

(1937) by Peter Lawless – a very good anthology.

Abe Mitchell and George Duncan were among those who wrote books on technique that also give sidelights on the nature of the game in their day.

Henry Cotton was a prolific writer and photographer and, especially in *This Game Of Golf* (1948), he began to chronicle changes in the American game which, when transplanted to this country, were not always beneficial.

Bobby Jones and Henry Longhurst were always entertaining while filling in background detail.

Robert H.K. Browning, editor for many years of *Golfing* magazine, was a perceptive writer with one special gem *A History Of Golf – The Royal Ancient Game* (1955).

This list could go on and on, but if I had to select just one

book to take with my records to that desert island, it would be *A History Of Golf In Britain*, edited by Sir Guy Campbell and published in 1952. I remember that my wife bought it for my birthday that year. I think it cost two guineas (£2.10), a lot of money for a book in those days, but it remains a favourite bedside volume. Better than any other, it describes how the game started and progressed for many years.

I am reminded that this study of history opens the doors to the study of your own course. There may be a club history, but it is even more interesting to study the history of greenkeeping methods at a particular club.

Chairmen of green committees might think of looking up old minute books with a view to staff trying to piece together the history of the environment in which they work. The idea that

each generation should start again with its knowledge is plainly ridiculous and wasteful. Why not find out more about what went before on your course?

Golf writers today do not seem to discuss or query the philosophy of the game. Reports in the Press and magazines are little more than blow-by-blow accounts of a player's progress, as related to par, in an event.

As tournaments are frequently played on courses that seem to be a poor test of shot making and ball control, you have to wonder if writers have been told *not* to give readers the details. Or perhaps it is simply because their living is dependent on the 'pro' circuits. We seem to have to go back in time to find a free, frank and informed Press.

Next time, I will look at books on golf courses, especially those on golf architecture.

Golf's ultimate partnership Continued...

preciate fully all of the characteristics that make golf such a truly beautiful game.

Therein, in essence, lies the key element of this ultimate partnership, where one partner, the superintendent, provides the beautifully playable playing surfaces and the other partner, the true believer amateur, mobilises and brings to bear all of the characteristics that make what the superintendent has done worth the doing.

Having so identified and joined this partnership, we need some further definition of its purposes.

First, all of us should join in the mission of preserving and promoting this ancient and honorable game. We should note that promoting and preserving are not necessarily complementary activities. A lot of promoters hovering around this game are anything but preservers.

We should also note that it is worth preserving, not so much because it is ancient (although its antiquity helps to distinguish it), but because its heart and its soul

derive from its being, above all, honorable.

The honorable part of it is given some distinctive emphasis by the fact that, in all of its long history, no one has reached the very pinnacle of this game who was not a person of distinctive character. In considering that remarkable distinction, contemplate the Tom Morrises, both old and young, Vardon, Jones, Hogan, Nelson, Palmer, Watson, and Nicklaus. Is there any other game, or indeed any other activity, that has identified such an array of quality as the very best of their respective times?

While we are promoting, we should be promoting understanding among the partners – on the true believer amateur side, appreciation for all the incredible complexity involved in properly maintaining a golf course, and on the superintendent's side, what a relatively lousy experience it is to slog around an overwatered golf course.

Finally, I am moved to observe that if he had not been so involv-

ed in Elizabethan drama and if access to the game had been easier in the 16th century, William Shakespeare surely would have been a golfer. Why am I so sure? Because anyone with such poetry in his soul could not have resisted the game, given any exposure to it, and, 'To thine own self be true,' has to be the ultimate credo of the true believer amateur.

While to be or not to be true to himself is a choice a golfer can make, no such choice is available to the superintendent in the pursuit of his profession. Nature does not allow him any counterpart of the self-conceded putt or the surreptitiously improved lie. Every decision the superintendent makes, good or bad, is inevitably reflected in the way the golf course looks and plays.

In that sense, therefore, they are unequal partners. In the much more important sense, however, of determining whether all that the game can be and mean is going to be realised, they are not just equal partners, but, indeed, golf's ultimate partnership.

Guy Catchpole retires



Guy Catchpole was given a framed John Campbell cartoon by *Greenkeeper* publisher Michael Coffey (right).

