

## Turfmaster Turn Around

The first Turfmaster machines have left the new Gainsborough factory!

Following the problems of the Marshall Group, which caused Nickerson Turfmaster to be placed in receivership, the assets were bought last November by Turfmaster Machinery, a wholly owned subsidiary of Harlow Agricultural Merchants.

The entire stock and machinery were moved to a new factory and the machines have since been updated.

The workforce, which had dropped to ten prior to receivership, has now risen to 19 and is increasing. It is expected to be 25 by the year end.

Sales of the 84, 360, 375 and 390 have proceeded faster than expected and are currently above the total for last year.

Turfmaster has also been investigating the export market and orders for over 30 machines have been received.

Research and development has been stepped up, building on research undertaken by the old company, and new models will be unveiled at Windsor in the autumn.

For further information, contact Turfmaster Machinery, Corringham Road Industrial Estate, Gainsborough, Lincs DN21 1QB. Tel: Gainsborough (0427) 4776.

## Just Right For Compact Tractors



The TR84M mid-mounted hydraulic reel mower has been developed at Huxleys' factory in Alresford, Hampshire (tel: 096273 3222) to answer the growing demand for a mid/rear mounted combination that can be easily attached to, or removed from, a compact tractor.

Once the mounting brackets have been fitted to the tractor, catches enable the mower to be coupled up, or detached, by one man in less than ten minutes. That leaves the tractor free for fitting other attachments, such as a backhoe, trailer or rear-mounted rotary mower.

In addition, Huxleys' TR84M

A mid-mounted hydraulic reel mower from Huxleys - the TR84M.

provides the benefits of a manoeuvrable hydraulic ride-on triple mowing machine. The unit has a self-contained hydraulic drive system powered by a gear pump mounted on the tractor's pto shaft.

The TR84M comprises three, pivot-mounted cutting units with two reels mounted either side of the tractor between its front and rear wheels, with the third attached to a frame mounted on the tractor's rear three-point linkage. The rear frame also carries the five gallon oil reservoir, supplying the machine's independent hydraulic drive and control system.

Each of the three mowing reels measures 30in wide, giving a maximum cut width of 84in. Cutting units can be raised independently from the driving seat. The two forward units lift to give an overall transport width of 57in and reel drive is cut-off automatically when any one of the three units is raised for either transport or use in confined areas.

The remote control assembly also controls reel rotation, enabling forward, neutral or reverse directions to be selected at the touch of a lever.

At a forward speed of 6mph, the TR84M is capable of mowing up to 3.8 acres an hour. The price, complete with fittings for attachment to a Ford 1210 or Kubota B7100 HST tractor, is £3,900 (excluding VAT).



Happy days at Turfmaster Machinery (photo: courtesy Gainsborough News).

## People, Places, Products

As part of a five-year development programme Maxwell Hart recently entered into, a northern sales and distribution centre has opened in Warrington, Cheshire.

Equipped with the latest office and warehousing technology, the centre has a direct link line to the main headquarters computer-based customer service system, allowing personnel to answer queries, process orders and organise deliveries quickly.

Extensive warehousing carries comprehensive stocks of turf maintenance and sports equipment. The centre covers some 5,000 sq ft and is located within easy reach of the M62 and M6.

For full details, contact Adrian Bates or Eric Ravenscroft at Maxwell Hart, Northern Sales and Distribution Centre, 17 Adlington Court, Birchwood, Warrington, Cheshire WA3 6PL. Tel: Padgate (0925) 825501.

Since entering the UK tractor market in 1976 with its range of compact and low-horsepower tractors, Kubota (UK) has sold over 10,000 units. Tractor number ten thousand, a Kubota B8200 HST (hydrostatic-transmission), was sold to the East Sussex County Council by Paice and Sons of East Grinstead - Kubota dealers for ten years and responsible for sales of near-



Peter Whurr (second left) goes over the 350D's hydraulic systems with three representatives from as far afield as Aberdeen, Amersham and Grimsby.

ly 1,000 units.

