

GREENKEEPERS LIBRARY

DAVID WHITE

examines some of the latest offerings from publishers who have the greenkeeper in mind

For those who use pesticides (and who doesn't?), there is the most bewildering range of products available to control pests, weeds and diseases or the regulation of plant growth. The aim of **The UK Pesticides Guide** is to guide the user in the selection of pesticides, by providing details of all the products marketed and their approved uses, both those recommended on the labels and those which have been officially approved but are not recommended on labels and for which the suppliers will not accept responsibility (off-label approvals). The book is revised annually.

The compilers draw from authoritative sources: approved labels and product manuals, The MAFF/HSE publication *Pesticides 1991*, and entries in *The Pesticides Register*, the official monthly publication on approvals (including off-label approvals) up to and including the issue for August 1991.

Coverage, as you might expect, is most thorough, not only in identifying products but in providing guidance on how to use them safely and effectively, but without giving dose rates, volumes, spray schedules, or approved tank mixes. There are sections on FEPA and COSHH, substances most dangerous (the Red list), use of herbicides in or near water, maximum exposure limits, which diseases or weeds a product will best

be suited for, and special precautions that must be taken.

It would be remiss of me not to mention that the bulk of pesticides are primarily used by the agricultural industry, (the book lists them all), but that stated, any greenkeeper will find enough for the book to be a veritable bible of facts and information.

As an interesting aside, and admitting that it is not a book you will ever read from cover to cover, in my investigations I discovered one fungicide, as yet listed as being effective in the control of

for golf...!" and decided that while in Scotland he would visit 14 famous venues, ostensibly for a 2,000 word article for a golf magazine, identifying Scotland with the birth of golf and giving his opinions on the overall scene as he saw it today. As he was unable to satisfy the former and it took him over 60,000 bright and breezy words to do the subject justice, the magazine never did get its article. Instead came **By Yon Bonnie Links!** – Sam's fifth full-length narrative hard-back and best summed up with his closing epilogue on page 217: Whether from the Highlands, Lowlands, Netherlands, Midlands – or Papua New Guinea – addicts the world over acknowledge Scotland as the 'Holy Land' of golf. This light-hearted story of a pilgrimage across that 'Holy Land', amongst those who worship at its shrine, should leave little doubt that golf and its history needn't be quite so awesome as some would have us believe!

It's not quite a '1066 and All That' version of golfing history, because although amusing, it is, in every way factual. But thanks to a colourful imagination and love of hyperbole Sam has converted 400 years of 'sacred' lore into a zesty presentation which will please all but the stuffiest of students, and certainly all addicts and non-participants alike.

On reading an early draft, a top golfing historian wrote to the author: "This is good breezy stuff – but whether they'll let you play again at Muirfield is an interesting question!"

The idea of the history of golf – without the boring bits! – certainly delighted me and I believe you'll be equally enamoured by its irreverence.

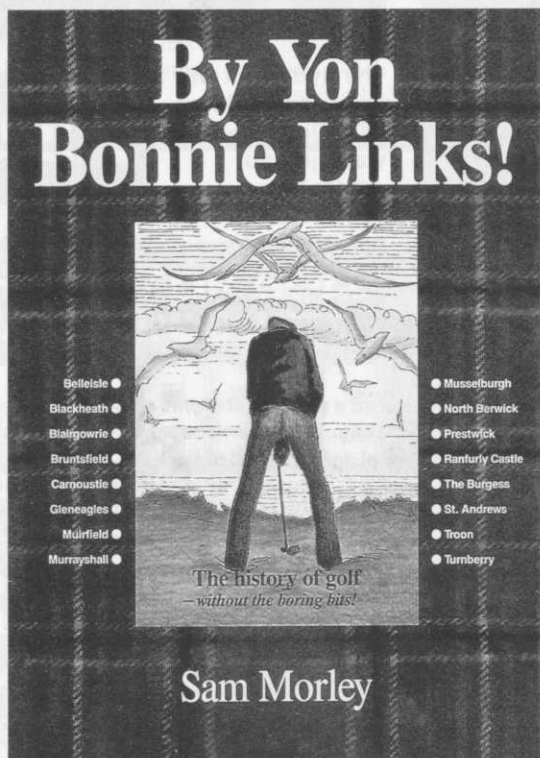
By Yon Bonnie Links! is published by Aedificamus Press, 113 The Ridgeway, Northaw, Herts EN6 4BG, at £12.95 post free.

The Boom Sprayers Handbook, edited by the BCPC Chemicals Application Committee and produced jointly with the Agricultural Training Board is a handbook which sets out to give practical and easy-to-understand guidelines on how to spray agrochemicals safely and effectively when using boom sprayers; and how to calibrate and look after the increasingly sophisticated machinery being used today. It describes the many different types of tractor mounted boom sprayers and includes details of nozzles, spray pumps, control systems, booms and boom suspension, and filters.

