

# Greenmaster Autumn leaves the others behind



Greenmaster® Autumn is a unique five-way fertilizer for perfect autumn and winter performance on all fine turf. The lightweight, uniform, easy to see granule ensures even coverage. It quickly breaks down for maximum efficiency and minimal pick-up.

- Provides 35kg/ha of potash to harden soft growth and prepare turf for winter.
- Low nitrogen level will not encourage disease.
- Balanced level of phosphate promotes root development and strengthens the sward.
- Contains 6% iron for moss control and colour enhancement.
- High sulphur, acidifying formula helps control soil pH.

ALTOGETHER AN UNBEATABLE COMBINATION



If you would like to know more please call our  
Technical Services Manager on 01473 203143  
or contact your local Area Sales Manager:

South - Chris Briggs

Tel: 0378 603103 (mobile) or 01273 675966

Midlands and Wales - Roger Moore

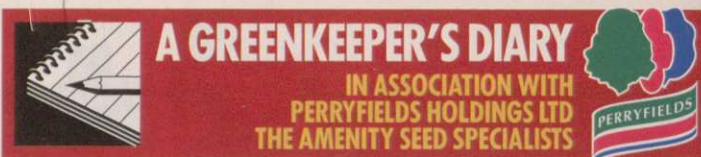
Tel: 0378 603052 (mobile) or 01832 710076

N. England, Scotland & N.I. - Richard Walton

Tel: 0378 603091 (mobile) or 01977 662187

Read the label before you buy: use pesticides safely.

GREENMASTER AUTUMN (6:5:10) contains 6% iron as ferrous sulphate.  
GREENMASTER is a registered Trade Mark and THE LEVINGTON DIFFERENCE is a Trade Mark of  
Levington Horticulture Ltd. © Levington Horticulture Ltd 1996



## Enduring January...

BY MARK BROUGHTON, COURSE  
MANAGER, MORECAMBE GOLF CLUB

**M**orecambe Golf Club is situated in an exposed position on the coast but this does not deter our hardy members from battling the elements out on the course. Heavy play continues right through the winter and much of our work is planned to minimise and counteract the damage caused. The course is generally well drained (but not a links) and most of the greens remain dry and firm throughout the Winter. Temporary greens are not required because the course gets flooded and unplayable before the greens get too wet. When hard frost is thawing the course is closed. The larger tees are in play throughout the winter, some of the smaller ones have alternative winter tees and others have an area mown out in front of the tee. We have a few tee mats which are used wherever problems are encountered or during construction work. To direct traffic around the course and keep trolleys away from greens we use white lines applied through a basic wet line marker. These can be moved around as they fade to shift wear patterns and seem to be more effective than hoops or roping off, the latter seem to be taken as a challenge to be overcome.

The free draining nature of the course means that construction work can continue throughout the winter. I try to programme a range of work suitable for differing ground and weather conditions to give us flexibility.

Greens mowing is carried out weekly if weather permits using pedestrian mowers set at 8mm while intensive aeration of greens continues throughout the winter, this consists mainly of slitting but we occasionally use solid tines and a Robin Dagger is used on problem areas. Maintenance of the trees, shrubs, hedges and woodland is a regular feature during January. This work lends itself to periods of hard frost when the possibilities for other outdoor work are limited.

Fungicide use is minimal at Morecambe Golf Club, if we get through October and November without using fungicide we usually get through the Winter. Our general policy is not to spray at first sign of fusarium but to keep an eye on it. If weather conditions

are ideal for the spread of the disease and the attack looks serious we resort to the sprayer. Sulphate of iron is applied to the greens occasionally throughout the winter in powdered form. This helps to prevent fusarium reaching problem levels reduces worm casting and improves presentation.

We usually try to get any major projects finished by Christmas and concentrate on smaller jobs such as bunker renovation and path construction after the new year. This year development work is limited, a major revision of the layout of the bunkers on the first hole is proposed and work is scheduled for path building and bunker renovation. In common with many clubs we are looking at the possibility of installing a borehole to supply water for irrigation. If things go to plan it should be ready for action before the start of the season.

When the weather is too desperate to venture out there is plenty to keep us occupied indoors. Overhauls and servicing of machinery are carried out in house where possible and course furniture tee markers etc are renovated. The annual review of Health and Safety policy and assessments is carried out this month with the involvement of all staff. Staff training and NVQ assessments are carried out throughout the year but the majority is carried out during the Winter particularly in January and February. This year we are trying out a scheme that gives us extra holiday over Christmas and new year in return for extra hours worked during the busy Summer period.

The main event of the month is BTME. A visit to the workshops, seminars and exhibition has become a regular fixture in my diary. The exhibition is excellent and gets better every year, and there is always something to learn from the educational programme. Even the trip home can be an entertaining challenge in the snow!

A GREENKEEPER'S DIARY IS  
BROUGHT TO YOU IN  
ASSOCIATION WITH  
PERRYFIELDS HOLDINGS LTD  
TEL: 01386 793135  
FAX: 01386 792715

