

New on the market

After 23 years marketing Billy Goat outdoor vacuums Bob Andrews Ltd has signed up with new American partners **Giant Vac Inc**, from New England.

The new range includes push and power driven pedestrian vacs from 5-11hp; blowers of 5, 8 and 11hp; tailgate loaders and truck loaders from 11-20hp.

Giant Vac vacuum machines are designed on a modular basis and a range of options including engines, snouts, wheels or wanderhoses can be attached to the basic wheeled chassis.

Bob Andrews will arrange a trial anywhere in Britain free and without obligation. Tel: 01344 862111.

Farmura is launching a spring promotion offering a free wax body warmer to help increase awareness of its Liquid Organics and Liquid Concentrates as part of balanced turf management.

Spend £350 on selected Farmura products between now and May 31 and you will be sent a

free body warmer.

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund has developed its own range of sun care products – **Sun Safe** – which is unique in that it is the only range of the market with no products which actively help people to tan.

"We do not want to encourage people to seek a tan and we are very concerned about giving the public the right message on sun protection. This is why the lowest factor in the Sun Safe range is SPF 15. But to avoid burning, people must follow the pack instructions carefully," said Dr Julia Newton Bishop, the ICRF skin cancer expert who guided the development of Sun Safe.

All profits from the sale of Sun Safe products will go to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and its research programme and even 1% of the of the sun care market would be worth up to £1.5 million per annum.

This year over 40,000 people in the UK will be diagnosed with

skin cancer yet many could prevent the disease by taking simple precautions against the sun – such as wearing protective clothing and a high protection sunscreen or sunblock on exposed skin.

The ICRF recommends the following tips some of which could be utilised by greenkeepers, others not!

- Stay out of the sun between 11am and 3pm.
- Keep in the shade where possible.
- Cover up. Wear loose-fitting close-weave cotton clothes which protect the shoulders and neck, a wide-brimmed hat which shades the face and sunglasses with a UV filter.
- Cover exposed parts of the skin with sunscreen or sunblock which is at least SPF 15.

Hayter has re-designed and up-graded its Condor after an extensive campaign to canvas opinion from customers.

Among the advances this has



brought about are easier more comfortable controls, a strengthened deck and a fuller skirt.

The new Condor Elite, pictured above, is available in two models – the Hydrostatic and the Bank. The Hydrostatic is driven by a Honda GX340 11hp engine with hydrostatic transmission and allows infinite speed variation

PRESENTING THE POWERFUL NEW REELMASTER SERIES.



forward and reverse without gears or clutch.

The Bank model is purpose-built for negotiating difficult slopes and embankments. It is powered by a Kohler Magnum M8T 8hp engine and has a ratchet-driven transmission to ensure positive traction on steep gradients.

Both are available with the option of 30' and 36" rotary attachments or a 30", three and five bladed cylinder verge attachment.

On the well worn premise that "Every new development in the States inevitably crosses the Atlantic and becomes a trend in the United Kingdom" we can soon expect **Softspikes** to be the accepted norm for anchoring golf shoes to turf.

Softspikes were introduced in the USA in 1993 and already more than 175 courses throughout the States have banned traditional metal spikes, as tests have proved that softspikes



reduce damage to turf, carpet and may even be easier on the human body.

The non-penetrating urethane spikes have a plastic flange with ridges fashioned in a fan-like design to provide traction.

Literature from the American manufacturers of Softspikes gives the enlightening statistic that a fourball "leaves approximately 500 footprints, which translates into 6,000 spike wounds on each green. For most courses that's about a million spikemarks a day. The company also claims that the spikes reduce the spread of Poa Annua and other grass diseases and saves the club money on fer-

tiliser and fungicides.

"The theory that metal spikes somehow aerate the turf is largely disproved," said Jim Snow, National Director of the USGA's greens section. "Metal spikes actually increase compacting."

Since their initial launch the company -Softspikes - has introduced a new improved version aimed at providing more traction.

The company also provides information on how to implement metal spike bans at golf clubs.

The current cost of the new spikes is currently around \$7 to \$9 for a set of 24.

So we wait with bated breath for the arrival of the Softspike revolution which will consign traditional metal spikes to the same footnote in history as the Great British roast dinner.

A new seeding machine, recently used at Gog Magog GC in Cambridgeshire, has helped to reduce seed waste and bare patches due to wind drift.

The new machine, the **Pro-seeder TP1700** from Denmark, and bought from Greensward Engineering Company of Leeds, discharges the seed at such a low height that it eliminates wind drift while it also gently rakes the seed into the surface and covers it with a thin layer of soil which was scattered by its special mesh rear roller.

At Gog Magog the process was so successful that despite problems with wind erosion on the fairways the seed stayed in place and excellent germination was achieved.

The TP1700 is the largest in a range which also includes the TP1100 for small compact tractors and the HP600 pedestrian seeder.

Greensward said that one customer has reported saving £400 on seed with his HP600 and that the machine paid for itself in the first few months.

Further information can be obtained from Greensward on 0113 267 6000.

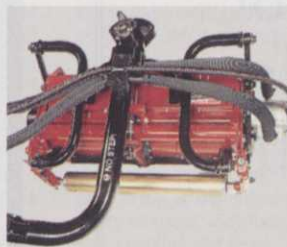
SO DEDICATED, THEY EARN THEIR STRIPES EVERYTIME.



Whatever the season, whatever the weather, this greenkeeper cuts a fine swathe through thick, uneven turf to produce the perfect fairway.

For the new Reelmaster fairway mowers boast many new, innovative features resulting in a cut like never before.

Rugged, powerful and durable, they have the lightest of touches. Their new L-I-N-K-S™ system of floating linkage and individual lift arm dampers hug the turf to get into dips and hollows for a close, all-over cut with no "bobbing", even at speeds in excess of 7mph.



The new L-I-N-K-S™ system

The Reelmaster 6500D, with its 5-gang mower, and the 6700D, a 7-gang mower, both offer impressive cutting technology with all-interchangeable variable speed, automatically controlled reels to handle fast-growing, tough seasonal grasses.

Quiet in operation thanks to Toro's advanced noise reduction, the powerful 38hp and 42hp diesel engines will help these machines reach inclines other mowers can't.

To win your stripes, give us a call and we'll walk your course with you and recommend the best machine for your needs.

You too can trust Toro expertise and quality. Simply telephone 01480 476971 and we'll arrange for a local dealer to contact you.



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