



Support The South Wales Seminar

As previously announced in *Greenkeeper* (August), the South Wales branch of EIGGA is to hold a two-day educational seminar at The Abbey Hotel, Great Malvern, Worcestershire on November 1-2.

The final programme of speakers and lectures in nearing completion. At present, it reads: Jim Arthur, who will talk on *The History Of Greenkeeping*, Billy McMillan (Sunningdale GC), *Course Preparation And Presentation For The 1986 European Open*, Michael Coffey (Greenkeeper), Laurence Pithie (Minchinhampton GC), *Managing A Cotswold Golf Course*, Nicholas Park, *The Golfer On Your Course - Is The Customer Always Right?*

Also presenting papers will be Bill Lawson (Heswall GC), Geoffrey Athill on *Man Management*, Derek Ganning (The Belfry), *Projecting A 36-Hole Golf Complex Into The Future*, Paul Pearse (Effingham GC), Bill McCrea (secretary of Walton Heath), *The Golf Course - Presentation For Maximum Effect And Enjoyment* and George Brown (Turnberry), *An Open Move*.

Such a first-class array of speakers ensures an extremely informative and interesting weekend.

The seminar has been staged in a central location close to the

motorway network in order to attract visitors from across the UK.

Secure your place now by filling in the form below and sending it, together with your deposit of £10, to: Raymond Hunt, South Wales Branch Administrator, 9 Esplanade Avenue, Porthcawl, Mid-Glamorgan. Cheques should be made payable to: 'EIGGA South Wales.'

The cost for EIGGA members is £57, non-members £62. Daily attendance costs £15 (EIGGA members) and £18 (non-members). Anyone interested in golf and golf course preparation will be made welcome and further information can be obtained from me on 0656 771335.

Raymond Hunt.

Sussex

Tandridge Golf Club, across the 'border' in Surrey, hosted our August fixture and an enjoyable time was had by all. Thanks go to John and staff for having the course in its usual excellent condition and the steward for the buffet.

The result was: 1st - A. Butrymowicz 36pts, 2nd - M. Gould 34pts, 3rd - P. Simpson 34pts.

Finally, on a personal note, I would like to thank all of you who attended the match for giving me the raffle money. I was really depressed at losing money on the course. As you will all probably know, when buying a house, every penny counts. Once again, thank you very much.

A. Butrymowicz.

Victory For West Malling

The inaugural Course Management Trophy was held at Hankley Common GC in August. Played in the Bowmaker format (best two Stableford scores from three) over 36 holes for a trophy presented by Hankley Common, teams consisted of a head greenkeeper, green chairman and secretary. The competition was sponsored by Chipman.

Brigadier D. Cottam, captain of Hankley Common, welcomed the participating clubs and announced that the open competition could be held at the club annually.

He thanked management committee member John Harris, whose idea the event was. John, together with secretary Danny Lee, was the main motivator in getting the event off the ground, he added.

Prizes were presented by John Collins, marketing manager of Chipman.

Course Management Trophy (164 points) - West Malling, represented by E. Thompson, H. Ellis and C. Mardon, who each received a silver-plated pitching-wedge donated by Chipman.

Second all day - West Hill (153 points), R. Meek, W. Leighton and B. Roe. Third all day - Blackmoor (152 points), R. Banfield, R. Spiller and J. Neweers.

1st am (80 points) - Reigate Heath, D. Lattey, T. Hobbs and D. Walden. 2nd am (74 points) - Langley Park, T. Taylor, P. Macfarlane and D. Gould. 1st pm (77 points) - Hankley Common, J. Harris, D. Lee and I. McMillan. 2nd pm (75 points) - Brookmans Park, J. Welch, J. O'Brien and D. Casson.

A tote, held in aid of the EIGGA Greenkeepers' Benevolent Fund, was won by Hankley Common, who then decided to donate the £56 to the fund.

