contact Bob Bolland on Shrewsbury 60481.



Alan Lewis (left), head greenkeeper at Llanymynech GC, discusses soil conditions at the club with Bob Bolland, H&M's environmental services manager.



The proceedings of the 2nd National Turfgrass Conference held last September at Keele University have now been published priced £2.50 (including postage) from The Secretary, NTC, 3 Ferrands Park Way, Harden, Bingley, West Yorkshire, BD16 1HZ.

The 142-page, A5 booklet gives the full text of the 13 papers delivered at the conference, as well as the most important discussions.

In addition to technical papers, there are reports on the work on the NTC and the discussion group meetings. The NTC was formed to encourage discussion and the exchange of information and to foster research and strengthen education. The final pages of the conference proceedings show what has been, and is being, done to help the industry.

The Weed Research Organisation at Oxford is under threat of closure by the Agricultural And Food Research Council. For years, the WRO has screened new herbicides, meeting agricultural and amenity requirements. While sympathising with the council's predicament of declining financial resources and acknowledging amenity research is only a small part of the WRO's work, the National Turfgrass Council does not believe that the Long Ashton Research Station—the proposed alternative—will be able to serve the amenity industry as effectively as the WRO.

"With increasing demands to reduce maintenance costs," NTC chairman Michael Chance said, "it is essential adequate research continues under an independent body monitoring the effects of existing and new chemicals including growth retardents."

Some 140 delegates attended two turfcare seminars in Scotland recently organised by British Seed Houses, Lloyds and Co and Synchemicals.

Jeremy Howarth of British Seed Houses revealed the success of his company's product range in England and Wales over the last seven years. He believes it can be attributed to the company's continual research and development into new varieties, such as Loretta and Derby perennial ryegrass and Frida Chewings fescue, which have been highly rated by the Sports Turf Research Institute in its 1984 Seed Guide. The range is now available through the associate company of David Bell, Eastfield Industrial Estate, Penicuik, Mid Lothian.

Jon Allbutt of Synchemicals emphasised that the use of chemicals cannot be considered a substitute for good turf management, but more an important part of a comprehensive turf maintenance programme. He outlined the factors that can affect the success or failure of a herbicide treatment. The correct selection and application of a herbicide was dealt with in detail.

Lloyds has concentrated its efforts on producing high quality mowing machines. Every gang mower and motor mower is individually built by craftsmen from the best materials available. Equally important is the necessity to provide a totally reliable after-sales and spare parts service. This Lloyds undertakes in England and Wales direct to the customer. In Scotland, the service is handled by sole agents Autogarden (Glasgow), Burnthills Industrial Estate, 84 High Street, Johnstone, Renfrewshire PA5 8SP.

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Hydraulic Triple Reelmower For Compact Tractors

A three-point linkage mounted, hydraulically-driven triple reelmower is now available for compact tractors in the 16 to 24hp class from Huxleys. The TR66 Hydraulic Reelmower meets the demand for a low-weight, high-output machine, which can be quickly attached and removed from small tractors, can mow in all weathers without turf damage and provide maximum economy and consistent performance all year round. It incorporates a fullyindependent hydraulic system as standard to power the machine's three 24in cutting cylinders.

The three 24in mowing units are individually mounted on the TR66's

Steetley's New Marketing Strategy

Steetley Minerals Vitax department has a new marketing policy. At a conference of Key Range distributors in Southport recently, general manager Trevor Martin announced the names of six main distributors to handle the company's products throughout the UK. They will receive full promotional backing from Steetley's technical and marketing staff.

Although Owen Jones has left the company, Steetley will continue to support the marketing operation with its own sales force headed by field sales manager Trevor Holmes.

Steetley's new main distributors are Brown & Son Seeds of Bristol; E.T. Breakwell, Solihull; Roffey Borthers, Bournemouth; Sports Turf Services, Midlothian; Sports Turf Services (Northern), Bradford and Town & Country Horticultural Supplies, Witham, Essex. main frame, which is directly coupled to the tractor's rear linkage. Freefloating pivot connections allow each five-bladed reel to follow ground contours closely. With an overall width of 1.84m (72½in), cut width of 66in and total weight of 196kg (432 lb), the Huxley TR66 Hydraulic Reelmower costs $\pounds 2,995$.



