

duties of BIGGA should perhaps be to organise and coordinate the applications to the NPTC for testing. This coordination will not come cheap and a relevant source of finance is perhaps the contribution made to the Greenkeeper Training Committee by ICI Professional Products through the PGA European Tour. I understand that the 1986 contribution has yet to be allocated to a specific use.

Keith Cleverly, manager of ICI Professional Products, is committed to helping the industry through these complicated procedures. Keith initiated the Amenity Horticulture Committee of the British Pest Control Association and, as an executive board member, is actively involved in managing the training and certification of the ICI distributors who have joined the BPCA. These distributors are, perhaps, more affected than greenkeepers as they need to obtain a certificate of competence by January 1 1988 to sell pesticides. The chairman of the Amenity Horticulture Committee of the BPCA is Len Breakwell.

In the course of 1987, information about how to pass the NPTC tests will come from ICI and any help in matters of chemical application is always available from the company's Farnham office or territory managers. Similar services may also be offered by other manufacturers and distributors.

*Greenkeeper* plans to keep fully up to date with developments and will report regularly on details of courses and NPTC tests. In the meantime, it would do no harm for BIGGA regional representatives to get to know their local NPTC man.

## Barrus and Bunton get together



The Bunton 22in greens mower complete with powered rotary brush between the front roller and cutting reel.

"Until recently, the activities of E.P. Barrus were principally confined to outboard motors and garden machinery," Robert Bennett, company chairman and managing director, said, "but we have formed a new division to handle professional grass-care machinery and now represent Bunton, which manufactures products in the USA and Denmark."

The impressive company headquarters at Bicester is well-equipped to handle sales enquiries. After eight years of yeoman service, the Barrus computer has been put out to grass and has now been replaced by a brand new IBM system 600 megabyte unit with 27 terminals. Each sales desk has its own terminal that allows orders to be entered as customers dictate them by phone.

Bunton is well-known to American superintendents, for it has been building commercial mowers for over 35 years. Today, the company markets its equipment all over the world through a network of distributors specialising in turf products for professionals. The product line includes multi-purpose grounds maintenance tractors, commercial rotary mowers with cutting widths from 12 to 61 inches, greens-

mowers, edgers, trimmers and a variety of other specialised equipment.

The Bunton special 22in greens mower, manufactured in Japan, has a powered rotary brush mounted between the front roller and the reel. The brush rotates in the opposite direction to raise the grass before it is cut and is easily adjusted to suit the pitch of the bottom blade. The brush can be raised to reduce the amount of pressure on the grass or disengaged completely. A verticut attachment for thatching is also available.

To ensure a stable and straight cut, equal power is supplied to both sides of the heavy gauge aluminium alloy drive roller. The nine-blade, cutting reel is resilient and resistant to wear due to its hardened steel construction.

The machine is fitted with a standard handbrake to aid transportation over slopes and banks. Quick-release wheels have pneumatic transport tyres, which give good adhesion on uphill ground. It has an all-gear drive train and a four-cycle Robin engine.

Other features include a plastic grass box designed to catch all the cuttings and hold them.

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