H. Ellis, secretary of West Malling, thanked the host club for providing a well-kept and presented golf course (special thanks to Ian McMillan) and a most enjoyable day.

He wished the competition success in future years and hoped to be competing in 1987 - a sentiment that was fully endorsed *J. Harris.*

I wish to reserve a place at the South Wales seminar and enclose a deposit of £10 (cheques made payable to 'EIGGA South Wales').

NAME CLUB

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EIGGA MEMBER

DAILY ATTENDANCE

EIGGA NON-MEMBER

Post to: Raymond Hunt, 9 Esplanade Avenue, Porthcawl, Mid-Glamorgan CF36 3YS

South Wales

Our summer golf tournament and evening lecture was held at Royal Porthcawl GC. Simon Hopkins of the home club won the tournament.

The branch committee would like to thank Royal Porthcawl for making the club's facilities available. We would also like to thank Rigby Taylor, SISIS and Gregor Jaimeson for donating prizes.

In dreadful conditions, the golf course played very well and when the rain did ease in the afternoon, the back nine became a slightly more comfortable proposition. Congratulations go to the greens staff for presenting the course in such fine condition.

The evening lecture was a great success, with the club's common room playing host to nearly 30. Mark Black, a superintendent from Florida, gave an excellent and thoroughly entertaining talk.

The committee welcomes new member Graham Thomas of Haverfordwest GC to the branch and sends its commiserations to Bill Lawson and staff at Heswall on the Wirral. The club recently suffered an arson attack, which resulted in two-thirds of its machinery and maintenance sheds being lost.

Members are reminded that for any information regarding the branch, they should contact me on 0656 771335.

Raymond Hunt.

Surrey

Once again, I would like to thank Sunningdale for allowing us use of its course for the McMillan Tankard.

The course was in its usual superb condition, thanks to Jack McMillan and staff.

First prize went to G. McNiven on 36 points, ahead of P. Pearse, 35 points, and M. Connors, 34 points.

On behalf of the greenkeepers, secretaries and greens chairmen who took part in the first Course Management Trophy last month, I would like to thank Hankley Common GC and Chipman. The company was excellent and a good day was had by all - hopefully, it was the first of many.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the extraordinary general meeting on October 1, hopefully to be held at the New Zealand club at 7.30 pm.

Members will be informed of any change and if you cannot come to the meeting, please use your postal voting slip.

Remember, amalgamation can only strengthen greenkeeping for the future.

A. Bradshaw, Branch Chairman.

● **The North-West branch will be holding an EGM at Chester GC on Wednesday October 1 at 8pm to discuss the amalgamation of the three associations. All members are welcome.**
Guy Cannings.

East Anglia

Sorry about the distinct lack of news, lads - pressure of work and all that. Let's go briefly through what's been happening... A new vice-chairman was elected at the AGM and Dave Wells has been in action already due to Sterlie Goddard's ill health.

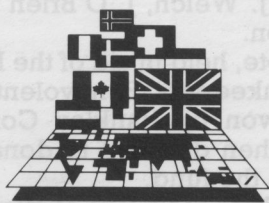
We even found time for a game of golf at Eaton (not too far to travel this time!), where the prizes went to: greenkeepers' 0-17 section - 1st P. Howard, who had 39 points and a gross score of 73. He won the Bentley Trophy playing off six handicap. In second place was Paul Bertenshaw (Royal Norwich) with 35 points.

The 18-28 section was headed by C. Barnard, whose 37 points gained him the Victa Cup, while second place went to Brian Lemmon (Barnham Broom) on 34 points. First guest was Ray Stockley (Royal Norwich). Mike Kenyon picked up the booby prize.

The prize presentation was in the hands of Mr L. Rowe, captain of Eaton GC, and we thank the club for their hospitality and courtesy of the course.

October 4 sees greenkeepers taking on club members at Heath Farm. A team of 12 is needed and anyone interested should ring Sam Sylvester on Aldeburgh 2215.

