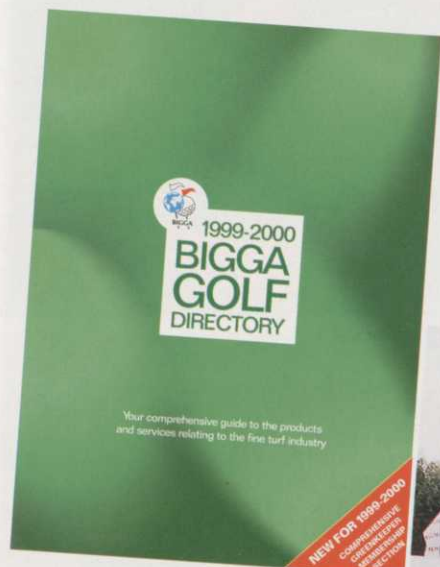


# SALTEX<sup>99</sup>

Sports, Amenities, Landscaping  
7-9 September '99 Windsor Racecourse

**Saltex '99, the outdoor, summer, southern relation of BTME drew many familiar faces to Windsor Racecourse and served up the usual array of new products, machinery demonstrations, press launches and gossip.**



BIGGA's new improved 1999-2000 Golf Directory was launched at the Show and received rave reviews from everyone who saw it. For the first time, the Directory lists the names of BIGGA members and their golf clubs, and as a result it will be invaluable for people looking to track down old friends or acquaintances. Coupled with the company listings it is sure to become recognised as the yellow pages for golf... except it's green!

Please accept your own copy, free, this month, with our compliments.



As is tradition the BIGGA Chairman is invited to be a stand judge on the first morning of the Show. Gordon Child is seen admiring the Town and Country Turf stand which went on to win a Gold Medal in category 3.

From record entries throughout the UK and Ireland, The RAC Golf & Country Club, Epsom, was drawn as this year's winner of the annual Blazon "Spray Watch" campaign and received the first prize of a brand new Gambetti Barre AMK 300 Tractor Mounted Sprayer.

Presentation of the prize to the winning club's Course Manager Bob Wiles, was made by Neil Thomas, BIGGA's Executive Director

Attending the ceremony also was Chris Rudkin of Avoncrop Amenity Products whose company supplied the Blazon and entered the RAC Club into the draw.

"We have been using Blazon since it was first launched and it continues to be an essential part of our spraying programme," said Bob Wiles.

Pictured left to right are Chris Rudkin, Bob Wiles, Neil Thomas and Richard Fry, Blazon Europe.



## Textron launch new stablemates at Saltex

Textron launched the Jacobsen HR-4600 Turbo triplex rotary mower which incorporates many design features already proven on the HR-Si 11 and HR-901 6 Turbo.

An adjustable, high backed suspension seat, gauges that are easy to see and all controls within reach. Three hydraulically powered cutting decks, each with two blades, provide a 92" cutting width with a cutting height. The front decks can be raised and lowered independently.

A single pedal controls speed and direction, with dynamic braking through the traction circuit when in operating mode and front disc brakes for parking. An adjustable weight transport system improves traction when and where it's needed and optional 4-wheel drive.

Adding to their range of turf care equipment Textron launched the Turfco SP-1 530 trailed top dresser. It has a spreading width of up to 9.14 metres and can achieve a top dressing output of 12.8 acres per hour. The distribution pattern is adjustable from 15-30 feet.

A large six cubic metre capacity hopper ensures fast loading using a front-end loader and the low centre of gravity together with large floatation tyres make it light on the turf.

Textron also recently launched Jacobsen HR-9016 Turbo rotary mower.

Highly manoeuvrable with a 16 foot cutting width, the HR-9016 Turbo can mow up to 16.5 acres per hour. Automatic four-wheel drive when mowing protects the turf in tight turns and on wet and hilly terrain and there are two-wheel and four-wheel reverse options.

The cutting decks consist of a 92 inch, 5-blade, out front multi-flex front deck and two 59 inch, 3-blade,

wing decks, providing cutting heights from 1 inch to 5.5 inches.

The Greens King V has also been improved and is now built at Ipswich, specifically for the European market.

Designed with operator comfort in mind, the control console provides clear sight lines in all directions and all controls are within easy reach. The one-touch lift and lower foot pedals make raising and lowering the cutting units a simple operation.

Fully floating cutting reels available with 11 or 7 blades and with Jacobsen's FlashAttach system they can be changed in minutes, without tools.

A fully enclosed fibreglass hood helps keep noise to a minimum and lifts to reveal all major components which are easily accessible.

Building on the Parkway 2250, the new PLUS derivative offers a choice of either Magna 250 6-knife, fixed head cutting units or Sport 200 8 or 11-knife, floating head units, both with direct hydraulic drive and variable reel speed control.