THAT familiar glint in the eye of Guy Catchpole on the eve of his retirement from Ransomes reminded me that he has never lost his dry sense of humour and interest in people during the 25 years I have known him, writes *John Campbell*.

His affable manner and extensive knowledge of the grass machinery business has always been a great asset to the company and has earned him the respect and esteem of a wide circle of friends in the sports and recreation industry.

Guy joined Ransomes in 1948, became manager of the warehouse in Scotland afterwards and was appointed grass machinery sales manager at Ipswich in 1960. Eventually, he progressed to sales director for grass and farm machinery after joining the main board in 1980.

He was responsible for a number of Ransomes feature films, including *The Royal And Ancient Game* and *The Training Of Golf Greenkeepers*. For many years, he took a close interest in the activities of the Institute of Parks and Recreation and was instrumental in Ransomes making a film celebrating the institute's

golden jubilee.

Guy has been involved with many significant developments within the company's grass machinery division, including greater emphasis on machines for the professional user, the introduction of the hydraulic gang mower followed by the all-hydraulic self-propelled mower, forming a countrywide network of specialist dealers, which entailed an extensive programme of dealer training that continues and the purchase of Wisconsin Marine in America, now Ransomes Inc, to provide the company with a base for expansion in US markets and a range of rotary mowers for its worldwide dealer network.

Guy has always maintained an active interest in the affairs of greenkeeping and has done much to further the profession's progress. He is a vice-president of the BGGGA and past-chairman of the British Lawn Mower Manufacturers Federation.

A keen golfer, he has served as captain and green chairman of Woodbridge GC, where his wife Myra is captain of the ladies. With more time on his hands, he will undoubtedly do more fishing at

some of his favourite Scottish haunts.

The good wishes of us all go to Guy and Myra for a long and happy retirement. Lang may their lum reek!

Guy's successor

Keir Wyatt, 43, who joined Ransomes' main board this year as sales and marketing director, takes over from Guy. Keir worked with a farm machinery dealer and tractor manufacturer, where he held senior posts in the marketing, selling and servicing of products through a UK and overseas dealer organisation, before joining Ransomes.

"I have been encouraged by the co-operation and help from all at Ransomes and also by our dealers, in this country and overseas," Keir said. He believes Ransomes' improved performance during recent years is due to the company's substantial investment in new product development and the latest in manufacturing technology. "This is a policy we shall continue to further improve our position in today's competitive world markets."



Keir Wyatt.

Greater use is now made of robot and automatic techniques. Manufacture is controlled by a site-based central computer, which incorporates all systems from production control to financial analysis.

Managing director Bob Dodsworth said: "We are proud of our past, but we are neither dependent on it or live in it. We accept the reality of a highly competitive world and to be successful we must continue to offer products that get the job done at a price customers can afford."

Among an interesting range of new equipment is the Ransomes GT triple greens mower, which does not replace the Triplex 171, but is seen as an addition to the range of greens maintenance equipment.

This machine is designed with a low centre of gravity for working on slopes. It is equipped with a Kubota twin-cylinder water-cooled diesel engine (12hp), which drives two hydraulic pumps - one for hydrostatic transmission, the other for the cutting units drive and lift. A digital readout, calibrated in cuts per metre, enables the required cutting ratio to be selected and set for mowing speeds up to 5mph. Transport between greens (7½mph) does not disturb the setting.

Selecting the cutting units for perimeter mowing and operating the back-lapping system are by push-button control. In addition to greens cutting units, the Ransomes GT is available with tee cutting, as well as verticut and



The new hydraulically operated GT triple greens mower.

vibra spiker units. Units are interchangeable without the need for tools.

Other impressive features are the ease with which the grass box on the centre unit can be taken off for emptying and the way the cutting unit itself can be detached from the mower and removed for routine maintenance. By releasing a latch, the operator's footplate and steering console is easily raised making the unit readily accessible.

Most greenkeepers will appreciate the Ransomes GT's good all-round visibility and the positioning of the sophisticated controls.

Another innovation is the new Ransomes TMV (Turf Main-

tenance Vehicle), available with a range of turf maintenance attachments made by specialist manufacturers. Powered by a 20hp twin-cylinder Onan petrol engine, the three-wheeled TMV incorporates hydrostatic drive to the rear wheels, a pto and hydraulic services. It has infinitely variable speed control from 0-16 mph.

