



wheel damage as well as significantly improving the 'shatter' effect. The Shattermaster was first seen in UK at IoG last year. Again such operations are soil condition dependent - dragging them through the soil when it is plastic is most likely to produce a mole channel with smeared sides. How-

ever in very wet conditions it may be valid to operate many of these machines to produce drainage channels, vertical or horizontal, just to get the water away and allow the rootzone soil to dry out so that a compaction relief operation can be carried out.

HUGH TILLEY

The Ransomes TM80 Aerifier. On Page 21: the Sisis Powadrill

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM BIGGA EDUCATION OFFICER

Certificate of Competence - PA1-2A. Application of Pesticides

I have received many verbal complaints from members regarding problems associated with the above examination techniques and procedures. If any member has experienced any problems I would appreciate a letter outlining just where this operation can be improved.

The National Proficiency Test Council has acknowledged my concern and before they can investigate individual complaints, documented evidence would be required. With this in mind, whatever your problem please write to me at BIGGA headquarters. The major complaints received are as follows:

- Examiners having scant knowledge regarding fine turfcare.
- Equipment and machinery used in testing which is not familiar to course managers/greenkeepers.
- Chemical labels used in testing are not those which course managers/greenkeepers use in turfcare.

For those who have not yet attempted the examination please either contact your nearest college or book for the next BIGGA course scheduled for 5th-9th October inclusive, which will be held at Aldwark Manor. Jon Allbutt will again undertake training and the North Yorkshire Testing Council will carry out examinations.

DAVID GOLDING

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