Mick Lathrope



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The Exhibition will again take place at The Royal Windsor Racecourse, Maidenhead Road, Windsor, Berkshire, from 16th-18th September 1986.

**Visit Greenkeeper/EIGGA
at Windsor, located first on
the left down Central
Avenue as you enter**



Double Tops For SIGGA At The Open Championship

The Open at Turnberry has come and gone and congratulations must go to George Brown and his staff for the fine condition of the Ailsa course.

SIGGA's involvement in the tournament was two-fold. First, a base for greenkeepers and friends to meet and relax away from the excitement of play was provided. Second, the association organised bunker rakers for all four days of the championship.

The SIGGA tent was again an unqualified success. It was where greenkeepers and friends, greens chairmen and club officials, members of the trade, agronomists and consultants and educational associates all made a bee-line for. There were visitors from overseas as well and fellow greenkeepers from the BGGGA and EIGGA.

An assistant greens superintendent from Atlanta in America thoroughly enjoyed her time talking to Scots greenkeepers until she was waylaid by an Irish trade

member - the blarney was something else...

The new system for bunker rakers, one raker for each match, was, after the expected teething troubles, a great success and a more popular method with rakers, players and officials than one man attending to a certain group of bunkers.

The weather, especially during Thursday and late on Saturday, was not ideal for spending five hours raking bunkers and great credit must be paid to those who stuck to the task so diligently, which was everybody.

Even greater credit goes to those fit and hardy souls who went round twice in one day! Well done, lads, you were a shining example to us all. Incidentally, this included three members of SIGGA who are greenkeepers in Sweden and we are delighted to have them in our ranks.

There were greenkeepers from as far afield as the north of Scotland to the north of England and they all considered it a very worthwhile job, which also gave them the opportunity of watching the world's top golfers as close as you can without actually playing alongside them.

I decided at the start of this report not to mention any names, but I feel I must single out (besides George Brown) Tom O'Brian, course manager at Royal Birkdale, who gave Mrs O'Brian a free rein in the exhibition tent so

he could rake bunkers. It was good to see that even a headman from an Open Championship venue was prepared to roll up his sleeves to help out.

The organising team, ever willing to learn from their mistakes, have already drawn up a list of ways to improve the system for the next time, including a base nearer to the 1st tee and the provision of something hot to eat or drink during inclement weather.

I cannot finish this report without mentioning the help we received from George Brown and his staff, who were so helpful even though they had more than enough to keep them busy. SIGGA said thanks to George on the Saturday evening by presenting him with a plaque recognising his endeavours.

Dear Sir

We at Downfield were most appreciative of the remarks on the condition of our golf course, which were made in the report of the SIGGA golf tournament (August's issue of *Greenkeeper*).

At that time, both Bill Milton, the head greenkeeper, and myself were aware that, due to a combination of the weather conditions throughout April, May and early June and our intensive efforts to eradicate annual meadow grass, the darned stuff had died out on us by the square yard, leaving a pretty thin looking sward and, in places, no sward at all.

Despite extensive overseeding and much toil and sweat by Bill and his staff, we were still far from satisfied with the state of the course when SIGGA held the tournament.

However, all the participants appeared to enjoy their day and the *après golf* was very convivial. It was interesting to listen to the shop being talked and the experiences being swapped and it was gratifying to realise the position of high esteem our head greenkeeper enjoys among his fellow professionals.

Yes, it was a great day among good company. Haste ye back to Downfield.

*L.S. Wright, Greens Convenor,
Downfield Golf Club.*

SIGGA Supports New Association

The attendance at an extraordinary meeting in Stirling recently to vote on proposals to unite the three greenkeepers' associations was fair considering the time of year.

SIGGA president Walter Woods was in the chair. After his introduction, Walter answered questions on the proposed new association and its constitution. It was gratifying to see that those present had come prepared to ask many varied questions, to which they wanted reassuring answers before voting on the proposals.