The efficient suspension gives the operator a comfortable ride at top speed, with plenty of room for a passenger. In addition to a hydraulically operated ¾ ton capacity dump box, other attachments include slitters, a core tiner, top dresser, seeder, brush and scarifier from Dabro International and Allman an sprayer.



Also new, the Ransomes TMV with a Dabro International slitter.

Greenkeeper players and professional superintendents

By Jim Barclay

LEGEND has it that the first professional golfer to cross the Atlantic over a hundred years ago was fired after one season for refusing to take on the duties of course superintendent. William F. Davis was an assistant at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club when Royal Montreal in Canada hired him in 1881 to be its first professional.

For his fixed wage of \$4 per week, Royal Montreal also expected him to maintain the course single-handed. This probably involved no more than cutting the grass, rolling the greens, and re-seeding the divot marks.

But Mr Davis refused.

Royal Liverpool, with five hundred members, could afford a groundsman to do manual work on the course. At Royal Montreal, with only twenty-five members, it seemed not an unreasonable request to ask Davis to do this.

If Mr Davis had belonged to a trade union, he would probably have sued for wrongful dismissal. On balance, I think he would have lost his case. Precedence was against him. Strictly speaking, he had not been engaged as Royal Montreal's 'professional.' No such post existed. He had been engaged as its greenkeeper. And by custom and practice, a greenkeeper was, among other things, the keeper of the course.

The name greenkeeper was of Scottish origin. Whoever thought of the title and defined the duties of the greenkeeper, was an astute gentlemen or a conniving rogue, depending on which side of the table you were seated.

Consider the skills expected of the greenkeeper. He had to be an expert clubmaker and club repairer, he had to make and repair golf balls, he had to be a good enough golfer not only to teach the game, but also win money-matches against greenkeepers from neighbouring clubs, he had to control a squad of uncouth caddies, some of them children of uncertain age, others 'old, bent and frosted by many winters' and not always sober, he

had to know all there was to know about the upkeep of a golf course, and - if the club could not afford the luxury of a labourer - he had to personally keep the grass short, cut the holes on the green and fill in the holes on the fairway.

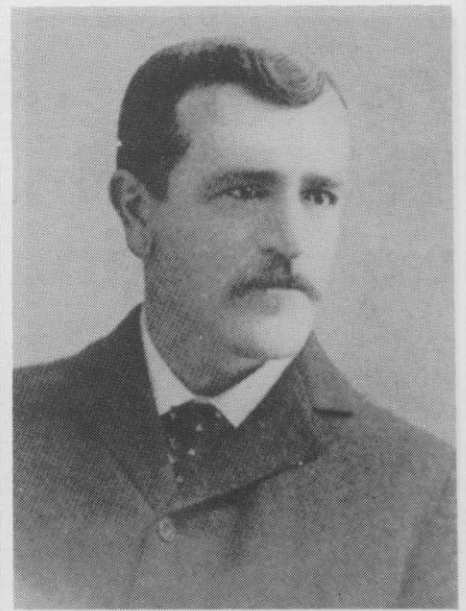
(You will note that there is no mention of 'raking the bunkers.' The concept of raking bunkers to make them easier to get out of is a 20th-century absurdity. It only makes sense in a society that sees nothing wrong in selling radar detectors to motorists to make it easier to get out of speed traps.)

Clearly, a golf club should have been forced, by written agreement, to employ fifteen men, each to his own task, clearly defined and demarcated, with not a scrap of overlapping, at the risk of a strike: golf teacher, match player, clubmaker (woods), clubmaker (irons), club repairer (woods), club repairer (irons), ball maker, ball repairer, grass cutter, hole cutter, divot reseed, sand-box filler, caddie master, union shop steward and tea maker.

None of these, you will note, is given the title 'professional.' But, in fact, they would all be professionals, in the sense that they could no longer be amateurs, since they would all be making a living out of the game - for a week until the club went bankrupt.

In large clubs, the division of duties into those of today's club professional and course superintendent seems to have been a gradual process. As early as the 1880s, some clubs used the rather grandiose title of 'Resident Professional and Custodian of the Green,' which was at least a recognition of his dual responsibilities. But like all early greenkeepers, this man was a player and teacher first, a clubmaker second and a keeper of the green third.

