

Saltex '98 as ever produced a variety of weather conditions which would keep even the most voracious meteorological student satisfied. If the more conventional use had been made Windsor Racecourse the going would have been classified as "heavy" but the occasionally torrential rain, coupled with the high winds, did nothing to blow away or dampen the enthusiasm of exhibitor and visitor alike and the number of new products unveiled was a healthy sign to gladden the hearts of industry watchers.

# Saltex REVIEW



## Watermation join forces with Toro



A union between two well known companies in the irrigation business was revealed the show when Watermation was appointed as an authorised installer of Toro irrigation products. It follows TIL Irrigation's decision to market its products and services under the Hydroscape name.

Aldershot-based Watermation has been installing irrigation systems on golf courses for almost 30 years and has a portfolio of over 1,000 courses, but recently decided that the design and manufacture of its own range of products would no longer be feasible. It decided, therefore to look at another option, that of sourcing products from another supplier.

"I see the partnership between Watermation and Hydroscape as a new chapter in Watermation's history," said Watermation Chairman, Ray Lewis (left).

"The combination of the Toro range and Watermation's design and installation skills will provide the market with the highest possible standard of irrigations systems."

Peter Roberts, Chairman and Managing Director of the Hydroscape Group, said.

"Watermation's Choice of Toro and Hydroscape re-emphasises the leading position all three companies hold in the UK amenity market.

"We know that the relationship will prove beneficial to all concerned."

## Alanco

Alanco, designer and manufacturer of Weed Free's Spraying Mantis has launched the Allrounder. Similar in concept but on a smaller scale the new all purpose utility vehicle can take a variety of attachments including top dresser, aeration unit, three gang mower and sprayers with a tank capacity of up to 1000 litres.

It has a 60 horse power dual fuel engine hydraulic take off, low pressure tyres and four wheel drive, and comes in three models.

For further information Tel: 01622 832830.

## Textron

Peter Wilson, President of Textron Turf and Specialty Products, missed the show after being caught up in an Air Canada strike which left him stranded on the wrong continent. His apologies were given at the annual Textron Reception on the Tuesday evening by Sales Director Andrew Sunaway.

## Bioseed

Bioseed Probiotics Ltd has introduced the Sustane range of soil buildings/fertilisers into the UK market and this will be distributed through Amenity Technology.

Sustane has been released following three seasons of trials which have provided information regarding the product's performance in tackling thatch reduction, disease suppression, Take All eradication, dormant winter feeding and black layer eradication.

For further information Tel: 01747 852771.

## Vitax

Vitax has introduced Twincarb, which contains carbendazim and acts as a systemic fungicide.

The product which comes in either one litre and five litre packs works on Fusarium and Dollar Spot while it also controls casting worms while systematic action prevents reinfection and has a non-irritant formulation.

For further information Tel: 01530 510060.

## The 'A' grade

British Seed Houses introduced new grass varieties Loretta Nova and Raisa to its "A" grade mixture.

Lorretta Nova ryegrass offers strong growth and low nutrient conditions, good shoot density and close mowing tolerance with excellent disease resistance.

Raisa chewings fescue delivers excellent shoot density, short growth and readily accepts close mowing.

For further information Tel: 01925 654411.

## London Club are Spray away winners



The London Club was this year's winner of the Blazon Spray Watch campaign and Courses Manager Steve Jones was on hand to receive the first prize of a Hardi AMK 300 Tractor Mounted Sprayer from BIGGA Chairman, Gordon Child.

In addition to winning the sprayer for the club Steve, also won an expenses paid trip to the 1999 GCSAA Convention and Show in Orlando, Florida, next February.

## John Deere: Small is beautiful

A new generation of four wheel drive compact tractors was launched by John Deere. The 4000 Series models, from 20 to 423 hp, offer a host of big tractor features in a compact size.

The entire range features a new Yanmar clear and silent three or four cylinder diesel engine with low exhaust and emission levels and there is a choice of gear or infinite speed hydrostatic transmissions on all except the 4200 version which is only available in hydrostatic form and the 4500 which is gear only.

