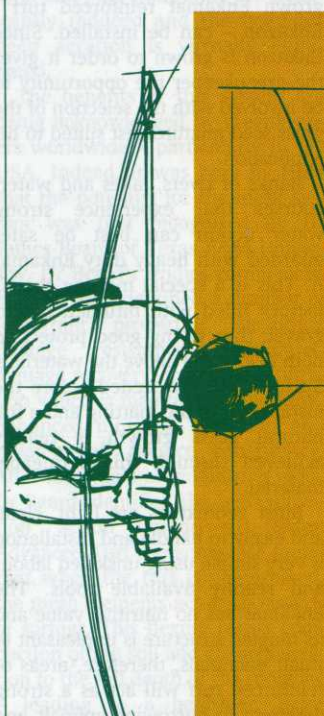


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TRADE TOPICS

■ A specialist advisory service has been launched by Nomix-Chipman, designed for those carrying out amenity weed control programmes. Known as the Nomix Environmental Weed Control Advisory Service (NEWCAS), it has been set up in the light of growing uncertainty over the future use of residual herbicides.

Established to help local authorities and businesses balance the competing pressures of environmental protection, budgetary limitation and operator safety in practical and effective programmes, it comprises a telephone hotline and regular updates on legislative, herbicide and application developments. NEWCAS also offers tailor-made weed control programmes and NPTC training courses.

Particular advice on the replacement of triazine mixtures as the preferred choice for controlling weeds on hard surfaces is currently available, with several alternative options being recommended. Tel 0272 574574.

■ British Seed Houses Ltd have produced a new catalogue covering amenity grass seed mixtures, fertilisers and wild flora conservation mixtures. The BSH Wild Flora Brochure carries full details on seed bed preparation, sowing and management. For the golf course, the company offers a 'Cornfield' mixture suitable for sowing on golf roughs and containing low growing species which will enhance the appearance of the rough, the ideal place for encouraging wild flora and fauna. For catalogues 'phone 0925 54411.

■ The Amenity Grass Marketing Association (AGMA) has produced an expanded edition of its Grass Variety Merit Rating List for 1992. The recommendations are based on the suitability of different cultivars to specific end users, with the varieties grouped under typical application headings. The information will be updated annually and the performance data will include reliable trial information from both the UK and relevant continental sources where similar climate and usages apply. AGMA say this will not only broaden the range of information on cultivar performances but also introduce a measure of stability in assessments. Free copies from AGMA, PO Box 14, Boston, Lincs PE21 7QL.

■ Rhone-Poulenc have just updated their product manual. Details on their complete range of controlled droplet application products (no dilution with water prior to use) are included for the first time.

Equipment, such as the Lancelot spray has been included along with Datachem, a computer programme containing all the information on calibration, legal aspects, record keeping, product usage, disease identification etc.

The product manual is available from Rhone-Poulenc distributors or contact their helpline: 0277 301114.



■ Jacobsen is introducing its new LF-mower, (above) combining high productivity with a superior cut, all in a lightweight design. The LF-3810 delivers a wide 115 inch cut. Its 10-blade, seven inch diameter reels follow undulations precisely to as low as 3/8", even at mowing speeds up to 7.5 mph. The mower's exclusive SynchroLift™ cross-cutting feature quickly raises all five reels with one pull of the reel control levers, for easier, faster cross-cutting of fairways. A 38 hp diesel engine powers the LF-3810. The engine is isolation mounted between the front drive wheels. The frame and engine configuration allows easy access to the center reel. The LF-3810's combination of horsepower, high torque reel motors and large reels cuts the heaviest growth easily, with more than enough power for scalping or verticutting operations.

The LF-3810's entire operator's platform lifts for access to engine and components. Power steering, tilt steering wheel, adjustable suspension seat, drink holder and storage compartment keep the operator comfortable. Full instrumentation keeps the operator informed on vital engine and mower functions. The LF-3810 comes with GreenSentry™ Oil System Monitor as standard equipment. This protects turf by alerting the operator to the loss of hydraulic oil.