

## TRADE TOPICS



■ Kubota (UK) Ltd, specialist suppliers of compact tractors and ride-on mowers, has launched a stylish new collection of corporate clothing for their UK dealership network. The new range, which includes ski jacket, car coat, sweatshirt, polo shirt and coveralls has been designed for wear during demo's, at shows, in the workshop or in dealer premises as well as for leisure time. The collection colours are an eye-catching combination of navy, white and Kubota blue with piping and stripes in matching colours.

■ The Inturf Group have announced that their southern turf nursery (Inturf South Ltd.) located at Mildenhall, Suffolk is to close within a few months. In the meantime, the company will be looking for possible new sites throughout the south and east of the country.

Problems with soil type, location and organisational difficulties have led to this decision after three years of operations as one of the group's regional production units. Mr C Hayselden, the director responsible for running the nursery, has resigned and has set up his own business in the locality.

Plans to run the unit down were made a year ago and to compensate for any shortfall in production, two other Inturf nurseries at York and Grantham have had large increases in acreage to ensure continuity of supply. Details: 0759 304101.

■ Maxwell Hart Ltd is launching the US product, PERK Soil Treatment, in 1992, a non-toxic liquid chemical designed to reduce soil compaction and improve soil drainage and aeration. When applied, PERK goes to work deep into the soil, breaking down the strong bonding processes that are found when clay is present or when the ground is subject to heavy traffic. PERK loosens the soil and improves the soil's ability to percolate water, resulting in more uniform root growth and improved nutrient uptake to the plant. Details: 0734 785655.

■ AF Trenchers Ltd, have a new address: Edgworth Road, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6TG. Tel: 0787 311811, Fax: 0787 310888. To date, AFT have manufactured and sold over 2,000 trenchers in their 25 years experience and now look forward to producing the next 2,000 at their new location. Details: 0787 311811.

■ Boral Lytag have recently developed Lytag sand, the dry density of which is around 780kg per square metre compared to 1,300-1,400kg per square metre for normal weight sand. The grading is almost single sized with 90% falling within the sieves 1.25mm and 2.36mm. The most common use for Lytag would be in narrow drainage trenches (up to 20mm) where its free flowing characteristics allow for easy installation. The small particle size means that the trench could be filled to the top, with overspill unlikely to damage gang mowers. It is available in bags or bulk. Details: 0889 58446.

# SEWARD

## TURF MAINTENANCE

CONTACT THE PROFESSIONALS  
No. 1 in the NORTH

- 1 x 2.5m Sportsground/Fairway Verti Drain  
c/w 80hp Tractor
- 2 x 1.5m Golf Green/Bowling Green Verti Drain  
c/w 30hp Tractor
- 1 x Coremaster Hollow Tiner/Quadra Tine  
Solid Tine c/w 19hp Tractor
- 1 x 2m Fairway Overseeder c/w Tractor
- 1 x Ryan Turf Cutter
- 1 x Bulk Sand Dresser
- 1 x Ryan Mataway (H.D. Scarifier)
- 1 x Ryan Reno-Thin Scarifier

## Seward Turf Maintenance Ltd.

SUTTON ROAD, WIGGINTON, YORK YO3 8RA

Tel: (0904) 761221; Fax: (0904) 760016

Evenings: (0904) 765949

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# NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The Royal Agricultural College,  
Cirencester, 27-29 March 1992

For the fourth consecutive year, BIGGA's National Education Conference this spring will feature a programme of international speakers. The event is to be sponsored, once again, by **Lindum Turf** and Associates. Some of the speakers and their topics are:

**Tom Cook:** Maintaining Pure Bentgrass Greens - Is It Possible in Cool Temperate Climates?

**Neil Baldwin:** Green Pest and Disease Control.

**Derek Green:** Dry Patch.

**Tor Senstadt:** Greenkeeping in Norway.

**Patrick O'Brien:** Bentgrass Management in the South Eastern USA.

**Jon Allbutt:** Using Chemicals on the Golf Course and Complying with the Law.

**William R Roberts:** The Development of Education Programmes for the Greenkeeping Profession.

**Carol Borthwick:** Where do we go from Here?

**Laurence Pithie:** Golf Course Development - a Greenkeeper's Viewpoint.

**Barry Cooper:** Golf Course Drainage - Before and After Construction.

**Jonathan Gaunt:** Project Management - how does it compare to normal Golf Course Construction Contracts?

**Jim Arthur:** Sound Traditional Greenkeeping Practices versus Gimmicks

**Gordon Jaaback:** Limitations in Rootzone Design.

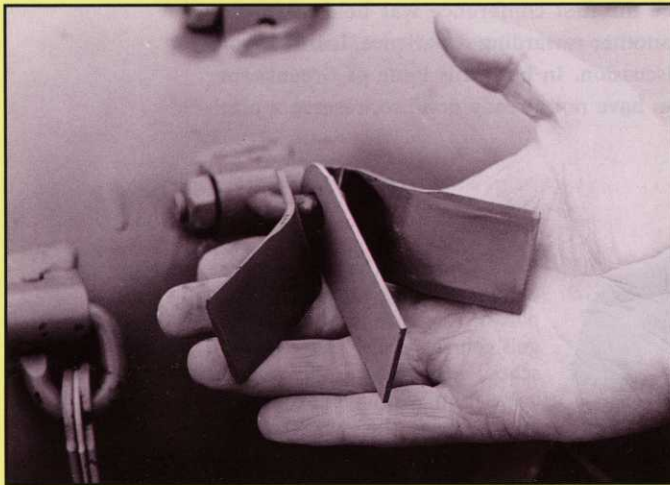
**Bernard Findlay:** Can you Build a Seaside Links or is that Nature's Job?

