

# FRESH FROM SALTEX

**W**ith the weather for once favourable Windsor Race Course was the magnet for large crowds to attend Saltex '96 with over 400 exhibitors displaying many products for the first time.

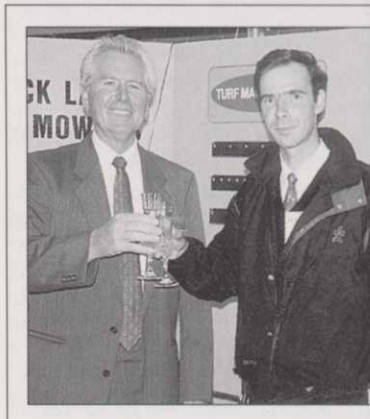
The week was also notable for the number of well known companies celebrating anniversaries – Patisson's with 100 years of trading, Jacobsen with 75 years, Hayter's with 50, Kubota with 21 years since it introduced the first compact tractor and John Deere 30 years in America and 10 in the United Kingdom.

## John Deere

With working widths of 95 and 146cm, the new Aercore 1000 and 1500 tractor mounted aerators further extend John Deere's grounds care range, already the broadest available from a single manufacturer in Europe.

They are designed for aerating golf greens and fairways, as well as other professional sports and amenity turf areas.

Built around heavy-duty frames and tine rams to provide years of durable service, the aerators can pull up to 30



Richard Barker, Head Greenkeeper at Kirby Muxloe GC, found an ever more ingenious way of ensuring his picture appeared in the magazine – he won a two week fly-drive holiday for two to Florida in a Turf Machinery Prize Draw.

Richard's entry was one of almost 400 received by Turf Machinery Ltd from Course Managers and Head Greenkeepers.

cores per square foot, at over 75,000 square feet per hour.

The special Flexi-Link tine design helps to produce a consistent, round hole with little or no scuffing at the hole top. It also allows the tine spacing to be infinitely adjustable without changing gears on the aerator – it automatically adjusts to any tractor speed setting.

Prices of the new John Deere aerators are £8160 (model 1000) and £10,450 (model 1500), plus VAT.

Latest addition to the John Deere range of golf course equipment is the 3235A Turf System 11 lightweight fairways mower, which replaces the previous 3235 model.

The mower features 56cm wide seven-blade cutting heads as standard, or optional eight-blade heavy-duty ESP (extra strength and precision) units, with one-touch lifting and lowering.

Basic price remains the same as the previous model, at £24,231 with

standard cutting heads, grooved front rollers and optional four wheel drive.

The new John Deere RZ1 700 root zone injector is designed for safer sub-surface injection of turfgrass pesticides, and features a 340-litre (75gal) tank and a 130cm (51 in) working width.

The RZ1 700 fits the John Deere 955 33hp compact tractor, or any other tractor over 30hp equipped with a Cat I or II three-point hitch.

Specially designed to be quicker, quieter and stronger on the golf course, the new 4x2 Turf Gator from John Deere is ideal for all types of load and people-carrying operations.

'Gator' stands for General All-purpose Turf and Off-Road vehicle.

The new continuously variable transmission means there is no gear shifting or clutching, at increased speeds of up to 18mph.

## Mommersteeg

Sports and amenity grass seed varieties and mixtures which meet the demands of today's increased usage and changing weather patterns were the theme of Mommersteeg Interna-

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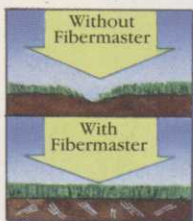


# FIBERMASTER

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Due to golf's year round attraction and the ever increasing number of players enjoying their round, many of the country's courses are now subject to severe compaction and erosion problems. Today's greenkeepers are facing unprecedented demands on their skills to maintain tees in top condition.

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# Rufford

## TOP-DRESS SUPPLIES

# FRESH FROM SALTEX

tional's Saltex display which included demonstration plots of the company's three new varieties – Amadeus, Gerona and Moccasin – together with MM60 – a special mixture for over-sowing winter games pitches with ryegrass.

The three new grass varieties, exhibited by Mommersteeg were all bred to provide users with hard wearing turf. Amadeus is a dwarf variety perennial ryegrass which is tolerant to close mowing and has a high shoot density and good cleanness of cut. It establishes quickly and has slow regrowth making it ideal for landscaping where low maintenance is a priority.