A New Exclusive Distributorship For Chipman

Chipman of Horsham, West Sussex is now the exclusive distributor for the Perfect Turf Seed range of turf seed mixtures.

Perfect Turf Seed mixtures are made up from top varieties selected from a number of plant breeders worldwide to maintain consistency of blend throughout the entire season. Ten basic blends cover the majority of standard applications.

In addition to the standard range, special mixtures can be supplied to individual requirements—in particular, to solve the problems of climatic stress on different varieties and specific turf performance criteria. Since no one variety of perennial ryegrass has a top rating in every characteristic, the blending of two or three of the best available can achieve a perfect turf sward under any playing or soil conditions.

Chipman offers two perennial blends, one for summer use and one for winter.

Seed stocks are held at Chipman's Horsham and Derby depots.

David Smart, managing director of Perfect Seeds, is pleased to offer advice before customers make a selection.

Enquiries to John Collins, Marketing Manager, Chipman, Horsham, Sussex RH12 2NR. Ø (0403) 60341/5



Heald Hauler Heralds The Arrival Of Low Cost Land Truck

The Heald Hauler is a rugged two seater 'mini' truck, manufactured in America and powered by a 16bhp two-cylinder air-cooled petrol engine with torque convertor, forward and reverse transmission and disc brakes, enabling it to carry an 800lb payload.

Large flotation tyres can travel over carefully kept greens and fairways, as well as difficult terrain. The built-in tipping bed is easily fitted with a fertiliser spreader or sprayer. The hauler has a strong tow hitch enabling it to tow mowers or trailers.

The Heald Hauler comes complete from £1,950 (plus VAT) or in self-build form from £1,750 (plus VAT). Full details from Europlume, Newhouse Farm, Hanley William, Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire WR15 8QT. \emptyset 08867 202.

Maxwell Hart's Burnham Bonanza!

Burnham Beeches Golf Club, Buckinghamshire was the venue for Maxwell Hart's Greenkeepers' golf day—an event arranged for 20 invited greenkeepers from the western home counties.

An 18-hole medal competition commenced the day's proceedings and an excellent outward nine by Ian McMillan of Datchet GC proved unbeatable. He returned a nett 70 to resist determined late challenges by J. Newman of Downshire and J. Nudds of Gerrards Cross.

At the dinner, Ian was presented with the engraved crystal Maxwell Hart Trophy by chairman Duncan Stewart. Joe Newman received an engraved glass tankard as runner-up and John Nudds won a bottle of



whisky for recording the best combined score over four selected holes.

In his closing speech, Mr Stewart thanked Burnham Beeches GC for its hospitality and use of facilities and greenkeeper Brian Payne for the superb condition of the course. A vote of thanks also went to J. Liddington of New Zealand GC who, although unable to play due to injury, still attended and assisted in the tournament administration.

Trailer Tale

A versatile two-ton tipper trailer, which offers an alternative to tipper cab conversions, is the claim of Equiluxe.

The suspension system for each of the four wheels has both independent coil springing and off-set dampers. Unlike traditional rubber suspension, these, combined with steel braced radial tyres, give a smooth ride even under maximum loading conditions. However, either system is available.

It is said that prop stands are unnecessary as no strain is transferred to the drawbar, even when a full load is tipped. Under overloaded test conditions, there was no overbalancing.

A hydraulic pump and two-stage ram make tipping the heaviest load easy, while the two-way tailgate has a quick-release mechanism that can be operated safely from one side.

The trailer is finished in industrial paint and there are clips for easy number-plate changing. A ring fixing is available as a towing alternative to the standard ball coupling.

The trailer retails at £1,487 (plus VAT) and is available direct from Equiluxe at Cherry Tree Farm, Barton Bendish, King's Lynn, PE33 9DJ.

Ø Fincham (03664) 229.

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