

**There were so many new products launched at the BTME that we couldn't fit them all in last issue...**

**Barenbrug** used the BTME to launch two low maintenance mixtures featuring Barkoel, crested hair-grass. Named Bar Slow Motion, the two mixtures are quick to establish but then produce unusually slow annual regrowth, according to Barenbrug. The company says Barkoel's performance in dry and infertile conditions has been "remarkable - actually performing better without fertiliser. While in every trial, and in any application, Barkoel has shown drastic reductions in cutting frequency. At the rate it is used in Bar Slow Motion, a reduction in mowing of up to 50% can be expected." The mixture aimed at greenkeepers for use on fairways and roughs is the one without Barcredo/Barlow

perennial ryegrasses. It features 35% Barkoel combined with four other varieties, each recording the lowest regrowth rating listed on the STRI Turf Seed Guide.

The new Beaver FM 514 five-gang, self-propelled mower from **Hayter** has been designed specifically for cutting fairways. It features newly designed 26in fully floating cutterheads to follow precisely the ground contours. The mower is available with 7 or 11 blade cutting reels offering a clip rate of 131 or 206 per metre. It also has a wide wheel track of 1.46m to ensure safety and stability in difficult areas. Four-wheel drive is fitted as standard and when the going gets really tough the differential lock can be engaged. Hayter also claims excellent weight distribution has been achieved to minimise compaction and great care has been taken to obtain a tight turning circle with the minimum of tyre

marking. Power comes from a 29hp Lombardini diesel engine.

Human error, particularly at the mixing stage, is one of the most frequent causes of disappointing results with pesticides. To remedy this, **Levington Horticulture's** turf fungicide and wormcast control product, Turfclear, is now available in pre-measured, water soluble sachets. The new option, Turfclear WDG, comes in a plastic tub containing 10x50g soluble sachets which dissolve quickly and completely in water. Each sachet contains sufficient Turfclear to treat 100m<sup>2</sup> at the higher (disease control) rate and 200m<sup>2</sup> at the lower rate (wormcast control only). Turfclear, which contains carbendazim, will continue to be available in the traditional liquid concentrate formulation. Chris Kennedy, who uses Turfclear as part of the disease and wormcast control programme at Wentworth, says he will try the Turfclear WDG. "I welcome any product which improves accuracy and efficiency," he says.

Rope and rope stakes are an easy, economical way of protecting high traffic areas and ground under repair. **Standard Golf** now offers green rope stakes and green and white polypropylene rope. The green rope stakes are available in two sizes - 32in for traffic control and 14in for use along cart paths and around new plantings. Costing £4.70 and £4.45 respectively, each stake is 5/16in in diameter and is said to position easily with foot pressure, even in compacted soil. The loop at the top is designed to make it easy to attach or remove rope. The green and white polypropylene rope - costing £22.75 for 500ft - provides high visibility without disturbing the beauty of the course. Classic yellow rope and rope stakes are also available.

Standard Golf has also added a new "bigger, better" bunker rake to its range. The Tour Smooth Maintenance Rake is a maintenance class version of its Tour Smooth Bunker Rake. With its 22in wide, extruded aluminium head, heavy-duty teeth and extra-long, powder-coated aluminium handle (66 or 82in), the new rake is said to be "perfect for fin-



The new 422 Greens King pedestrian mower from **Jacobsen** complies with the latest EC regulations and is fitted with Operator Presence Controls (OPC). It also has a 22in cutting width and a high-speed 11-knife cutting cylinder. It is powered by a quiet 4hp, four-cycle OHV engine and, with its 11.5in rollerbase, follows contours without scalping. The reel, roller and traction drum are all the same width.

ishing bunker edges quickly and professionally." Prices are £60.33 and £51.43.

An extension to **D&E Turf Maintenance's** premises in Bishop Auckland houses a new purpose-built training facility where greenkeepers can receive practical and theoretical training in turf machinery maintenance. A constantly updated fleet of machinery will ensure that the training delivered is technically up to date, relevant, more specific and in-depth than other training establishments, claims Edith Stephenson, director of education. Tel: 01388 608620.