This order of priority was all wrong for clubs in new golfing countries. At a pinch, members could teach themselves, or be taught by club members from the



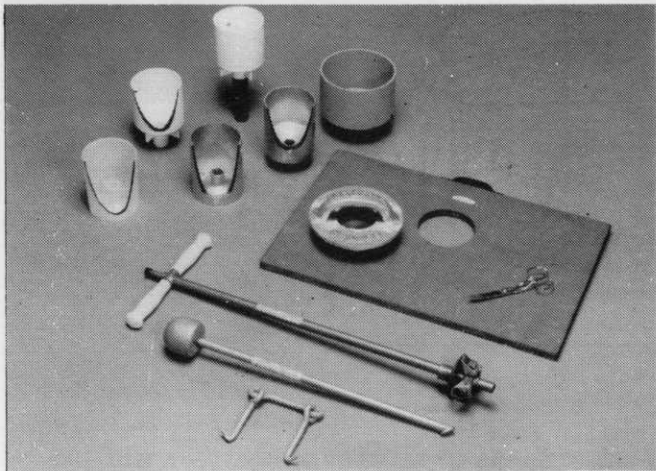
William F. Davis, North America's first greenkeeper.

Old Country. And there were plenty of gardeners to cut the grass.

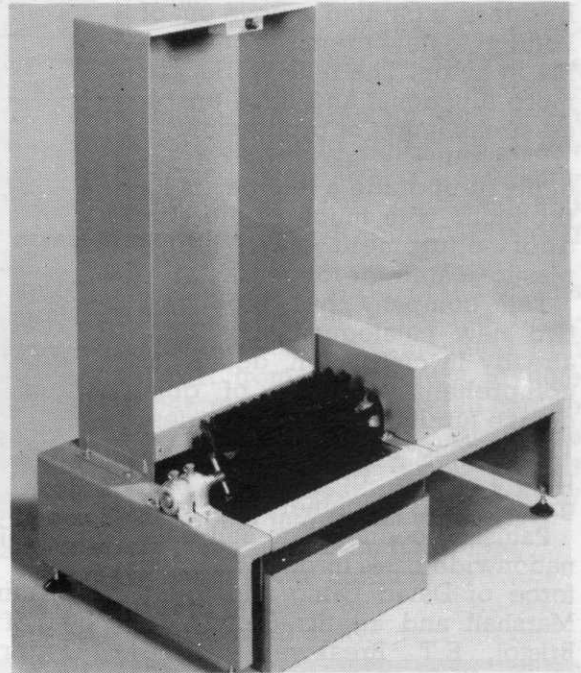
But making and repairing golf clubs by hand was a skilled business, requiring a four-year apprenticeship. In the days of hickory shafts and beechwood heads, a golfer needed a club repairer at hand, or several sets of spare clubs. It was probably for this reason that Royal Montreal did not fire Mr Davis after one season (as legend would have it), but kept him in Canada for twelve years, giving him an assistant to cut the grass. And when Davis left, he was replaced by a professional from St Andrews. Not by a 'professional' as we use the word today, but by a professional clubmaker, who also happened to be an excellent player of the game.

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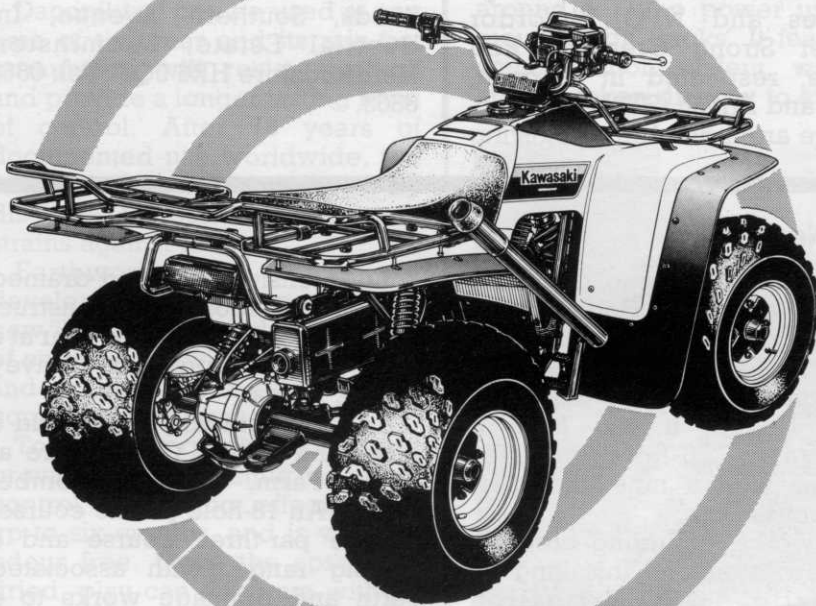


Pictured above: a selection of Pattisson accessories. Right: the Brush Master, for removing mud and grass from boots and golf shoes, at £395 (plus VAT).