To celebrate this milestone, a handing over ceremony took place during the BGLA (British Growers Look Ahead) exhibition at Brighton recently.

In addition to on-site training given by Ransomes technical staff, since the end of October to early April nearly 200 service engineers from the company's dealers, local authorities and contractors have attended three-day courses at Ransomes. Most of the time is taken up with instruction by technical staff on hydraulic systems. Practical work includes creating faults for students to rectify.

Rocraft has changed the design of the Power 5 Gang Mower.

The cylinder bearing housings and adjusters have been redesigned and quick roller height adjusters are now fitted as standard. Alterations in height of cut can be made by removing a spring clip and replacing it in an alternative hole.

New wider alloy attachment links give greater support to the individual cutting units, without any increase in weight. Bolt-on attachment plates allow for ease of maintenance and a complete unit can be changed in minutes.

Also redesigned is the front layshaft mounting, which allows V belts to be replaced without removal of mechanical parts.

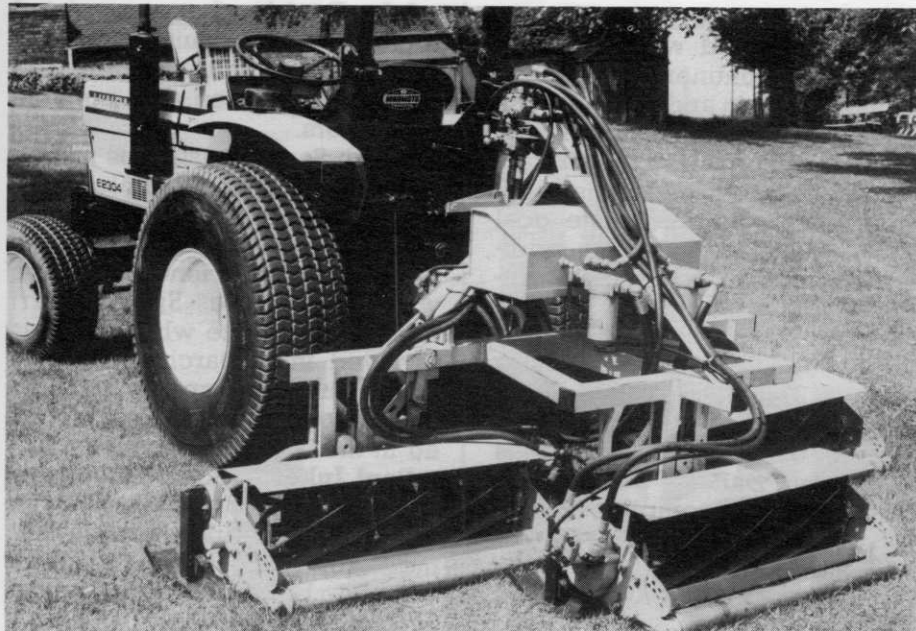
For agency and demonstration details, phone Mr Rumsey on 022 885778.



Celebrations on the Kubota stand with machine number 10,000!

The fourth Kubota Golf Challenge, to be held at the Belfry on October 7-8, will again be contested by teams of greenkeepers, stewards, golf writers and secretaries. In 1983 and 1984, the secretaries proved the strongest team, but last year the greenkeepers overpowered them in the final by six matches to two.

Further information from Peter McEvoy, Sporting Concepts, 9 Imperial Square, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1QB. Tel: 0242 584133.



Green's Hy-Ranger tractor-mounted cylinder mower.

Green's hydraulically driven gang mowers are basically the same as the company's ground driven gangs - many parts are interchangeable. The hydraulically driven gangs have ten inch diameter cylinders, with either five or eight blades - the latter is used for a lawn-type finish, while five blades are ideal for very long grass. Switching from a working to transport position is easily accomplished via a fingertip hydraulic control.