**British Seed Houses** introduced its new creeping bent, Providence (*Agrostis stolonifera*). Bred by Seed Research of Oregon and marketed by British Seed Houses, Providence has high STRI ratings for all characteristics and is recommended for greens, tees and fairways. BSH claims: "No other cultivar of *Agrostis stolonifera* has the outstanding high shoot density of Providence to quickly give a strong dense turf of even texture and, therefore, hard wearing." BSH also says it is highly rated for its fineness of leaf, it has much shorter growth than other cultivars, it has good resistance to fungal diseases, it keeps an attractive colour throughout the season without heavy application of fertiliser and it produces less thatch than Penncross." Tel: 01925 654411.



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**Autoguide Equipment** has introduced a new flail mower. With a 1.5m (59in) working width, the mower is designed specifically to fit on ride-on power units such as Ford CM224/274, Kubota F2000/2400 and Iseki SF300. The flail rotor, which carries 90 heavy-duty reversible back-to-back grass flails, is dynamically balanced and runs in large sealed self-aligning ball bearings. Cutting height is variable and quickly adjustable without tools from a minimum height of 8mm (3/8in) to a maximum of 122mm (4 3/4in), with the monocoque-constructed machine running on two castor wheels at the front and an anti-scalp roller at the rear. The side frames have anti-scalp skids and 'plygene' safety deflectors are fitted to both front and back. Price is £2,575 plus VAT.

**Gannon's** Aera-Vator AE60 150cm width (for the compact tractor) now has a big sister – the Aera-Vator AE80 270cm width. The Aera-Vator, which can be used for turf cultivation, seed bed preparation and bare soil conditioning, is available in standard form or with optional seeders, rollers and brush attachments. Prices start at £5,692, or it can be hired with all its attachments.

**Inventorlink Products Ltd** is marketing a practice mat that enables golfers to practise on a sloping lie. The Quadra-Slope Golf Practice Mat enables golfers to practise on downhill, uphill, right to left and left to right slopes. Tel: 0171 3234323.

**Farmura Environmental** has launched a new fusarium management product, Inhibiter. Working on the principle that prevention is better than cure, Inhibiter is applied before the onset of this major turf disease. But it is not a fungicide. A British development, Inhibiter is applied by spreader at 50 grams per square metre and stays active for 6-8 weeks. It costs £36 per 25kgs. Farmura managing director Jonathan Harmer says it should be used as part of an integrated disease management approach, that is, combining cultural, chemical, mechanical and now biological methods. "We are not in the magic business – no product can work in total isolation," he commented. Inhibiter should be applied 2-3 weeks before fusarium is expected. It works by stimulating soil bacteria which inhibit the activity of fusarium and enhance the plants' natural resistance to the disease. Tel: 01233 756241.

**Rolawn** can now supply turf in a new roll size. The harvested dimensions of the 'Budget Roll' are 21in wide x 77ft 2in long which yields approximately 15 sq yds of turf on each roll. They weigh approximately 5cwt. Price varies according to the grade of turf. All Budget Rolls are provided with netting as standard and have a circular core running through their centre which takes a standard 4in forklift tine. Rolawn also has a new laying machine, the Turfmaster, which is 48ins wide, 35in high and weighs 132 lbs (60kilos). This

New from **Ransomes** is the Greenplex 160 hydraulic greens mower. Available in 19hp diesel and 16hp petrol-engined versions, prices excluding VAT are £16,235 and £13,435 respectively. Designed and built with continuous input from greenkeepers, the new triplex has three steerable cutting units producing a maximum mowing width of 1.6m (62in). The cutting reels, available with either nine or 11 blades, can be set to cut at heights from 2-20mm (0.078-0.78in). At the recommended 6km/h (3.8mph) mowing speed, cutting frequency is every 5mm (0.19in) using the 11-bladed reels. Maximum transport speed is 12km/h (7.5mph). Manoeuvrability is enhanced by rear wheel power steering which



requires just two and a half turns of the steering wheel to move from lock to lock. The result is an inside turning radius of 150mm (6in) and an uncut turning circle of 685mm (27in). Features are a thoughtfully laid out operator's platform, high-back seat and adjustable height steering arm. A kick pedal is fitted to lift, lower and engage the cutting units, with a timed delay ensuring that all three units start and finish mowing in line every time. Back-lapping can be carried out in-situ on the fully interchangeable units.

machine, which can be taken apart in seconds, can transport and lay the turf. Two Scottish courses, Gullane and Ythan, have already used it. Paul Seago, course manager at Gullane, said: "We laid 1000 sq yds in four hours on the first day using three men." This machine can be bought for £395 plus VAT or hired for £15 a day.

