

■ Sleaford-based Sharpes International has just published a new amenity grass seed brochure which provides full details on the company's range of Designer Mixtures. This new 28 page brochure, which now has colour illustrations, features several new mixtures. These include GREEN BAIZE, for bowling greens, croquet lawns and golf greens and TURFMASTER, which offers very fast establishment and an extremely good appearance. The brochure also provides detailed information on a comprehensive range of grass & wild flower mixtures – along with useful hints on how to establish and manage them. Free copies from Sharpes International, Sleaford, Lincs. NG34 7HA. Tel: (0529) 304511.

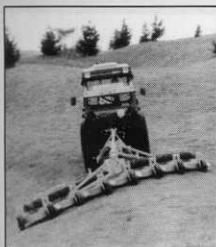


■ **Logic ATV Equipment have just introduced a new cab for ATVs. The Weather-Stop MkII has significant improvements on the original version, claiming excellent visibility with hinged side doors that are frame supported. Towed equipment controls can be reached by rolling the rear panel up. It will fit most ATVs including those with rear cargo beds. Details: 0434 606661**



■ Spanish manufacturer, Ausa, has introduced MULTITRANS DV17, a 1500kg payload utility vehicle. Powered by a water cooled 21.7hp Isuzu diesel, DV17 features 4 forward and 4 reverse gears and has a top speed of 16mph. Power to weight ratio is impressive and there is plenty of power in reserve for towing trailers.

Standard equipment includes electric starting, lighting apparatus and indicators and rough terrain driving wheels are available. Body options include: standard tipping, hook type demountable skip plus a powered access platform with a platform height of 10m and sufficient payload to safely carry two men and their tools. Details: 0706 49691.



■ The Articator, which was launched by Hayter Beaver in 1991, has won the prestigious Australian New Product of the Year Award, sponsored by 'Power Equipment Australasia'. It was when the publication's editor, Steve Symons, visited Hayter Beaver at IOG that he first spotted the Articator – a unique concept

in rotary mowing. The magazine's reasons for selecting this winner were 'its rugged and simple design with the idea of solving the problem of cutting undulations without scalping the turf.' Mark Phillips, Beaver's export sales director visited Australia in February to receive the award and coincidentally, whilst out there, Mark also presented Kubota Tractors (Australia) with Beaver's Award for Best Asia-Pacific Distributor 1991. This title was achieved in spite of stiff competition from Japan, where the company's grass cutting machinery is selling well. Details: 0279 723444



■ The Amazone Groundkeeper tractor-mounted grass cutter/scarifier from Amazone Groundcare now has a spring-loaded top link assembly designed to allow the machine to follow ground contours. It avoids the problem with fixed linkages of the

machine rising out of work when the tractor traverses an undulation. The new top link consists of a coil spring inside a telescoping tube. Tension can be adjusted by re-positioning a stabiliser chain, and this can also be adjusted to suit the machine to different makes and models of tractor. It is standard equipment on all Amazone Groundkeeper semi-mounted models and optional for Hi-Tip and standard machines.

Details: 0579 51155.

■ **The addition to Multi-Core's range of aeration equipment – the TM1500 – is announced. Like its smaller brother, the TM1000, it features a robust, all welded steel frame and is fully sealed throughout and requires no greasing. The 1.5 metre working width makes the TM1500 ideal for tees, fairways and greens. It fits any tractor 22hp and above and various tine sizes are available. Details: 0772 451959.**

■ Dorset-based Central Spares have set up a new division to supply replacement parts to professional users of grass-cutting machinery. Central are better known in the industry for the lead they have developed supplying replacement parts to the domestic trade for the last 20 years. They source from suppliers throughout the world. Newly-appointed division head Pat Lowry said the company have been supplying a small number of professional users for just over 10 years, primarily with items like air filters, brushcutter blades and line. "We have scored with our huge stock of parts ready to ship out – about £1/2 million worth." he said. Central's products include items currently supplied by the original equipment manufacturers. Details and catalogue: 0905 831873.



■ Ransomes have won an order to supply 104 electric Cushman vehicles to Euro Disney, to be delivered in time for the April 12th opening. Custom-built bodies are fitted with sliding doors to facilitate total access. There are over 500 Cushman vehicles in service with Disney in the USA.

■ Rhone-Poulenc have introduced Regulox K to their range. Based on Maleic Hydrazide, Regulox K has an established reputation for long term grass suppression and, being a foliar acting product, its performance is not greatly affected by drought conditions. Evaluated at the famous Bibury plots, it was demonstrated to increase species diversity on road side verges, with coarser grasses suppressed and the finer leaved, shorter grasses encouraged, producing a denser sward. Unwanted grass growth can be retarded on grass areas. Regulox K should be used in conjunction with a selective herbicide to control any broad leaved weeds present. Details: call the Rhone-Poulenc helpline on 0277 261414.

■ Fisons Horticulture has taken over the UK sales and marketing of the brand-leading Turfex turf wetting and penetrating agent from Service Chemicals. This announcement coincides with the launch by Fisons of an improved version of the product at BTME.

New Improved Turfex effectively alleviates the twin dry summer problems of dry patch and compaction. Both dry patch and compaction weaken a sward by restricting water penetration to the roots, causing poor growth, susceptibility to wear and disease and poor playability. Increasing the rate of water penetration leads to a deeper, healthier root development for a more resilient, healthier sward. Simultaneously, the product when applied reduces the volume of irrigation water required in times of drought and yet facilitates rapid draining of surface water. New Improved Turfex has been trialled at Fisons Levington Research Station – building on the development work carried out at the STRI, Bingley. The result is a product which offers greenkeepers the most rapid performance available, with no risk of foaming or phytotoxicity problems.

■ Specialist grass seed mixtures for golf courses are featured in a new 12 strong Olympic range introduced for the leisure industry by Hunters of Chester. A leaflet is available: 0829 760644.