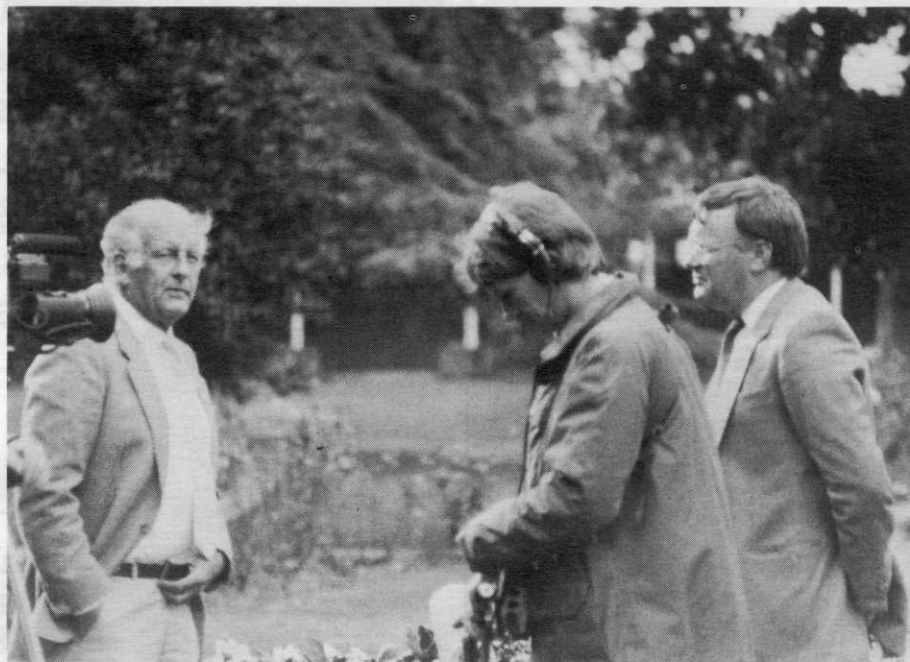
Advantages of using Green's single, triple and quintuple hydraulically driven tractor mounted gang mowers include wheel slip elimination, cylinder speed independent of tractor ground speed, the gangs are unaffected by wet conditions and they can be used with the correct use of tractor gears for cutting very rough grass. They are suitable for all makes of tractor, which can be released in minutes for winter and other work.

As rollers are not needed with the company's floating head contour linkage, which reduces scalping to a minimum, maintenance costs are reduced and wet grass build-up is eliminated. (Provision is made for rollers if required.) Full details from Green's-Hinomoto, Arbroath DD11 3DR. Tel: 0241 73841.

**A new video - *Our Green And Pleasant Land* - has been produced by Falkman Films and is sponsored by Burts & Harvey and M&B's environmental products department. Through a series of interviews conducted by Frank Bough, the 23-minute film examines the use of chemicals in a wide range of situations.**

**Issues considered include pesticide research and development, safety, training and new government legislation. Product applications include total weed control, selective weed control, growth retardation and grass management.**

**Copies of *Our Green And Pleasant Land* are available from Focus Print, The Paddocks, Frith Lane, London NW7 1PS in VHS, Beta and U-matic format, priced £35, £35 and £47 respectively.**



After breakfast, Frank Bough filmed on location at Hillingdon with parks manager Norman Leddy.

Tribute is a broad spectrum turf herbicide containing MCPA, Dicamba and Mecoprop. The application time is similar to other herbicides used in turf, between April and September, when the grass is growing freely.

The addition of Dicamba gives extra power to the other two well-known herbicides in the form of more effective control of weeds, such as white clover, yarrow, creeping buttercup, etc. In the case of clover and plantains, greater control is seen with the addition of Dicamba over the Standard 2,4D/mecoprop, which normally need a high rate of application and a second treatment.