Gerona was bred specifically for use on winter sports pitches and features in MM60. It has excellent wear tolerance in high or low nitrogen situations. Suitable for both pitch construction and renovation Gerona has high ratings for disease resistance – especially red thread – and cleanness of cut.

Moccasin is the company's new slender creeping red fescue. Another variety with good disease resistance and high shoot density, Moccasin

adds resilience to the turf and produces a dense close knit even texture. The variety is particularly suited to high quality golf greens, tees, bowling greens, croquet lawns and ornamental turf.

MM60 is a mixture of four Mommersteeg perennial ryegrass varieties – Master, Gerona, Danilo and Mondial. The varieties have been chosen to provide a turf that is able to withstand high levels of wear and tear and good powers of regeneration after damage. The blend offers improved disease resistance and quicker establishment.

### SISIS

The new pto driven LITAMINA HT from SISIS has a greater capacity, hydraulically tipping hopper which operates from two single or double acting hydraulic rams (customer must state preference at time of order). The main chassis has been strengthened to take the extra loads. The patented brush system is spiral and fitted within the main frame with a single height adjustment. Support legs are provided for use when the LITAMINA is not mounted on the tractor.

The advent of the new smaller Com-

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compact Drainage Machines, on show with SIS at Windsor for the first time, makes intensive drainage available for all. Fitted on Compact Tractors of 28 HP +, groundsmen themselves can now readily install very cost effective drainage in convenient stages, using either bought or hired equipment.

### Ransomes

A number of new products were unveiled by Ransomes at Saltex '96.

Ransomes Fairway 405 – a seven-gang, ride-on fairway mower with a cutting width of 4m (158in), believed to be the widest of any machine in its class. The Fairway 405 has a 46.5hp turbocharged diesel engine/ selectable two or four-wheel drive and the option of 7 or 11 bladed cutting units, all with Ransomes' variable weight transfer system, ensuring a close, even finish over undulating turf.

Ransomes Motor 180 – Reintroduced in response to user demand, this updated ride-on triplex mower is ideal for cutting golf course tees, greens approaches and surrounds, plus other fine turf areas. Economical, lightweight and ground hugging, the Motor 180 has a 16hp petrol engine and hydrostatic transmission with on-demand third wheel hydraulic drive available as an option. Mowing width is 1.8m (71in) from either 7-knife floating head or 5-knife fixed head cutting units.

Ransomes Parkway 22-0 – A ride-on, three unit cylinder mower with a 38hp diesel engine, hydrostatic transmission and selectable two and four-wheel drive. Combines a precision cut with rugged built quality making it ideal for local authority DSO, landscape and contract applications. Maximum mowing width is 2.15m (84Y2in) and customers can choose from three different cutting units.

Ransomes Air Groomer – Offered as an option on the Ransomes Greens Super 55 walk-behind greensmower, the Air Groomer blows moisture from the grass just before it is cut, ensuring a cleaner, more precise finish without the time-consuming brushing or switching normally needed prior to mowing wet turf. Ideal for use on greens covered with dew or irrigation droplets, the patented Air Groomer avoids any risk of turf damage caused by physical pre-treatments on wet grass.

Ransomes Envirojet – Designed for mounting on the Cushman Turf-Truckster turf maintenance vehicle, the Envirojet system uses high pressure, pulsating water jets to alleviate turf compaction and introduce materials such as fertiliser, pesticides and



### Toro

The new Toro Reelmaster 2600-D is an all-purpose triplex mower ideal for around bunkers, greens, tees, collars and approach areas. It features the all-new design, engine, drive, cutting units and mainframe of the Reelmaster 2300-D introduced last year, but is fitted with wider cutting units to give an 85" cut for greater productivity.

The mower has Toro's unique L-I-N-K-S cutting unit suspension system and an adjustable spring counterbalance for enhanced ground-contour following without extra down-pressure.

To work in all kinds of terrain, including early morning wet grass, the unit has an hydraulically-driven

reel system with variable reel speed.

The 2600-D is powered by an 18hp Perkins diesel engine and two- or three-wheel drive can be selected on the move.