Guidelines are provided on methods of calibration, spraying practice and maintenance, as well as on health and safety aspects. It is cleverly illustrated and written without calling on unfathomable scientific jargon and will prove invaluable to those who are receiving instruction in the use of such equipment, as required by FEPA. Published by BCPC Publications, Bear Farm, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks. RG12 5QE, the handbook costs £5.00 post free.

Two free publications are announced by the British Agrochemicals Association: **The Cost Benefits of Pesticide Use in the Community and A Guide to Pesticides in the Community**. I particularly appreciated their reasoned answers to ten common myths and the no-nonsense way the pamphlets are written, with real life costings and comparative costs of alternative techniques that will enable balanced discussions; essentially with the layman in mind. They could prove invaluable should the Club 'clever dick' raise an argument in the clubhouse. Free from BAA, 4 Lincoln Court, Lincoln Road, Peterborough PE1 2RP.

The STRI's role as a publisher of books is well known, and news that a comprehensive guide to golf course management is currently being planned and should be available in the not-too-distant future is likely to raise interest throughout the world of green-keeping. In the meantime, their



American gooseberry mildew on soft fruit, which positively sees off all *Poa annua* growth. As yet I am sworn to secrecy by the manufacturers, who are seeking approval, but you may be assured when the story breaks you will read about it in *Greenkeeper International*. Published by BCPC Publications, Bear Farm, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks RG12 5QE, the guide costs £15.25 post free.

The author Sam Morley was invited to the R&A by Michael Bonallack after publication of his hilarious "If it wasn't

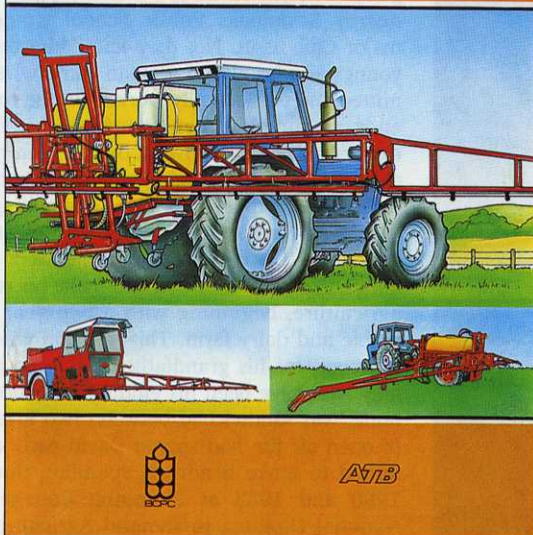
Turfgrass Seed 1992 is now ready, regarded as the essential reference on the relative merits of currently available grass cultivars for the seed trade and consumer alike. **Turfgrass Seed 1992** is published by the STRI, Bingley, W. Yorkshire BD16 1AU, at £1.40 including postage.

Every association of importance needs a discipline and the Association of Golf Club Secretaries were indeed fortunate in having John Crowther as theirs alone for many years. His recent book is an up-to-date, comprehensive guide to all aspects of golf club management, from draft contracts of employment to damage by driven golf balls.

Far from being dull and heavy reading, all chapters have a crisp, clear style, with many devoted to non-management stories and articles, some with full colour pictures. The author has used considerable 'inside' knowledge in compiling this book, benefiting from his years as national secretary of the Association of Golf Club Secretaries, and his continuing success in running the National Golf Clubs' Advisory Association. He was himself a secretary of a golf Club, and was a 4 handicap golfer for many years. He has always known that there was a need and a demand for such a reference book in the golfing world. One small sector, reproduced here, deserves exposure beyond these pages and should be posted on every Club notice board:

"The number of members in a Club may be 250 or 1,250. They all, as individuals, know how to do the job better than the staff and officials. They are experts in

BOOM SPRAYERS HANDBOOK



ATB

administration, accounting, green-keeping, the law, stock control, housekeeping, car parking, slow play and fast play. They all know how to produce fast true greens, deal with vandalism, make a profit, keep beer in top class condition, know where to buy wine at low prices and are able to cook and serve excellent meals at a third of their present cost. They, however, do not know how to pay their subscriptions on time, deal tactfully with visitors, mend pitch-marks on the greens, rake bunkers or understand the rules of golf or the handicapping scheme. They are, therefore, a special breed who need very careful administration and control. However, it is surprising how many of them are so friendly and pleasant and how good it is to work on their behalf'.

This hard-bound volume is a valuable working document for golf club secretaries, members of committee, and indeed any golfers interested in the management of their Club.

Managing Your Golf Club – The Facts and Skills of Golf Club Management, by John Crowther, is published by Harper Trade Journals (tel 071 261 1604) at £22.50 incl. postage.

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BOOKS

A Manual on Golf Course Construction, Turf Establishment and Cultural Practices, by James B Beard.....£22 inc. postage

Code of Practice for the use of Approved Pesticides in Amenity and Industrial Areas. A second edition of the 'Orange Code' – attractive, easy to follow presentation.£12 inc. postage

Specifications for a Method of Putting Green Construction, written by members of the USGA Green Section and edited by William H Bengeyfield.

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