Good control of some of the more unusual species can be obtained, such as field horsetail, Perennial nettle and Soft Rush. Fine turf can be mown 24 hours before or after application, but less closely mown turf should be left for three days either side of application. The addition of a fertiliser application one to two weeks beforehand will aid herbicide treatment.

For further details and a list of distributors, contact Chipman on Horsham (0403) 60341.

**More Notebook  
on pages  
32, 40, 42 and 43...**

## People, Places, Products Continued...

George A. Palmer has appointed **Noel Pollard** sales manager of its horticultural and amenities division. He was formerly general sales manager of the horticultural division of Lindsey and Kesteven Fertilisers, Lincoln. He is a keen golfer and, as a member of the Carholme Golf Club, plays off a 16 handicap.

Supaturf has named **Frank Simpson** its new rep for Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Berkshire. Frank, 35, lives in Milton Keynes and he will be working from the company's southern area office at Iver Heath.

**Tim Reeves**, formerly general manager of Lely (UK), has been appointed managing director. His success has been built on a wealth of experience, commencing at Ransomes. "I'm confident that the future of Lely (UK), which includes TORO turf machinery for which we are the sole distributors, is very good," he said. The TORO division is under sales manager Graham Dale, who has spent the last six years directly involved with sales and marketing of the range.

**Gregory Deegan** is the new European sales manager of

Weather-matic. He has offices in Luxembourg and will serve Britain and the continent with the exception of Spain and Portugal. His responsibilities include distributor, specifier and contractor development and assistance. Weather-matic's immediate goal in Europe is to establish additional full-line distributorships. Interested parties may contact Gregory Deegan at 34 Avenue Victor Hugo, L-1750, Luxembourg (Phone: 27455) or Telex 60123 MACOM. The Weather-matic division of Telsco Industries is based in Dallas, Texas and manufactures a complete line of irrigation controllers, valves and sprinklers.

**Michael Bird**, 35, has joined Huxleys to market the range of mid and rear-mounted hydraulic reel-mowers for compact tractors. He will also look after equipment publicity and promotion. Formerly assistant editor with *Power Farming* and machinery correspondent for *Farmers Weekly*, Michael completed his apprenticeship as an agricultural and horticultural engineer with B.S. Bird & Co. He gained City and Guilds certificates as an engineer and engineering technician before moving into retail sales of farm and horticultural machinery in Wiltshire with a division of the R.A. Lister group of companies.

**John Ford** has been appointed regional sales manager in the north for the Kawasaki range of all-terrain vehicles and portable generators.

British Seed Houses has named **Paul Hankinson** technical adviser for the Midlands and South Wales. Paul graduated with a degree in plant sciences. He then worked at the Sports Turf Research Institute where he was involved in research relating to thatch build up, especially in fine turf. Following this, he was involved in the landscape industry.

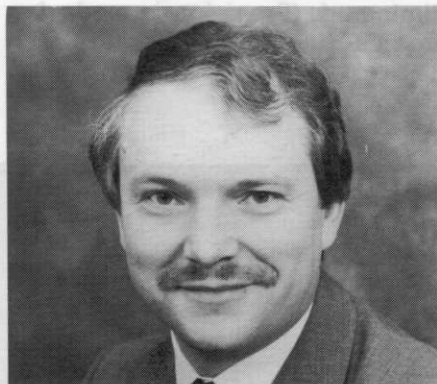
**Paul Jukes**, who is based near Edinburgh, was previously with the parks and landscape department of Gateshead Borough Council before joining British Seed Houses.

**Geoff Lovegrove** has moved to Honda as sales administration manager, a new appointment made to increase the level of administrative back-up and customer service within the power products division. Geoff, 32, joined Honda from Petters, where he spent 15 years.

**Nick Edwards** is promoted to service manager of Honda power products from technical co-ordinator. Nick has been with Honda for eight years, joining the company from Southern Motorcycles in 1978 where he was service manager.



Noel Pollard.



Frank Simpson.