Toro's Greens Aerator is now equipped with a state of the art Briggs & Stratton, Vanguard V-Twin engine known for its smooth, quiet and efficient running. At 16hp there's ample power available for any turf condition and tine selection.

The Hydroject 4000 is a trailed version of Toro's well-proven walk-behind Hydroject 3000 water-injection aerator. Towed behind a utility vehicle with on-board water tank, it gives users the flexibility and convenience to aerate areas not served by a mains water supply.

wetting agents into the soil. The 10 boom-mounted jetting nozzles can be supplied from a tank on the Turf-Truckster or from an independent water supply.

Ransomes TG4650 – A trailed, seven unit hydraulic gang mower designed for high output cutting of parks, playing fields, sportsgrounds and recreation areas. Suitable for tractors of 60hp-plus, the TG4650 has cutting and transport widths of 4.65m (15ft 3in) and 2.3m (7ft 6in) respectively. It is available with a choice of precision built cutting units to suit a full range of grass conditions and mowing schedules.

Ransomes Front Line 728 – Believed to be the first out-front rotary mower of its size with hydraulic rather than mechanical drive to its cutter deck, producing a simpler, quieter system with reduced maintenance. The 728 is ideal for local authorities, utilities, contractors and other commercial users needing a rugged, high output mower with comfort and servicing convenience to match.

### Pro-Sport

A new formulation of top dressing for sports turf of all types has been added to their Pro-Sport range of products by Hepworth Minerals and Chemicals Ltd., (HMC). Shown for the first time

at Saltex, Pro-Sport Ecodress uses composted green waste as the organic content of the sand based dressing.

"The use of composted green waste to provide the organic requirement gives this product special appeal," says Pro-Sport Sales Manager Tony Jacques.

Pro-Sport Ecodress is at present being made at two of HMC's production units with plans to expand production as demand requires.

### Charterhouse

Charterhouse announced two new products which reflect all the quality, strength and reliability attributes built into their existing range of well known products.

However, the new Rapidcore and Greenseeder have been specifically designed for high volume manufacture achieving economy of scale.

Their prices of £2,938 for the Greenseeder and £4,438 for the Rapidcore will be particularly welcome to greenkeepers and groundsmen working on a tight budget.

### Kubota

Kubota (UK) Ltd revealed three new 4WD compact tractors called the Super B range. Completely re-styled with a true flat deck configuration, an

impressive mowing deck clearance, a spacious modern Buisard cab and, Bi-Speed (B2100 HST and B2400 HST) Turn these new units are set to make a big impact. The new units supersede the existing B1550 and B1750 units.

Available in HST and manual versions, each of the three new models the 18hp B1700, 21hp B2100 and the 24hp B2400 – have been designed and developed to work in a wide variety of applications. From general grass maintenance tasks including scrub clearance and fine turf upkeep through to loading and backhoe work and from soil preparation for growing to general amenity management.

A number of features set the Kubota models apart from the competition in the same class. These include the weight to power ratio, Bi-Speed Turn option, high clearance, a rubber mounted flat operator deck, low noise and vibration levels.

At the heart of the new tractors is a reliable high performance diesel powered E-TVCS indirect injection 4 cycle engine which provides high torque rise for smooth efficient operation during heavy duty work.

Another performance feature of the tractors is the high ground clearance of 170mm which makes climbing over curbs and working in tall or thick grass easier.

Each tractor has a three point lift capacity of 750 kg at the link end.

### Jacobsen

A choice of three more powerful engines gives Jacobsen's new generation of Turfcat out-front rotary mowers a wide range of power and traction drive options. Turfcat models now feature a Kubota 23 or 28 hp diesel engine, a Ford petrol engine and two or four wheel drive.

Key new product improvements are greater productivity, operator comfort and reliability. Operators can now mow up to six miles per hour in low range. And transport speeds in high range up to 10 miles per hour get the Turfcat between jobs faster.

The Turfcat's new ergonomic design features a contoured seat and easy-to-reach controls. All controls are located up front and are easy to read. Foot pedal operation for mowing and transport keeps the operator's hands free for steering.

All models feature Jacobsen's hydraulic deck drive and hydrostatic transmission with dual-range transaxle to handle tough mowing conditions.

■ Lack of space means further details of new products launched at Saltex have been held over until next month.