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Pattisson Has A New Place

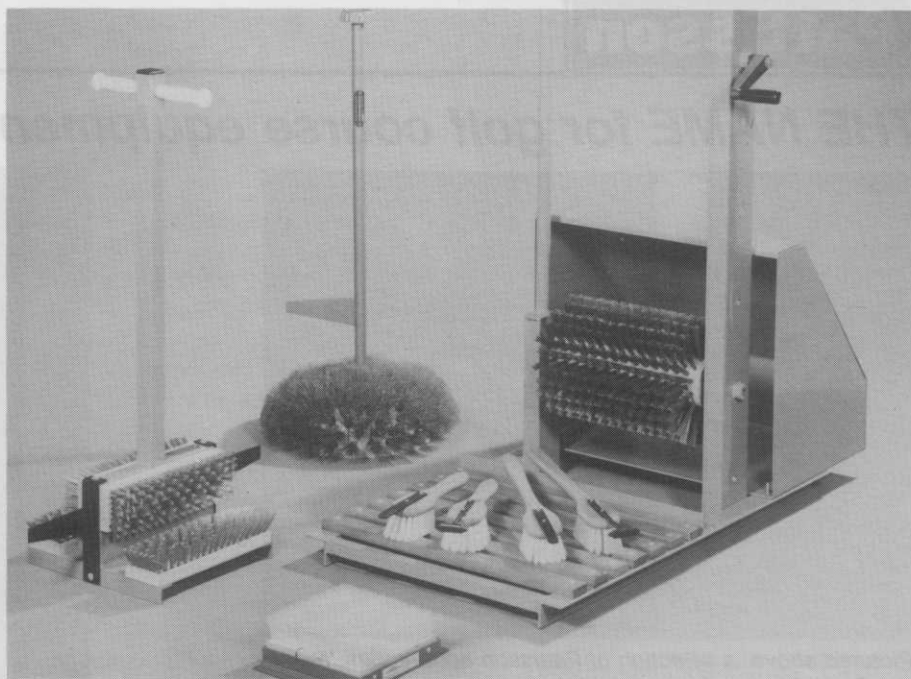
H. Pattisson & Co has completed a major reorganisation of its business, including a move out of London to new premises near the M1 in Luton. The new works are more functional and have enabled streamlining of production.

Pattisson has taken the opportunity to upgrade a number of its products, with much of the outdoor equipment now being plastic-coated for longer life.

The company has produced two new catalogues. The first, already in circulation, details its comprehensive range of golf-course furniture and accessories. The second illustrates the company's range of aeration and grass-cutting machinery.

Pattisson continues to sell on a nationwide basis through its sales force of David Craig and Peter Marshall and agents Browns of Bristol, E.T. Breakwell in the Midlands and, most recently, Richard Aitken in Scotland.

Peter Hampton, based in



Part of the impressive range of Pattisson products.

Wiltshire, has also sold a great deal of Pattisson machinery.

Peter Bell, Pattisson's sales manager, forecasts a bright future. "Although the move cost some production, the new

premises are much more functional, so orders will be despatched more promptly."

Pattisson & Co is now located at 342 Selbourne Road, Luton, Beds LU4 8NU. Tel: 0582 597262.

Howarth Heads Amenity Seed Specialists

Jeremy Howarth has been appointed amenity seeds manager for Inter Seeds, based in Leominster, Herefordshire, where he will develop a specialist amenity seeds division for the company, offering a wide range of grasses, wild flora and fertilisers for the professional market throughout the UK. He was formerly a consultant agronomist with the STRI and, more recently, technical advisor with British Seed Houses.