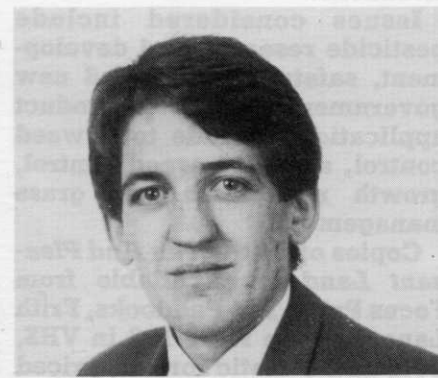
Tim Reeves.



Greg Deegan.



Michael Bird.



Paul Hankinson.

**People, Places, Products**  
Continued...

A party from France, accompanied by M. Francois Lavie, whose company distributes Ransomes grass machinery in the south of the country, visited the Ipswich factory and nearby Woodbridge Golf Club recently. After a demonstration, Lynn Arbon, head greenkeeper at Woodbridge, held a question and answer session.

Renowned for its brandy, Cognac could become noted for a golf course currently under consideration. Already a user of Ransomes equipment, the local authority purchased the first Motor 213D triple mower to be sold in France.



Cognac's chief engineer M. Bernard is seated. Also pictured are Guy Catchpole, Ransomes sales and marketing director, and M. Francois Lavie.

Iseki tractors and the power products division, together with Beaver and Majar, is now operating under a completely new company - Iseki (UK). Head-

ed by John Hawkins, the former managing director of Lely (UK), and Colin Gregory, this new venture will continue with the majority of personnel who have worked

on Iseki and ancillary equipment.

The new premises are situated at Bydand Lane, Little Paxton, Huntingdon, Cambs. Tel: 0480 218100.

# SOILIFE

**ANNOUNCING A SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH**  
NEW SOILIFE TESTS PROVE THAT DRAINAGE PROBLEMS ON ALL PLAYING FIELDS CAUSED BY CLAY SOIL OR COMPACTION CAN BE OVERCOME.

SOILIFE IMPROVES SOIL STRUCTURE TO ALLOW DEEP WATER PENETRATION THROUGH COMPACTED SUB-SOIL AND HEAVY CLAY AND RELEASES TRACE ELEMENTS.

**NOT JUST A WETTING AGENT, BUT A BIOLOGICAL ACTIVATOR.**

Farrant Chemicals Ltd., Dept S1, PO Box 26, Guildford, Surrey. Tel: Guildford (0483) 36327.

Please send me full details about SOILIFE from:  
Farrant Chemicals Ltd., PO Box 26,  
Guildford, Surrey.

Name .....

Address .....

## Irrigation Distributorships Available

**W**eather-matic, a leading U.S. manufacturer of irrigation systems is currently interviewing candidates to become full-line distributors in England, Scotland, Ireland, France and Northern Italy. We're looking for aggressive, well-managed companies that can help us expand European sales of our complete line of irrigation controllers, valves and sprinklers.

Interested parties should contact **Mr. E. Gregory Deegan, European Sales Manager, 34 Avenue Victor Hugo, L-1750, Luxembourg. Phone 27455 or Telex address 60123 MACOM.**

**Weather  matic®**  
LAWN AND TURF IRRIGATION

Sprinkler Division/Telsco Industries  
P.O. Box 18205 • Dallas, Texas 75218  
214/278-6131

## Get Your Guide

Johnsons Seeds has issued the 1986 *British Wild Flower and Grass Seed Price List*. Two new mixtures have been introduced, one for shaded areas and a second complementary woodland mixture.

The number of individual species offered has also been increased to 150 flowers and over 40 grasses – the introduction of a native form of Birdsfoot Trefoil is likely to be a welcome item which, although still in limited quantities, can be used in standard mixtures replacing the foreign forms generally used.

Johnsons is currently the only national seed house producing and supplying its own native British wild flower and grass seeds, which involves working with over 300 species. The quantity of seed being produced has steadily increased enabling prices for mixtures to be maintained or reduced.