**Huxley's** new Turfblazer 91in Rotary Mower has been designed for rapid mowing of roughs and semi-roughs. The mower has a powerful 32hp Yanmar diesel engine, optional four-wheel drive and a variable cutting width. The operator can quickly select a 56in, 74in or full 91in mowing width using a hydraulic control lever next to the driving seat, enabling him to work in narrow

as well as open areas. The standard machine costs £16,545 plus VAT. Tel: 01962 733222.

**Turf Machinery Ltd** has introduced a range of replacement cutting units suitable for Jacobsen and Toro greens mowers. Made from premium grade steel, the cutting units and accompanying verti-cut units are cheaper than manufacturer-branded originals. Turf Machinery's price for a Toro GM300 unit fitted with an eight-bladed cylinder, standard bedknife, grooved front and solid rear roller is £740 – a saving of more than £400. A nine-bladed unit for a Jacobsen Mk4 Greens King with tournament bedknife and grooved front and solid rear roller costs £720. Tel: 01483 764467.

● More new products on Page 51

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**Sisis** used BTME to launch the Supa-Rotorake, a versatile, heavy-duty scarifier. Independently powered, the Supa-Rotorake has a range of interchangeable reels for all-year-round use. The thatch removal, thatch control, wire and brush reels rotate at high speed in the opposite direction to that of a conventional cylinder mower. The blades, therefore, cut upwards, continuously taking fibre away from the surface. This operating principle also holds the machine to the ground, maintaining a regular working depth. Tel: 01625 503030.

**Dax Products** has launched a crystalline tree and weedkiller that breaks down into a nitrogenous nutrient in the soil once it has killed the plants to which it has been applied. Root-Out is designed for scrubland and brambles, and for killing trees and

their root system. It is not harmful to animals. Tel: 0602 609996.

The first new **Echo** product to be introduced into the UK since **Allen Power Equipment** took over the franchise last year is the model HC2410 40in Hedgecutter. This single sided double reciprocating machine is powered by a Kioritz 23.6cc engine, featuring electronic ignition and diaphragm carburettor. Other features are a new commercial duty air filtration system, see-through fuel tank and a vibration reduction system. It weighs 12.6 lbs (5.7kg) and costs £408.47 plus VAT. Tel: 01235 813936.

**Service Chemicals plc** has relaunched Turfex Traditional, the concentrated wetting and penetrating agent. It is the same formula tried and tested by greenkeepers over the last eight years and is claimed to be the

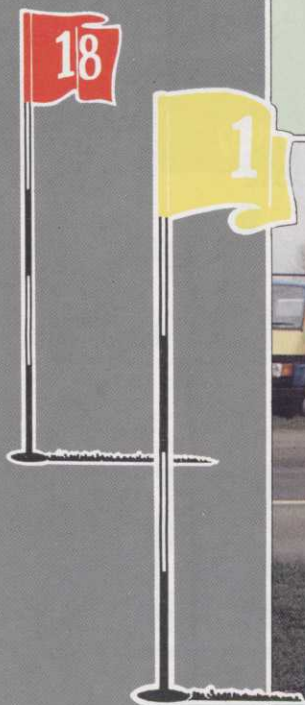


**Ultra Plant** has launched a new high lift trailer, the HL40. The trailer cuts down on shovelling and double handling of materials and the scissor action design means sand and other materials can be directed straight into difficult locations. Managing director Kevin Gates tells us: "The trailer can drop from a height of over 6ft direct into bunkers, topdressers, drainage hoppers and skips. Jobs that normally take two or three men can now be done by one and the ingenious floating axle design prevents damage to bunker edges and other delicate surfaces. And, of course, it can also tip as a standard trailer." Tel: 08687 47582.

only product of its type fully evaluated in independent tests by the STRI. A free 12-page colour booklet explaining the management of dry patch and related problems and how to use wetting agents effectively is now available from

Service Chemicals plc at Lanchester Way, Royal Oak Industrial Estate, Daventry, Northants NN11 5PH. It is called The Turfex Guide to Dry Patch and Compaction. For further information about Turfex Traditional call distributors **Amenity Technology** on 01734 510033.

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