For a copy of the Conference Programme, call BIGGA HQ on 03473 581/2 or fax 03473 8864



■ In recessionary times it is no mean feat to boast business expansion and profitability, but PAR 4 Irrigation Ltd, owned by Eddie and Linda Simms, can do just that. The past two years have seen an increase in turnover of 185% and continued confidence in the business will see PAR 4 extend their present premises, at Ripon, in March. At present PAR 4 are handling over 140 annual service contracts and it is rare that any new customer fails to take advantage of this offer post-warranty. It is Eddie's opinion that whilst contracts may slow down, his service department can continue to expand.

Contractually, PAR 4 are just completing large projects with SC3000 control at Hillesborough GC and Middlesborough Municipal GC, and, perhaps most important for the Association, PAR 4 are also responsible for the installation at BIGGA HQ at Aldwark Manor of a fully automatic system with SC3000, which will be ready by spring. Details: 0765 602175.



■ Amazone Groundcare has developed a new narrow profile scarifing blade (pictured above) for its Groundkeeper range of flail type grass cutting and collection equipment. The blades are 2mm wide, instead of the standard width of 3mm. The narrower profile has been found to achieve a better cutting action in trials, with increased trash clearance and minimal damage to existing sward. Priced at £1.35 each, the blades are reversible and have the same 'quick attach-no tools' design as the wider scarifing blades and standard Amazone mowing flails. Details: 0579 51155.

■ Agriland, the manufacturer of established foliar feeds Agrimaster and Agricrop, is launching three new liquid fertilisers for the '92 market. The first has a ratio of 20-0-0, the nitrogen being present in a fast-acting form and designed for use on all types of soil and sand based constructions where adequate reserves of phosphate and potash are present, and will give good colour without forcing excessive top growth.

The second product has an NPK ratio of 15-0-10, an ideal N to K ratio for most turf situations where an adequate supply of potash is available in the soil.

Finally, the third is a balanced formulation for use on sand or light sandy soil constructions, where high water infiltration rates can cause leaching. The product contains NPK in the ideal ratio of 10-2.5-7.5, plus calcium 3% and boron 0.1%.

Dr Paul Wilson, Agriland's Associate Research Director, told Greenkeeper International, "The calcium and boron work together to build stronger cell walls in the grass plant and thus enhance resistance to fungal diseases. Many acidic soils may be deficient in calcium and this product supplies the necessary corrective without raising the soil pH". Details: 0202 532291.

■ Gordon Bennington, long time General Manager, Wright Rain Rainbird Division, has left the company after 22 years and has formed his own irrigation company, GB Irrigation Ltd. With such wide experience there is little doubt that Gordon and G.B.Irrigation Ltd. will enjoy a high profile. Details: 0425 473329 (Ringwood) or 0909 473999 (Worksop).

# The importance of looking the

**B**elieve it or not, the 1st of January 1992 marked five years from the inception of the Association and, perhaps unknown to many members, activated an important segment of the Association's Constitution. Paragraph 17 reads that 'After five years from the inception of the Association, each full member shall be required, when attending a formal national occasion, to dress in tie and jacket of the Association and to follow the guidelines on shoes, slacks and shirt'.

Recently within the Board of Management, concern has been expressed in relation to the substantial number of members who appear at BIGGA events and cannot as such be recognised as members – no tie, no jacket, no sweater, no shirt – not even a lapel badge identifying with BIGGA. Within the context of the constitutional obligations placed on members since 1st January, discussion ensued on how best to ensure that members now meet their obligations.

New greenkeeper members on enrolling receive an Association tie as part of their membership package and this is clearly a step in the right direction. There is increasing evidence of regions and sections awarding prizes in the form of BIGGA merchandise at golf events and this is to be welcomed. One way or another, after five years there seems little excuse for any member not being in possession of a BIGGA tie and wearing it on all appropriate occasions. Not only does it look smart but it projects a professional image and demonstrates the individual member's pride in belonging to the Association. Whilst the Board of Management has high expectations in respect of members wearing the Association tie, there is an appreciation that the jacket can represent a substantial financial commitment for many members. That having been said, a good number of members do now own a jacket and many favourable comments are forthcoming when our members are seen in jackets and ties on formal occasions – they have contributed much to enhancing the greenkeeper's image and to his achieving professional recognition. Given the cost, the Board of Management will take a flexible view generally on the wearing of the jacket whilst at all times encouraging members to invest in one. A BIGGA badge added to an existing blazer remains a cheaper and practical option. Regions and sections are being actively encouraged to support the purchase of jackets – utilising region/section funds and implementing an instalment repayment system. If you are interested in possible purchase through this means, contact your section secretary.

It must be said that from now on there will be occasions when the wearing of a jacket and tie will be compulsory, particularly when representing the Association nationally – the annual Kubota Golf Challenge comes to mind as a good example. In any team event, like the recent Ransomes International Tournament, again there would be an

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