Questions covered aspects such as boundaries, subscriptions, employment, the magazine,

area funding, location of headquarters, powers and duties of the general administrator, backing from the R & A, the rights, if any, of trade members and what benefits greenkeepers will gain.

These and many other questions were dealt with convincingly by the chairman, aided by J. McKean, and when the chairman called for the vote to be taken, the first two proposals were passed unanimously and the third only had two dissenters.

So, SIGGA has decided that, conditionally on the acceptance of the same proposals by the BGGGA and EIGGA, it will become part of the new association.

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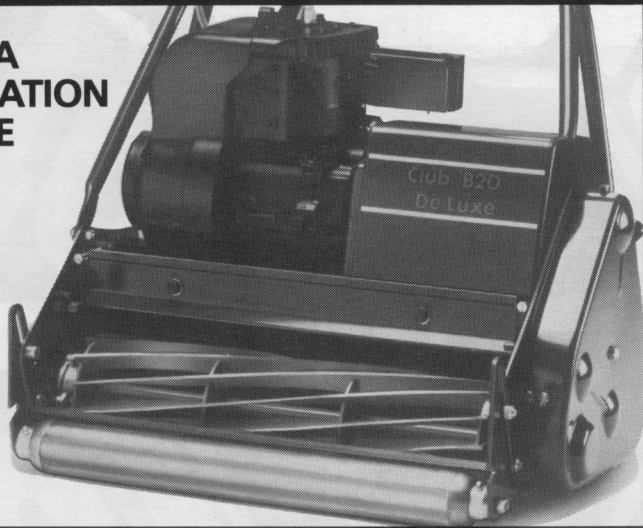
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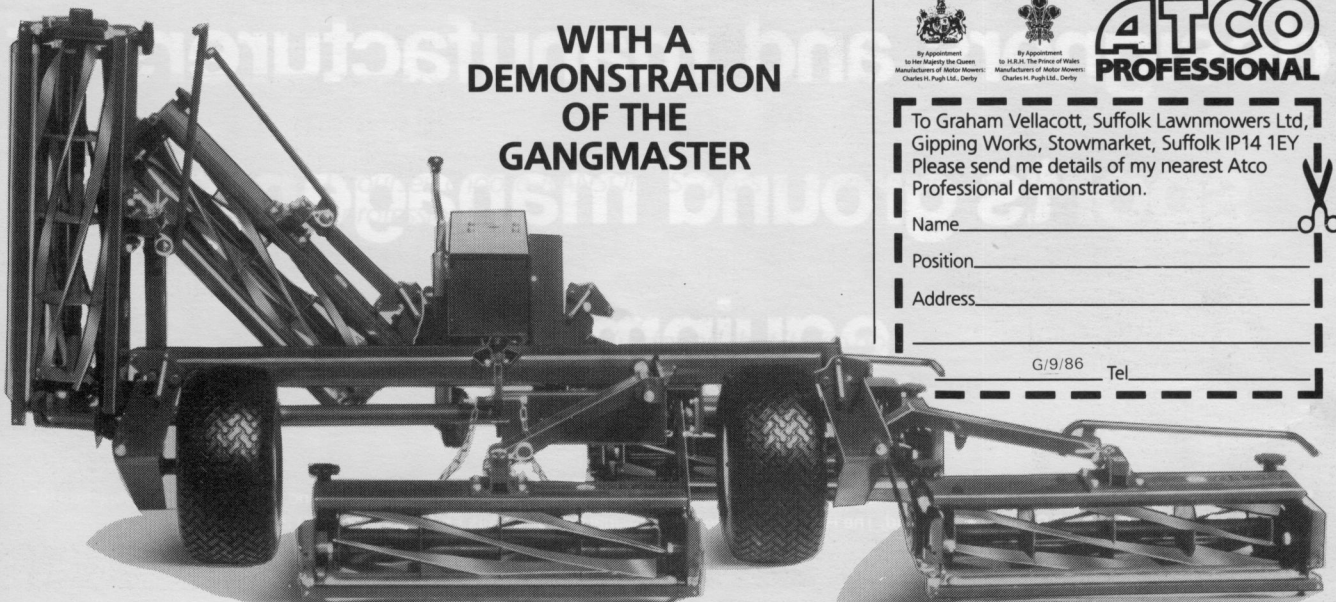
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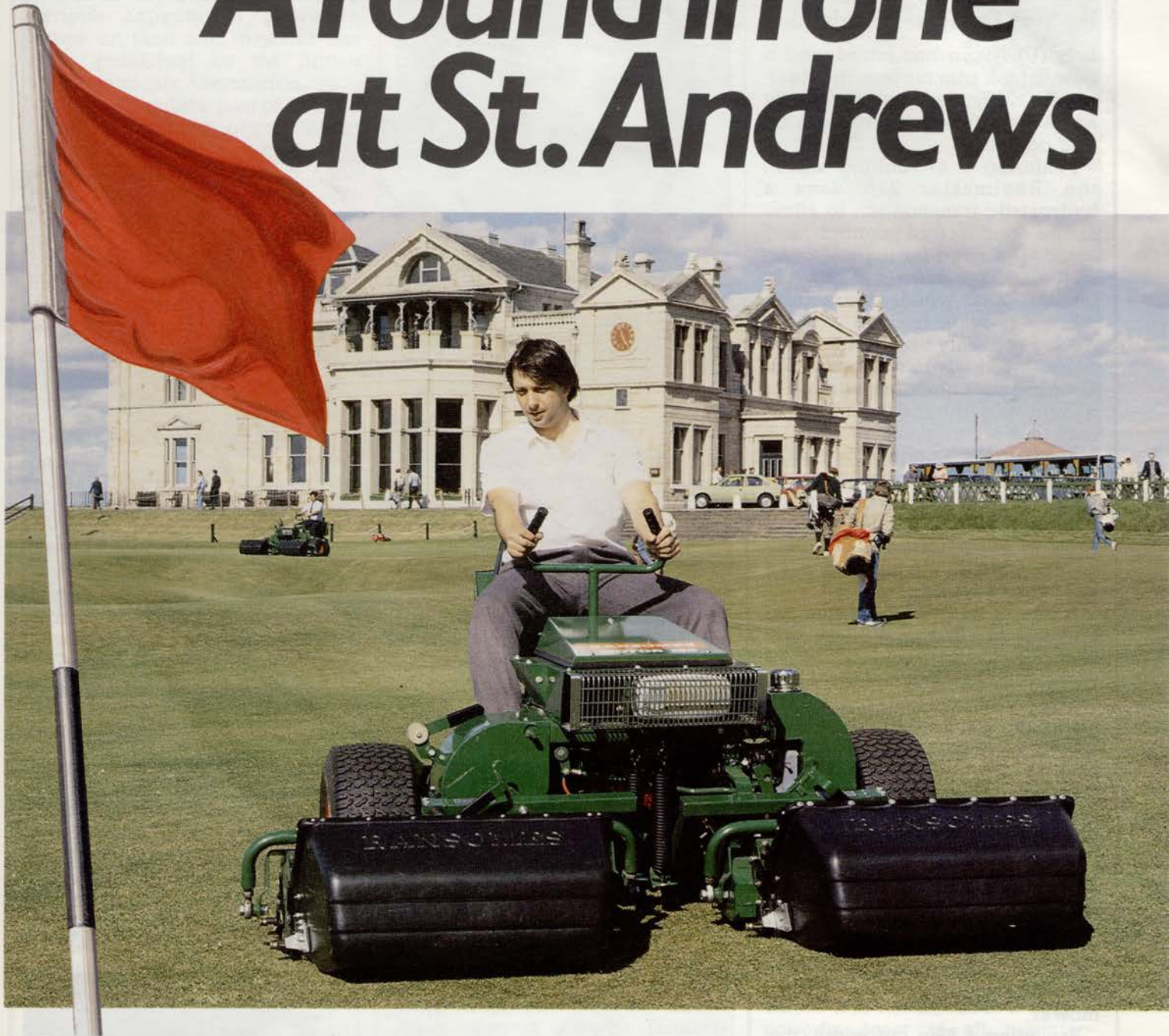
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Big News For Those Little Jobs!