All the tractors can carry a loader, mower and backhoe at the same time while other attachments include rear and mid mounted mowers, front blades and brooms while the three point hitch for rear mounted equipment offers lift capacity of up to 1.4 tonnes matching the highest in the industry.

There is also a new range of dedicated front mounted loaders with joystick controls for materials handling



and heavy lifting jobs.

Also launched was the F735 compact diesel front mower which is particularly suitable for mowing open areas as well as trimming around trees, shrubs, flower beds, signs and fences.

It features a new vertical crankshaft, two cylinder Yanmar 20.5ph diesel engine with shaft drive to the mowing deck for greater reliability and a longer operating life.

For further information Tel: 01949 860491.

## Scotts on fastrack with Speedway



Scotts launched Maraud and Speedway 2 at the Show while it was announced that Greenshield has been cleared for use against worm casts.

Maraud is a contact and fumigant insecticide based on chlorpyrifos, which targets leatherjacket and frit fly and is sold in one litre packs sufficient to treat 6,666 square metres.

Speedway 2 is an amenity herbicide containing diquat and paraquat and has a fast contact action against most weed species. In warm weather it will kill weeds within two days by disrupting the plant's photosynthetic process. The product is manufactured as water dispersible granule formulation to give dust free mixing with water. It is also rain fast and inactivated by contact with the soil.

Greenshield targets fusarium, red thread, Anthracnose, Take All and leaf spot as well as now being cleared to reduce worm casts.

For further information Tel: 01473 830492.



## Toro launch new products at Saltex

Toro unveiled two pre-production versions of a new machine which will be available for delivery next spring.

The Toro Reelmaster 3100-D Sidewinder (top left) is the first mower which boasts cutting units which can be hydraulically moved to the left or right to increase overhang up to 22 inches. This is ideal for cutting around bunkers as well as aprons and obstacles such as trees or under overhanging branches.

By increasing the length of overhang operators can keep the wheels farther away from the bunker to prevent the edges collapsing.

The Sidewinder is available in cutting widths of 72 and 84 inches and a simple joystick movement shifts all three cutting units to one side of the machine or the other. The operator is seated in a forward position with the engine at the rear for maximum visibility. It also has a three wheel drive system which coupled with a low centre of gravity gives good hill climbing capability.

Toro also introduced its Toro Sitework Systems (bottom left) known as The Dingo hydraulic

power plant on wheels which has more than 35 attachments.

"This system offers productivity, manoeuvrability, versatility, convenience and power, which makes it perfect for anyone involved in landscape contracting, irrigation, fence installation, general construction or nursery activities," said Denise Koehnen, International Marketing Manager, Professional Equipment.

It comes standard with a durable steel bucket and the attachment line includes adjustable forks, a backhoe, leveller, broom, cement bowl, tiller, hydraulic blade and a vibratory plough.

Toro has also produced a competitively priced and more simply-engineered fairway mower. Based on the Reelmaster 5300-D the Reelmaster 5200-D has a lower specification with fewer and less sophisticated components that rely more on manual operations.

The two wheel drive model sells at £24,430 ex vat with the four wheel drive version coming in at £27,420 ex vat.

For further information Tel: 01202 209281



## Kubota publish first magazine

Kubota launched the Kubota Owner's Club in the UK at the Show.

Marked by the publication of the debut issue of its own quarterly magazine the vent heralds the formation of an organisation which is inviting application for free membership from more than 20,000

owners of Kubota tractors, mowers and power products.

"We see the club as an important part of Kubota's Research and Development as it's a way for owners and users to tell us about their needs and how best we can meet them," said Tom Barnes, Marketing Manager of Kubota (UK) Ltd.

In addition to the magazine, membership card and official tie Kubota owners will be entitled to exclusive discounted offers on a range of Kubota products and receive answers to questions addressed to the readers' letters page.

For further information Tel: 01844 214500.

## Rigby Taylor's product launch struck by Lightning

Rigby Taylor launched a new adjuvant marker and a new plant and microbial stimulant.

