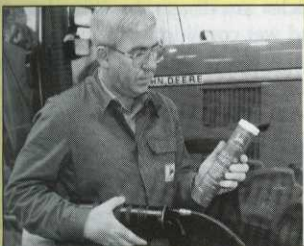


◆ Jacobsen has become one of the first to meet new EC Directive noise tests with their comprehensive mower range. Introduced to the statute books earlier this year, the directive calls for sound levels of 100dB(A) maximum at 4 metres for machines with cutting widths of 0.5 to 1.2 metres and a 105dB(A) maximum at 10 metres for wider machines. The maximum permissible sound pressure level at the operator's ear is 90dB(A) for all ride-on machines.

The range of Jacobsen machines that have undergone tests include machines as small as their Commercial 20 Pedestrian Rotary, through their range of Greens King, Fairway and Turfcat mowers to the recently announced HR and ST5111 rotary and reel machines. Details - tel: 0536 417777.

◆ The latest liquid fertiliser to hit the market is 'Tournament', the result of extensive research by Agriland Ltd to formulate a reliable rapid response treatment for amenity turf. Agriland's Roger West believes "there is a place for a 'total turf feed' that combines conditioning, nutrition and colour enhancement in one easy-to-use package. There can't be a greenkeeper who hasn't at some time felt apprehensive about getting his turf into peak condition for the big day - and that's where 'Tournament' comes in". One 20 litre container will treat 1500m², equal to 3 x 500m² golf greens. It will not be promoted as an everyday fertiliser but as a premium product for special events and badly worn patches. Details - tel: 0202 532291.



◆ Produced from rapeseed oil, John Deere's new Bio-Grease-Gard is a biodegradable grease for use as a lubricant in tractors and other grounds care machinery. In addition to being kind to the environment, it offers optimum lubrication performance and protection against wear and corrosion. It is also water-resistant and highly stable.

This new biodegradable grease is mainly used to lubricate axles and wheels, gear casings and drive shafts, and three-point hitches or front PTOs. First-time users are advised to contact a service specialist to ensure the lubricant is approved for the proposed application.

Bio-Grease-Gard is available in 400g cartridges, price £1.65. Details - tel: 0949 60491.

◆ Rhone Poulenc's DATACHEM Version 2 is now available. The computer software programme designed to assist the amenity spray operator with the safe accurate and efficient use of pesticides was initially launched in 1991. In addition

◆ A new organic based fertiliser for use on fairways has been launched by Humber Fertilisers Ltd. The new fertiliser, named 'Humber Fairway', is in granular form and is supplied in distinctive 25 Kg bags delivered direct from the factory to the golf course. 'Humber Fairway' is available in two mixes - a spring/summer 12:6:6 and an autumn/winter 3:14:14, both are claimed to offer the benefits of steady release of nutrients which ensures steady growth of quality grass and good strong root establishment. Details - tel: 0482 20458.

to the features of the original package, DATACHEM Version 2 has the facility to add details on any manufacturers' products for use within the system. Also new is a Spray Operator Record System, allowing the user to store spray application details electronically. DATACHEM Version 2 reduces paperwork and administrative time whilst increasing accuracy, efficiency and safety in the use of pesticides. Details and a free demo disk - tel: Mr Sion Price on 0277 301115.

◆ On the 10th anniversary of the launch of their trenching machine Shelton have announced the Shelton Supertrencher Mk Va. With a number of design changes, the discharge conveyor has been lengthened to enable bigger trailers to be loaded and a new belt with moulded chevrons is now fitted to enhance soil flow. Primary drive is by hydraulic motor with secondary drive by chain, enabling the belt speed to be altered. Made as a self-contained unit, it may be carried in the vertical position on the machine or may be slid off its retaining lugs and carried separately.

A bigger discharge port incorporates a deflecting plate of stainless steel and the conveyor fits more closely to the base to reduce the chance of soil spillage. The redesigned crumbler follows the arc of the cutting wheel with minimum gap and is protected with a shear pin. The bottom shoe is quickly changed to cater for differing trench widths. Pipe laying crumblers for laying pipes from 35-110mm diam. are available. The mini gravel hopper (optional) allows simultaneous placing of permeable fill. Details - tel: 0507 578288.

◆ Following extensive research Farmura Environmental Products are launching Foresight Flowable Wetting Agent - specially formulated and developed for use on turf. Foresight has been tested at the STRI for safety in use and the product is packed in award winning recycled plastic containers with an integrated easy-view measuring strip and pouring device for accurate measurement and dispensing. Half a litre to 500m² makes the product economical in use. Each 2x5 litre pack contains a free litre of Blazon Spray Pattern Indicator. Details - tel: 023376 241/581

◆ More proud possessors of BS5750 quality assurance certificates include Hayter Beaver, Fisons Horticulture UK (part 1), Rhone Poulenc Agriculture Ltd., D&E Turf Maintenance Ltd., and Elsons Seeds.

◆ Sports Turf Services of Newbridge, Midlothian have announced an agreement with Neptune Scotland Ltd to become sole distributors for the entire Neptune range. The manufacturers are able to tailor make batches of conditioner to meet specific soil problems. Details - tel: 031 3332345.

THE RAKE'S PROGRESS ...

If you are over 30 you can probably remember when a bunker rake, in a bunker, was something of a rarity, even on our most prestigious courses. Nowadays we are approaching the point when a golfer expects to find a rake in every bunker on every course.

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