Inter Seeds is a wholesale seed trading company jointly owned by 11 of the UK's leading agricultural co-operatives, namely: Berks, Bucks and Oxon Farmers, Central Farmers, Eastern Counties Farmers, Farmers Seeds Federal, Farmway, Farmore, Midland Shires Farmers, Preston Farmers, Southern Counties Agricultural Trading Society (SCATS) and the West Midland Farmers Association.

Inter Seeds has secured the ma-

ajor D.S.V. Breeders agency in the UK, enabling the company to offer varieties such as Lisabelle and Lisura perennial ryegrasses, Lifalla and Lirouge Chewings Fescues and NFG Theodor Roemer Strong Creeping Red Fescue, respected in German, Dutch and British (STRI) trials.

There are a number of existing

new varieties in the pipeline, which will undergo evaluation before launch in this country.

Full technical literature on mixtures is available from Inter Seeds, Southern Avenue, Industrial Estate, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 0QF. Tel: 0568 6363.

More New Courses

Golf Landscapes is to construct the Gosfield Lake Golf Club, a 27-hole complex north of Braintree in Essex.

Designed in association with Henry Cotton, it will have a 6,640-yard, 18-hole course, together with a nine-hole, par-three course.

The works, including creating four new lakes and installing an automatic TORO irrigation system, commence this month and seeding is programmed for completion next summer.

The greens will be built to the company's PM green technique, which combines a free-draining sandy rootzone with an under-

lying intensively slit and drained topsoil formation. This construction was used earlier this year at a new public course on Canvey Island, Essex.

And the company is to build a new John Jacobs Golf Centre at Town Farm, High Wycombe, Bucks. An 18-hole public course, 18-hole par-three course and a driving range, with associated earth and drainage works to a clubhouse and car park, give a value of over £½ million.

Seeding is scheduled for next August and there will be a fully automatic watering system to the greens, tees and approaches.

Now Available From ICI...



ICI's Tornado - large and small.

ICI has relaunched Daconil on to the sports and amenity turf grass market. The fungicide contains chlorothalonil, a chemical with the widest spectrum of turf disease control recommendations cleared under the UK Pesticide Registration Scheme.

In addition to controlling all common turf diseases, such as Dollar Spot, Red Thread, Fusarium Patch/Snow Mould and Grey Snow Mould, recommendations are also available for Anthracnose, Take-All Patch, Melting-Out and Damping Off.

Daconil turf can be used at any time of the year and its rain-fast formulation will resist wash-off and provide a longer lasting level of control. After 15 years of documented use worldwide, the fungicide has defied attempts by diseases to build up resistant strains against it.

Earthworms, too, have not developed resistant species and new Tornado, a liquid formulation of carbaryl, provides an effective and economical answer to the control of casting worms.

Tornado is quick acting and provides long lasting residual control, remaining effective for up to six months, and is virtually odour free. Once the spray has dried, play can continue without restriction.

Daconil is available in a two litre plastic pack and Tornado in two and ten litre packs. Contact ICI Professional Products, Woolmead House East, Woolmead Walk, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7UB. Tel: 0252 723670.

New Green Aerator

Claimed to be over 50 per cent faster than leading competitive products, the new Toro Greens Aerator uses hollow tines to punch aerifying holes into greens, tees and collars. Soil cores pulled out by the tines are deposited directly back on to the ground or, by the use of an optional Windrower, moved to compact rows for subsequent pick-up. Toro says the machine can aerify up to 13,000 sq ft of turf per hour.

Powered by a Kohler 4-cycle, 16hp motor, the tricycle-design Toro Greens Aerator features electric start, two forward and one reverse speeds, a disc-type brake and welded steel construction. There's a hand-operated throttle, choke, brake and coring unit hydraulic lift lever.

The coring mechanism consists of four individual crankshafts that

drive four arms, each holding three coring tines. The crankshafts are mounted in precision ball bearings, with the entire coring unit powered by a banded V-belt.

Tines are made of case-hardened tubing - sizes available for specific golf course needs include $\frac{3}{8}$ in, $\frac{1}{2}$ in, $\frac{5}{8}$ in and a $\frac{1}{2}$ in carbide-tipped tine. The entire coring mechanism is also designed to be easily detached and placed on an optional coring head stand for servicing.

The coring width of the greens aerator is 27in, while the 12 individual tines are mounted $2\frac{1}{4}$ in apart from hole centre to hole centre. The coring depth can be set up to 3in and discharge chutes direct the resultant cores towards the rear of the unit, away from the interior mechanism.