Lightning, the first approved adjuvant marker for use with Roundup Pro Biactive via Controlled Droplet Application (CDA), leaves a clearly visible white deposit on treated weeds and surfaces.

Tests at the Imperial College - the International Pesticides Application Research Centre - have shown that mixing Roundup Pro Biactive with Lightning produces uniform-sized droplets which are less likely to shrink through evaporation and minimise the risk of potential drift.

Rigby Taylor has also developed a series of adaptor kits so operators can use the Slimflex backpack con-

tainers with their existing CDA equipment.

Activate is a concentrated plant extract and is released following work in plant and microbial stimulant technology. It supplies the grass with simple sugars, as a readily available food source while also getting essential trace elements right through to the root zone.

"Activate is based on the advanced and proved science of carbohydrate nutrition to produce healthier hard wearing playing surfaces, increasing the ground's resistance to drought and stress," explained Rigby Taylor's Technical Services Manager, Geoff Yelland.

For further information Tel: 01483 535657.



## Many happy returns to Lloyds and Co

Lloyds and Co celebrated its 120th birthday with a celebration party and a cake during a break from the hard business of selling machinery at Saltex.

The Letchworth based company was founded in 1878 as an agency for the import and sales of American Pennsylvania mowing machines.

The company began producing its own machines in 1934 and as design and manufacturing skills

developed the early machines were joined by motor mowers, gang mowers, lawn sweepers, lawn rakes, lawn sprinklers, mechanical scythes and electric hedge trimmers.

Today Lloyds still remains a privately owned company and is looking forward to the next 120 years.

Picture shows Managing Director Clive Nottingham toasting his company's birthday in the company of IOG President Robert Corbin and BIGGA Chairman Gordon Child.



## Textron new products

The Textron stable which includes Ransomes, Jacobsen and Iseki has been busy and introduced a number of new products and updated machines.

Ransomes-Textron launched a new engine-powered triplex greens mower, the Ransomes G-Plex II which supersedes the Greensplex which was first introduced in 1994. The G-Plex II is available with a choice of 18hp petrol or 18.8hp diesel engine.

Notable features include a patented centre reel which pivots sideways clear of the mower for convenient adjustment and servicing. In work, an automatic time delay lowers and raises the centre reel after the from two units to maintain an in-line finish and the edge of the green. It also boasts a stabiliser linkage which levels the cutting units parallel to the ground during lifting and lowering.

Jacobsen launched its new electrically powered SandScorpion bunker rake. Using a 48 volt electrical system with six eight volt deep-cycle batteries the Sand Scorpion will operate for up to six hours without recharging.

Long life steel blades with noise reducing bumpers move independently, avoiding the possibility of gouging, while the contoured rake can be matched to meet a variety of different conditions. Jacobsen has also added two lightweight fairway mowers to its range. Labelled the LF-3400/LF-3800, the five unit mowers combine, durability and productivity while retaining low ground pressure.

Available with two or four wheel hydrostatic drive the machines have power steering, tiltable steering column and hydraulic oil monitor with horn alarm.

Iseki has introduced two new ride-on rotary mowers, the SF200 and SF230 are powered by 20hp and 22.5hp water cooled diesel engines with two pedal hydrostatic transmission giving variable forward and reverse travel up to a maximum speed of 8.4 mph.

For further information Tel: 01473 270000.



## Sisis gain award with Autocare

SISIS received the Award for the Best New Sportsturf Machine at the show, for the second year running.

This year's award winner was the SISIS Autocare System, a budget priced, compact maintenance system for turf and artificial surfaces. The power unit has a 5hp engine and will operate a range of driven "heads" all fitted in seconds with-out tools. It will also operate a range of brushes, rakes, etc.

Once a user has acquired an AutoCare power unit, implements may be added over a period of time to build a comprehensive maintenance system.

The AutoCare will have all the flexibility of tractor mounted systems with the added advantage of being suitable for smaller areas or areas with limited access.

For further information Tel: 01625 503030.

## Amazone

Amazone's latest slitter/aerators the 1.2 metre wide SL and the SLS, and the SLC, available in 1.2 metre and 2.4 metre made their debuts at the show.