The new list offers a wider range of 14 mixtures formulated for different situations with detailed descriptions of their application and suitability. The recommended minimum sowing rates are clearly shown together with the percentage ingredients.

The proportion of flower to grass seeds is 1:4 in Johnsons standard mixtures and where a Johnsons supplemental mixture is used, the proportion of flowers to grass increases again to around 1:3.

A further innovation is the introduction of an eight-point management plan, using a chart

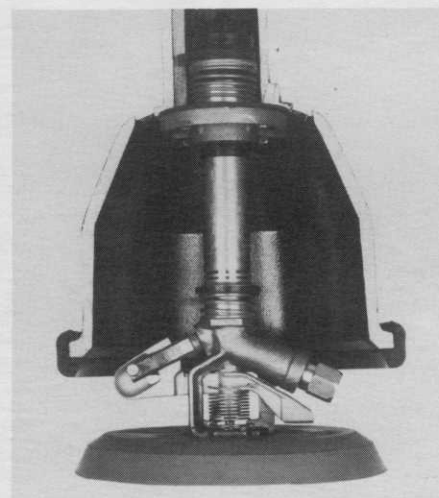
and table to highlight the timing and frequency of key operations. Johnsons full-colour, 16-page *Wild Flower Guide* is available free on request, with a practical guidance section covering choice and design of site, preparation, sowing and various management options.

For further information and copies of the booklets, contact Geoff Taylor, Johnsons Seeds, London Road, Boston PE21 8AD. Tel: 0205 65051.

## First British Golf Sprinklers

Ever since automatic irrigation was introduced on to British golf courses in the 1960s, it has been necessary to buy all the specialist hardware, such as sprinklers, controllers and valves, from overseas.

Some five years ago, Watermation, with offices in Woking, Stirling and Dublin, started manufacturing its TW1 computer controller in Britain. Since then, the



number of other contractors using this controller has grown.

The TW1 controller is one of the most simple to use and works on the two wire principle, as opposed to the multiplicity of wiring more conventional methods require. Complicated keyboards and VDU screens, requiring operator knowledge of computer systems, have been avoided.

Now the company is putting on the market its GN range of heavy-duty pop-ups specially designed for golf courses. There are, at present, three models in part circle or full circle to suit approaches, greens, tees and fairways.

Full details from Watermation, Monument Way E, Woking, Surrey GU21 5LY. Tel: Woking (04862) 70303.

## Roll Up!

A wheelbarrow made from polyethylene rather than conventional mild steel is being manufactured by Europolite.

Apart from a new design, which represents a considerable departure from the conventional barrow shape, this plastic barrow is light, strong, easy-to-clean, has a low centre of gravity and is rot proof.

There are two models – one with a 4½ cubic feet capacity with integral plastic handles, the other with 1½in tube steel wrap-round handles and 3½ cubic feet capacity.

Full details from Europolite, Europa House, Sheepbridge Lane, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 5DX. Tel: 0623 27142.

# farmura

The Liquid Organic Fertiliser

Make it part of your management programme — from re-seeding to maintenance

## farmura

benefits include

- ★ Thicker sward
- ★ Deeper roots
- ★ Improved germination
- ★ Greater resistance to stress

For detailed information, contact your distributor or

Farmura Ltd, Stone Hill, Egerton, Kent. Tel: Egerton (023376) 241

## farmura

has been used on a wide variety of sites including

- FOOTBALL GROUNDS – Wembley, Aston Villa, Arsenal, Coventry
- GOLF COURSES – Birkdale, Lytham St. Annes, St. Andrews, Woburn
- RACECOURSES – Ascot, Ayr, Chester, Uttoxeter
- LAND RECLAMATION – Work in progress on NCB sites
- ALSO on cricket pitches, bowling greens, tennis courts – in fact, wherever grass is sown, grown and mown