New Trencher Unveiled

The new GL Sportsturf Trencher has been added to Golf Landscapes fleet of specialist machinery.

Designed and built exclusively for the company, the trencher, weighing 4 tonnes, is based around a 112hp power unit and mounted on tracks. It features a soil-collection system, whereby spoil is taken directly to awaiting

trailers for removal.

Digging width can be varied from 4in to 12in and to a maximum depth of 4ft. Laser control ensures even and correct grading and allows the company's turfgrass drainage team to instal piped and slit systems to grass areas, without damage to turf, efficiently and economically.



More power to Golf Landscapes...

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Farmura Liquid Organic Fertiliser has a record of success built up over 14 years. It is used by many leading venues, including Open Championship courses and the Belfry, Wembley Stadium, Royal Ascot and Smith's Lawn.

Farmura broke into land reclamation following use on different sportsturf sites. It got grass to grow on a green at St Augustine's golf course in Kent, built from rubble and where grass had refused to germinate, and Royal Belfast, where some tees are built on rock.

The Farmura N Service provides for the addition of extra major or minor nutrients. Where a specification or programme calls for a low input of major nutrients, these can be supplied ready mixed with Farmura to produce a semi-organic liquid fertiliser.

Available to specific requirements by quotation, typical additions have been 5-6-6 fertiliser and 6 units of nitrogen per acre (14.8 units per hectare).

Rates of application are usually between five to 15 gallons per acre (56 litres - 169 litres per hectare). Uses include low input management programmes and land reclamation.

Full details on the complete range from Farmura, Stone Hill, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Tel: 023376 241.



The Farmura logo.

The Kenneth Wilson Group has acquired the horticultural supplies business of Fyffes Monro Horticultural Sundries, the UK's second largest horticultural supplies organisation with depots at Aylesford, Cheltenham, Chichester, Ormskirk, Penzance and Spalding.

Gordon Hunter, general manager of Kenneth Wilson Horticulture, assumes overall responsibility for the newly enlarged horticultural division. He is joined on the board by Ian M. Munro, group managing director of the Kenneth Wilson Group.

Lots More From M&B

For the control of leatherjackets and frit fly, May & Baker has launched a new insecticide. Crossfire contains chlorpyrifos to control grass sward pests when applied in either autumn or spring.

Crossfire is supplied in one litre bottles, sufficient to treat almost a full acre.

May & Baker is also now offering Seritox Turf, a new broad spectrum selective weedkiller for amenity turf use.

An aqueous formulation, containing dichlorprop and MCPA, Seritox Turf provides control of a wide range of turf weeds, including buttercup, daisy, clover, dandelion, plantain, chickweed, thistle, sorrel and other common broad-leaved species. Weeds should be treated between April and September.

Seritox Turf's non-volatile formulation makes it environmentally acceptable. Applied at 7L/ha, Seritox Turf is supplied in five litre packs and 25 litre drums.

To ensure accuracy, economy and efficiency of spray operations - whether by powered or knapsack sprayers - Environmental Products has introduced Dyon, a non-toxic, water soluble dye for use with pesticides and fertilisers.

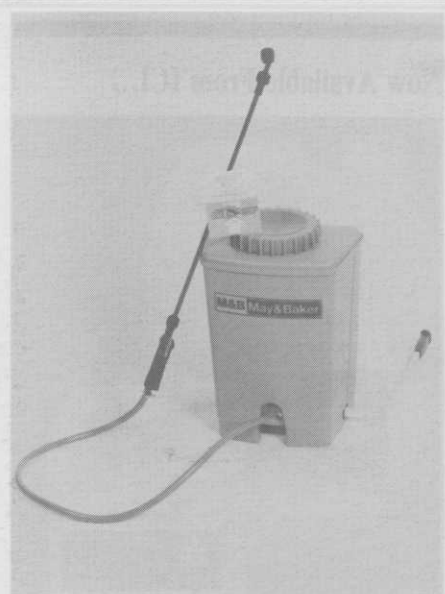
Added to the spray solution, Dyon provides a dark-green tint to vegetation, enabling the operator to see where he has sprayed without costly overlap or missed areas.

