



NEW PRODUCTS LAUNCHED AT THE 1994 SHOW

■ Rhone-Poulenc launched a systemic fungicide called Vitesse (French for 'speed'). It is being promoted as the only systemic which starts working immediately on contact with the turf. Product manager Sion Price said: "It is the only turf fungicide with the powerful double action of two active ingredients – carbendazim, a systemic fungicide which is rapidly taken into the plant to give protection from within, and iprodione, a proven contact action fungicide which forms a protective layer against disease attack." Vitesse is recommended for application during the growing season and is designed to combat a range of turf diseases including fusarium patch, red thatch, Timothy leaf spot and anthracnose. Tel: 0277 301115

■ Barenbrug's head of breeding, Gerard van 't Klooster, the man behind top varieties such as Barcrown, Baruba and Bargreen, introduced his latest creations – slender fescues Barlander, Barlotte and Barskol, and Chewings fescue Baroxi. Tel: 0359 70766

■ SISIS Equipment showed two new products – the SISIS Autospred for greens and tees and the SupaTurfman, a wider version of the AutoTurfman. The Autospred is powered by a 5hp engine, has a hopper capacity of 0.26m³ (9ft³) and a spreading width of 83cm (33ins). The hopper is plastic coated to resist corrosion and the main wheels are 'slicks' to reduce ground marking. The SupaTurfman is a heavy-duty aerator with a working width of 355mm (14ins). A new feature is the incorporation of quick release fasteners permitting the tines to be changed without spanners. The SupaTurfman is powered by a 5hp petrol engine. Tel: 0625 503030

■ Kubota's latest compact tractor, the 30.5hp ST-30, took pride of place on its stand. Designed and developed specifically for grass cutting, it weighs 875kg, is 2720mm long and has a 1600mm wheel base. Power comes from a



Simon Hannam, a technical adviser with the Inturf Group shows off the company's latest installation machine. The lightweight machine has a synchronised feed which places the turf precisely onto the rootzone irrespective of the forward speed of the machine. The TIM system is operated by Inturf's team of greenkeeping staff as an in-house service. Tel: 0759 304101

four-cylinder diesel engine. The lift capacity of the £12,200 plus VAT ST-30 is 800kg.

■ Turfmech Machinery has added a rear-mounted blower to use with compact tractors. The TM300 is designed for clearing leaves, litter and other debris. Price is £1,870. Tel: 0889 271503

■ Hayter introduced two new hydraulic trailed gangmowers – the five-gang TM529 and the seven-gang TM729. Both are fitted with large specification tyres which allow towing speeds of up to 50mph, although there is a legal limit of 20mph on the larger TM729. These units also have suspended axles which isolate and protect the heavy-duty chassis and all moving parts from ground generated loading. Other features include a separate hydraulic pump for the lift system, an automatic valve which stops the cylinders when a cutterhead is raised. Hayter also introduced a triple ride-on mower, the Beaver T224, and a hydraulic five gangmower, the TM520. Tel: 0279 723444

■ John Deere was showing off three new machines – a lightweight fairway mower, a diesel-engined version of the 2243 greensmower and a two-seater utility vehicle. John Deere claims its new 32hp 3235 fairway mower offers "twice as much power to the reels as competitive makes, and the highest rate of clip on the market". Height of cut can be adjusted from 3/8 to 1 3/8in or 3in. The new 2243 greensmower is aimed at greenkeepers who have large areas of greens that need to be mown daily. This machine is equipped with three 22in, 5in diameter, nine-blade offset cylin-

ders which cut the tracking wear on greens caused by regular mowing by 50 percent, according to the distributors. This is done by changing the direction of travel on alternate days. Height of cut can be varied from 3/32 to 3/4in. For all load-carrying operations there are the John Deere Gator 10hp 4x2 and 18hp 6x4 utility vehicles. Ground pressure is said to be 7psi at full load. Their respective payloads/towing capacities are 408kg/340kg and 544kg/544kg. Both models feature Kawasaki petrol engines.

■ Hardi launched the Brush Master, which has been on extensive trials on golf courses in southern England during the past 18 months. It is designed for switching (dew removal) before play commences, brushing in after normal applications of top dressing, and filling in holes after coring and top dressing. Price is £1995 plus VAT. Hardi also exhibited its new range of trailed turfcare sprayers called Uniflex. The Uniflex trailed chassis is designed to suit tank sizes of 200 and 300 litres whilst still providing low ground pressures due to wide wheels. Prices from £2200 plus VAT. Tel: 0455 233811

■ Two new Victa products were shown on the EP Barrus stand. The PRO500 is an 18in steel deck push-along mower featuring Victa two-stroke engine and a disc and two swing blades to protect the crankshaft. Price: £287 plus VAT. The VP44P brushcutter has a 40cc engine, Sure-Tap professional head which controls the length of cutting line released when the centre knob is tapped and two-stage anti-vibration handles. Price: £379. Tel: 0869 253355

■ Sports Ground Irrigation exhibited the new valve-in-head golf models from Hunter Industries and the full range of PGM lawn sprinklers with colour coded nozzles. Also on show was a new version of the CIC 1 controller. Tel: 0858 463153

■ Jacobsen launched a new Autofertil grass cuttings recycling system. This system enables grass cuttings to be reused as fertiliser and nutrient for courses, completing the biomass cycle and doing away with unsightly mounds of grass cuttings. Two sizes of machine are available. Jacobsen also introduced a new systems vehicle available in two models with either a 23hp Kubota diesel engine or 34hp Ford petrol engine, both giving a 2800 lb total rated capacity. Tel: 0536 417777

■ Sharpes International launched its 1994 booklet featuring two new varieties – Elegana, a perennial ryegrass, and Miracle, a smooth stalked meadow grass. Tel: 0529 304511

■ Symbio showed its new product, Green Circle, which "reduces fertiliser applications and reduces or eliminates the need for fungicides". Symbio uses 'Biofixation', a process whereby the bacteria and microscopic fungi found in healthy soils are fixed onto a specially developed natural mineral support. The microbes in Green Circle are claimed to break down fibrous thatchy material thereby improving drainage through the sward. Consequently the nutrients released by decomposition are fed down into the rootzone, stimulating deeper root growth. Tel: 081 669 0011.

■ Land and leisure consultants ADAS were offering golf clubs six-monthly course 'health' check-ups. They will examine the course to pinpoint trouble spots and log the results in a report. The project is designed as an early-warning system for club managers. Tel: 0623 846742.

■ Below: Philip Langdon and Peter Madden on the Watermat stand