Lely (UK) Toro has introduced a new triplex trim mower, the Reelmaster 216, designed primarily for mowing smaller turf areas on golf courses.

Featuring a 6ft cutting width, the Reelmaster 216 uses a hydrostatic transmission to allow single pedal foot control and avoids the need for manual gear-shifting. The mower's tricycle design - rear wheel steers, front wheels provide traction - offers manoeuvrability in tight situations, while Toro's 'sector-rod' steering mechanism gives a design and durability similar to rack and pinion steering.

To assure continuous cutting, a stabilised rod provides constant pressure on the v-belt driving the cutting reels. Each of the three reels is supported by independent suspension to allow an even cut over all types of ground.

A single knob mechanism, exclusive to Toro, adjusts the bedknife-to-reel, aided by a quick-release system of the v-belt tension. Height of cut can be adjusted in $\frac{1}{4}$ in increments with a quick-pin mechanism allowing a return to the original height-of-cut settings.

A hydraulic lift, accessible from the operator's seat, raises and lowers the entire cutting unit and a 16hp air-cooled Kohler engine provides a cutting speed of 5mph and a transport speed of 7.5mph.

Toro has also announced an 11-blade optional cutting unit for the Greensmaster 300 greens mower.

Providing a 59in cut width, the cutting unit's 5in diameter reel features 11 hardened carbon steel blades welded to five spiders. Height of cut can be adjusted as low as $\frac{3}{32}$ in. An optional quick height-of-cut kit allows for convenient height-of-cut changes in .100 increments.

The Toro 11-blade cutting unit comes equipped with $\frac{1}{8}$ in bedknife and an optional tournament bedknife for cuts down to $\frac{3}{32}$ in. A centrally located single-hand knob control adjusts reel to bedknife in .001 in increments.

Toro's five-blade cutting unit option is in full production and the eight-blade cutting unit will continue to be available.



The new Reelmaster 216 from Lely (UK).

Management Buy-Out

Trevor Martin, general manager of Vitax, with the support of Mike Lawton, technical/production manager, and Trevor Holmes, sales manager, has bought-out Steetley Minerals.

The move has been supported by investment from the main distributors of the three fertiliser

ranges, designed for commercial growers, the retail trade and the sports and amenity industry. Suppliers and Vitax advertising agents have also backed the new venture.

Further information can be obtained from Trevor Martin on 0704 893311.



Now heading Vitax, Mike Lawton, Trevor Martin and Trevor Holmes.

Pesticides In Perspective

A series of leaflets discussing various aspects of pesticide usage on land and in water has been published by the British Agrochemicals Association.

