

Making tracks

9 ➔ and shoulder, as early discovery can often save sudden failure or prevent premature wear and damage. Marking the correct pressure, either on the vehicle or on the wall near the pump, makes it easier to ensure that tyres are maintained at optimum pressure. Load carriers such as trailers have a range of optimum pressures, but inevitably these have to be set for the maximum load – unless you are prepared to adjust pressures frequently.

Tyres are actually designed for a specific deflection, or bulge, and the use of pressure as a measure of inflation is purely for convenience, allowing the tyre to be set for maximum loading and preventing over-inflation. Nevertheless with non-load carriers it is perfectly practical to measure the deflection rather than put a gauge to the valve.

Some greenkeepers undertake their own repair of punctures but most rely on specialist fitters. Punctures should not be a frequent occurrence unless you have bad tracks or are abusing your tyres by driving over rocks at high speed. If you have a lot of punctures, perhaps you should first look at the specification of the tyres – chances are that they are under-specified and an alternative make or pattern may provide the simple solution. Other premature failures come from misuse, abuse and under inflation, causes about which most tyre fitters readily inform you, especially if you accuse them of supplying a faulty tyre. However, tyre faults do occur occasionally and most manufacturers are happy to give a replacement or credit when this is due.

That stated, most greenkeepers get very good value from their tyres and apart from an occasional puff of air, seldom need to touch them from the time the machine is purchased until it is sold or scrapped – this makes it vital that the right tyres are fitted right from the start.

No 1 FOR FINE TURF THE UNDERGEAR 'GOLF' TYRE

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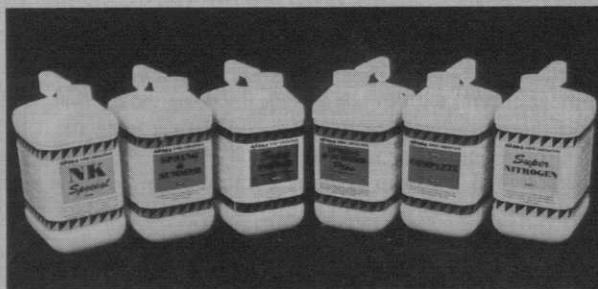
Trade Topics



■ As part of their ongoing commitment to provide detailed product information, ICI Professional Products has produced the 'Longlife ready reckoner'. Relevant information on all the individual 'Longlife' products, including when to use, application rates, kg/ha applied, and formulation type, is presented in a novel and easy to use format. It's free. Tel: 0428 645454.

■ A new range of distinctively styled tractors has been launched by Renault Agriculture Ltd. Identified by the new name and logo – CERES – the new line-up has power outputs from 54 to 83 DIN hp. Of particular interest will be the availability of a creeper transmission and the ability to lock a spool valve in the open position.

Comprising four models – the Ceres 65 (54hp), Ceres 75 (65hp), Ceres 85 (75hp) and Ceres 95 (83hp) – virtually every aspect of the range is new, with the exception of the engine. The robust and fuel efficient MWM (Ceres 65, 85 and 95) and Perkins (Ceres 75) power units used in the former MX and PX models have been retained. All models are available with either two or four-wheel drive. Details, Tel: 0608 62727.



■ The Farmura range of Flo Gro Super Concentrates are now available with new colour coded, wrap-round sleeves giving comprehensive information on how to use. Analysis is also expressed in weight:volume, enabling the turf manager to calculate the exact amount of nutrient he wishes to apply. Packed in 10 litre containers there are two containers per outer. With a concentration of two to five times greater than ordinary liquid fertilisers, Super Concentrates claim major advantages in storage, handling, distribution and packaging. Details, Tel: 0233 76241/581. Fax: 0233 76419.

■ Launched for the first time in the UK in April, Supaturf's Dilute 'n Shoot has been repackaged into one litre containers. Dilute 'n Shoot is the alternative way to apply a full strength application of AquaGro Liquid in a quick one-step operation. The package now incorporates a lightweight container of AquaGro Liquid attached to a hand-held spray gun that fits into the end of a standard hose pipe. The gun injects the correct level of AquaGro Liquid into the flow of water from the hose at a safe level for all turf areas. Details, Tel: 0455 234677.