All are three point-linkage mounted machines and are fitted with a ground-driven rotor whose unique 10 degree offset blade configuration ensures high point pressure across the implement at high operating speeds, while exerting 91kg/point pressure for entry into the thickest thatch to a depth of 12cm.

The blade pattern also ensures that all the points in contact with the surface penetrate the ground to an equal depth when the slitter is driven forward, so eliminating the "walking" effect associated with some blade layouts.

For further information Tel: 01579 351155.

## Hi-Tec from Hydroscape

The Hydroscape Group has introduced a new range of state-of-the-art weather station technology to assist greenkeepers and groundsmen in their turf management practices. Currently three weather stations and systems packages are being made available that will record a range of weather and climatic data such as wind speed and direction, barometric pressure, rainfall measurement, solar intensity, humidity, temperature and evapotranspiration.



The Weather Monitor II will provide information on wind direction and speed and a quick check of the barometric trend arrow will show if pressure is rising, falling or holding steady.

The Weather Wizard III offers a professional package that monitors and stores data on a range of weather conditions including, inside and outside temperature, wind direction, speed and chill factor. The rain

collector will measure daily and accumulated rainfall and, when connected to a computer through the WeatherLink, will provide a detailed, long-term analysis.

The GroWeather, using information from the Evapotranspiration (ET) System, allows turf and landscape managers to conserve water resources, optimise irrigation requirements and monitor possible drought conditions.

For further information Tel: 01425 476261

## New waterproof spray grease from Course Care

Following requests from greenkeepers and groundsmen Course Care has introduced waterproof spray grease to their aerosol range. The grease is ideal for lubrication of pop-up sprinklers and other areas such as turnbuckles or swivels that are prone to failure in damp environments.

The Course Cap has been redesigned and re-launched at the show. The past six months has seen several changes to the style and design to meet the requirements of wearers. While the new Course Cap looks like a standard baseball cap it has a rigid shell in the construction

to give some protection.

The Abbeydale is a stainless steel cutter with laser-cut edges for the removal of small cores of fine turf, which have become damaged or diseased. It enables a healthy core of exactly the same size to be exchanged in a few seconds for the unhealthy one with an invisible finish. This has particular application on golf greens, bowling greens and cricket wickets and was developed by John Coleman, Course Manager at Abbeydale Golf Club.

For further information Tel: 01535 611103.

## Lance a lot better than before

The Cooper Pegler range of amenity sprayers - now owned by Hardi International - displayed a new telescopic hand lance and an addition to the Multipack sprayer range.

The hand lance has been developed to help operators reach into awkward places and also to adjust lance length to the job in hand.

Lightweight it is easily adjustable in the same way as a car radio aerial and has integral leakproof seal.

The multipack is a 50 litre replacement for the former 30 litre model and like the existing 100 and 250 litre versions has electric 12 volt operation of the Flojet pump.

For further information Tel: 01455 233811.

## Brushing up the course

Multi-Core introduced two purpose-built core collectors for use with the company's 1m and 1.5m fine turf aerators.

Designed to provide greenkeepers, groundstaff and other turf professionals with a truly one-pass system for hollow coring and core collection, the new Multi-Sweep MS 10 and MS 15 core collectors attach directly to the rear of their respective aerators on a

pivoting frame.

Collection of cores takes place less than a second after the cores are produced by the aerator. A hydraulically-driven revolving brush sweeps continuously over the turf, smoothly lifting the cores from the ground before flicking them into an integral hopper at the rear.

For further information Tel: 01937 843281

## TRILO'S GOT LEAF COLLECTING OFF TO A TEE



For years people scratched their heads looking for a speedy, efficient and economical way of collecting leaves and



grass cuttings. Then, in 1966, the engineers at Trilo came up with the perfect solution - an ingenious vacuum sweeper which they called the Trilo Grass

Collector. The idea was a huge success and the company's reputation for expertise and quality soon spread world-



wide. Thirty years on, Trilo is still leading the way with a wide range of machines that will not only vacuum, but also scarify, cut and collect.

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