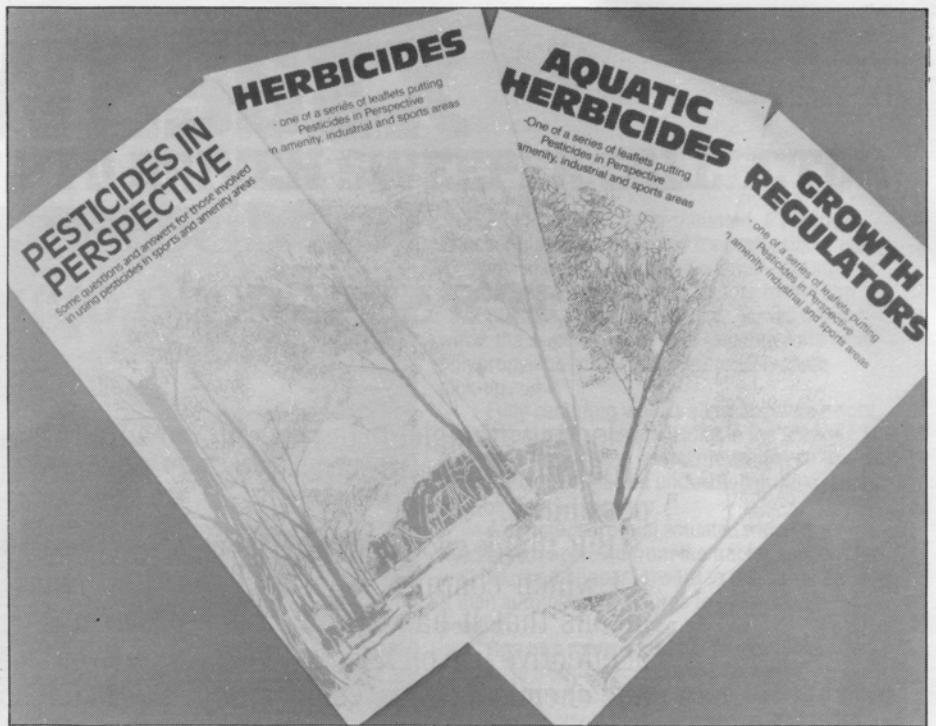
The four leaflets, part of a series aimed at 'putting pesticides in perspective' in amenity, industrial and sports areas, form the basis of a continuing information programme for professional users.

Tearlach MacLean, director of the BAA, said: "This series is designed to inform those whose work involves them in the use of pesticides in amenity, industrial and sports areas."

The leaflets will be available as a series for the first time at the IOG's Windsor exhibition this month.

Pesticides In Perspective answers commonly asked questions on the use of pesticides. *Herbicides* differentiates between selective and non-selective herbicides and describes the types of product available and how and why they are used.

Growth Regulators describes how chemicals can be used to manage and modify the growth of plants in areas such as roadside



The new series of leaflets from the BAA. verges, industrial sites and forestry.

Aquatic Herbicides emphasises the need for prudent management of water, whether for commercial or amenity purposes. The leaflet points out that aquatic weeds can interfere with drainage and irrigation or cause water to become stagnant and, therefore, a possible health hazard, make fish husbandry more difficult and cause damage by blocking pumps and filter equipment.

Both leaflets list the types of product approved by the government's Pesticides Safety Precautions Scheme, their uses and how and when they should be applied.

More detailed information is available in the BAA's *Directory Of Amenity Chemicals*, priced £1.50 and also available from the same address as the leaflets: British Agrochemicals Association, 4 Lincoln Court, Lincoln Road, Peterborough PE1 2RP.

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Dear Sir

May I correct an impression that Dr Hayes and Mr Arthur reflect in their article in the July issue? They suggest that the fertiliser trade is trying to sell more fertilisers to golf courses because of the recession in agriculture.

The higher profile adopted by my association in recent months has been simply and solely to help stimulate informed discussion and debate on the complex issues of whether, when, where and how much fertiliser should be used.

Too often we have seen sweeping statements criticising the use of fertiliser. The situation is not black and white and I am among the first to recognise that every green, every site, in fact, poses a different set of conditions.

The fertiliser industry is not in the business of selling fertiliser where it is not needed. It serves nobody, least of all manufacturers' reputations, to adopt this policy, whether it be fertilisers for golf courses or washing-up liquid for housewives.

My association's objectives are to encourage the sensible use of fertiliser in situations where it will be a benefit. This can best be achieved by encouraging discussion on the subject, involving technical and advisory specialists from all sides, including the manufacturers.

*J. Mottram, Director General,
The Fertiliser Manufacturers
Association, London EC1.*

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