

Westurf '94



St Endoc's Steve Evans, right, winner of our Westurf wordsearch competition, receives his £50 voucher from BIGGA chairman John Millen

Michael Bird reports from Bristol on the best-yet Westurf event

More than 2,000 visitors gave April's Westurf exhibition at Long Ashton Golf Club, Bristol, the best ever attendance in the event's six year history.

Organised by the South West and South Wales region of BIGGA, this year's Westurf also attracted 73 exhibitors, the highest number since the event was established in 1989.

Region administrator, Gordon Child, commented that the increasing number of national and regional companies wishing to take stand space at Westurf reflected recognition of the quality of the attendance.

Apart from all golf clubs, event secretary Marion Child also invites sports clubs, local authorities and others involved in turf care throughout the area. "The formula appears to work," said Mr Child. "We now have a well established exhibition for the south west of the country which attracts excellent support from greenkeepers, groundstaff and others involved in the turf maintenance industry.

"Furthermore, all trade exhibitors appeared extremely satisfied with the day. And if they are pleased, we have to be pleased also."

All profits resulting from Westurf are used for the benefit of greenkeepers in BIGGA's South West and South Wales region. Areas in which money has been used in the past include helping with visits to the BTME at Harrogate and the organisation of seminars, workshops and other educational events for members.

The importance placed on Westurf by manufacturers and dealers means that a number of products receive their first public airing at the event.

The words and pictures below highlight some of the latest ideas and innovations aiming to attract the attention of machinery buyers at the exhibition:

ing action and have adjustable rear rollers for accurate setting of working height and brushing intensity. Transport width is 2.03m (6ft 8in) and price in the region of £2,500.



Available in 1.8m and 2.4m (6ft and 8ft) widths, Doveswell Engineering's new Titan turf flail splitter is suitable for use on fairways, approaches, practice

grounds and other turf areas requiring regular aeration. Designed for tractors of 35hp or more, the Titan shown here is fitted with 200mm (8in) blades and hydraulic depth control. This uses a tractor linkage lock-out frame and a double-acting hydraulic ram to control depth and help penetration in tough conditions. A ballast version with weight tray is also available as are 254mm (10in) slitting blades and a rear full-width roller. Price from £1,895.

Driven by the tractor's power take-off, the unit has a working width of 1.5m (5ft) and is suitable for tractors of 28hp upwards. It requires a single hydraulic flow to operate the hopper tipping mechanism.

Ideal for working in both open and awkward areas, the F-M 1501 can be fitted with scarifying, heavy-duty twisted or back-to-back flail blades in minutes, enabling cutting, scarifying and leaf collection to be carried out by one compact unit. Updraught is assisted by 18 wind paddles fitted to the heavy-duty rotor. Price is £4,495.



Replacing the Ransomes Motor 350 is the Commander 3500DX, a five unit, 3.5m (138in) cut machine designed for all-round, high

output work on short and longer grass areas according to the cutting units fitted.

The mower can be specified with Magna 250 (254mm diameter, six knives and rear roller) or Sport 200 cutting units (197mm diameter, eight or 11 knives, front and rear rollers).

Standard features include a 51hp four cylinder diesel engine, hydrostatic transmission with on-demand two or four wheel drive and articulating wing units. Workrate is 3.2 ha/hour (8 acres) at 7.5mph. Price, with eight knife Sport 200 cutting units, is £32,325.



Latest attachment introduced for use with Toro's Workman 3000 turf vehicle is the Top Dresser 1800, distributed by Lely (UK) Ltd.

The implement has a capacity of 510 litres (18 cu ft) and a spread width of 1.5m (5ft), giving effective coverage across the vehicle's full wheelbase. Drive to the conveyor at the base of the hopper is hydraulic with chain and sprocket connection to the delivery brush. A remote hydraulic control enables the operator to engage or disengage drive instantly. Price, including remote control, is £4,245.



The Jacobsen Workhorse System Vehicle's one tonne payload is said to be the best of any turf utility vehicle in its

class. A choice of 34hp petrol or 23hp diesel engines can be specified, linked to a four speed transmission driving the rear axle through high and low ranges. The engine is front mounted and there is power steering, hydraulic PTO and quickpin coupling for a range of Jacobsen attachments including a tipping cargo box, top dresser, sprayers and a fertiliser spreader. Other manufacturer's implements such as aerators and a core harvester can also be accommodated. Price of the petrol model is £13,230.



Designed for powered grooming and sweeping of turf and other firm, level surfaces, the Pro-Sweep from Pro-Seed

Equipment Ltd

has three independently-floating heads giving a maximum working width of 3.05m (10ft).

Suitable for both cosmetic and practical purposes, the polypropylene brushes require an oil supply of about 20 litres/min (4.5gal/min) taken from a tractor of 25hp or more. The brushes can be angled to provide a windrow-



New from Long-Equip is the RL F-M 1501 fully tractor-mounted flail/scarifier collector with 1,100

litre (39 cu ft) capacity hopper.