Ideal for spot treatment or hand spraying, Dyon's colour lasts overnight to enable operators to continue spraying where they left off. In fact, Dyon will show for up to three days, disappearing with rain, heavy dew, watering or exposure to sunlight.

Dyon shows up uneven spray patterns, leaks and blocked jets, while encouraging equipment to be kept clean before and after use. It can also be used to enhance the appearance of turf for special occasions.

Environmental Products has also introduced a range of spray nozzles in conjunction with Lurmark.

The Lurmark range has been colour coded to May & Baker's range of herbicides, fungicides, insecticides and growth regulators to enable users to easily recognise the correct spray jet



for a particular chemical application.

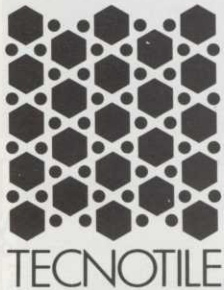
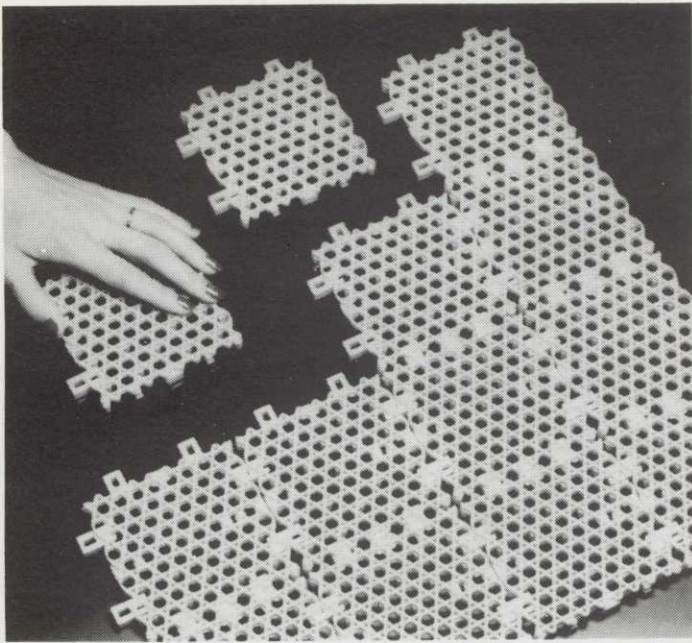
And a knapsack sprayer is being marketed by May & Baker in conjunction with Norwegian world supplier PTP.

Moulded from UV stabilised polypropylene, selected for its low weight and robust, chemical properties, the 16 litre PTP sprayer features a contoured back, shoulder pads and fully adjustable carrying straps for comfort. It costs £46.50 (plus VAT).

Finally, the Hortichem Granule Applicator incorporates a five litre hopper and applies its contents to a three or five metre spread - ideal for chemical spot treatments or applying seed, slug pellets or salt.

The Hortichem Granule Applicator has low-friction nylon gears with adjustable flow rate settings to apply up to 8kg of product and has a recommended retail price of £17.74.





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Application forms and job descriptions may be obtained from the Personnel and Management Services Officer, Town Hall, Sankey Street, Warrington (Tel: Warrington 35961 Ext. 32) to whom completed forms should be returned by 17th October 1986.

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Turf Irrigation Services, Sandbach. Tel: 04775-255

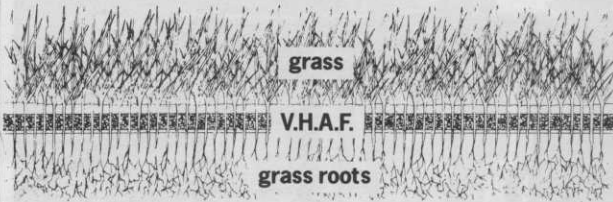
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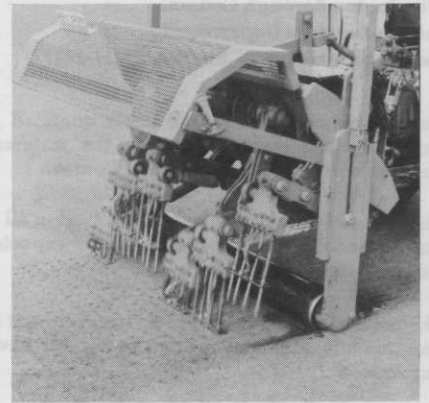
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