Powered by a Kubota 38hp liquid-cooled diesel engine the Parkway 2250 Plus has a mowing speed of 7.5 mph and a transport speed of 15.5 mph. Hydrostatic fail-safe disc brakes are used for parking and automatically engage when the ignition is switched off.

Turfcare professionals with large areas to maintain could find that Textron provides the solution with the factory-fitted combination of the new Iseki TR63 tractor and the Ransomes Hydraulic 5/7 gang mower. The pair are CE approved as one unit.

The seven cutting units of the Hydraulic 5/7 provide a maximum working width of 4.65m reducing to



2.5m in transport mode. Available with either Magna 4 or 6-Knife fixed head cutting units or Sportcutter 8-Knife floating head cutting units, the Hydraulic 5/7 features individual control over the four outer units enabling variations in working width to be achieved.

The Iseki TR63 provides the ideal partner generating 63 hp from a

Perkins direct injection diesel engine that gives a cleaner burn and low exhaust and noise emissions. The air-conditioned cab with wide opening doors for easy access offers superb comfort and excellent visibility especially for trailed equipment. PTO and four-wheel drive are electro-hydraulically engaged with push button control.

## Toro's new signing becomes a part of the team

Toro applied its 'Red Iron' livery to its newly-acquired range of Multi-Core aerators, and showed the machines in public for the first time at Saltex. The move to swap Multi-Core aerators' familiar blue clothes for Toro's traditional red-and-black look follows the purchase by The Toro Company, of Minneapolis, USA, of the machine's British company.

The acquisition has brought the product into the full range of Toro turf maintenance machinery and greatly enhanced the company's aeration range with equipment.

All three of the large turf aeration units in the Multi-Core range are mounted to a compact tractor by the three-point linkage for fast, optimum core aeration. They are lightweight for use on sensitive turf areas such as sports pitches as well as fairways, tees and greens and come in working widths of 40, 60 and 80in respectively.

The new Toro Topdresser 1800 offers greater application control with a new belt design and improved brush performance. A redesigned, easy-to-change V belt improves performance even when handling wet sand or delivering fine applications. The faster-spinning brush and improved metering gate ensure that precisely the desired amount of sand is applied.

The 1800 topdresser is designed and built for use with the Toro Workman utility vehicle. It utilises the Workman's hydraulic system and is controlled with console-mounted levers. The unit has an 18cu ft hopper and can operate at speeds up to 8mph.

Another Toro product on show which is currently receiving a lot of interest is the Contour 82 Deck. This deck is fitted to the company's Groundsmaster 3000-D out-front rotary mower and is designed to produce an even cut without scalping on heavily-contoured ground. The spe-



cial deck comprises four independent, 22 inch-wide cutting chambers that are linked together to form a complete deck. Each section can flex

up and down by 20 degrees to 'float' over bumps and drop into hollows to hug the ground contours for a smooth, consistent cut.

# John Deere's new utility vehicles unveiled at Saltex

John Deere's new E-Gator utility vehicle is powered by a whisper-quiet electric motor. For anyone concerned about noise levels and exhaust emissions in the workplace, the E-Gator provides a clean, quiet, durable and efficient option for a variety of turf and golf course applications.

This four wheel, two seater electric utility vehicle offers the same advantages as the established petrol and diesel Gator models: low ground pressure to help prevent ground compaction; simple, smooth and reliable operation; and easy access to all service points for convenient maintenance.

Designed for quick acceleration and steady performance between charges, the E-Gator offers numerous safety features, including overspeed and roll-away control. This prevents the vehicle from freewheeling down a slope when either carrying a light load or left unattended with the parking brake off; an anti-rollback function also prevents it from freewheeling in the opposite direction.

Dynamic braking allows the motor to brake as the driver lifts a foot off the accelerator. The speed control governs the vehicle at a top forward speed of 15.5mph, or 8 to 10mph in reverse, and helps maintain a constant speed when travelling up or down slopes. In addition, a directional change control slows the vehicle to a stop when moving from forward to reverse.

The vehicle's charger plugs into a 240V ac, 60Hz wall unit and draws the maximum amount of current allowed, to reduce charging time; the charger senses when the charge cycle is complete and

shuts down automatically.

It runs on Hi-Flotation turf tyres and can tow up to 272kg, with a total payload capacity of 408kg. It will be available from spring 2000.

John Deere's new Pro Gator utility vehicle was officially launched in the UK and Ireland at the Show. It can be used as a general materials transporter or with specialist turf maintenance equipment for a wide range of applications in the golf & turf and commercial grounds care markets.

Designed as a heavy duty addition to the Gator range, this four wheel, two seater vehicle is available with a 24hp diesel engine and a choice of two or optional four wheel drive.


The Pro Gator has a five forward, one reverse speed synchronised transmission, with full front and rear suspension, hydraulic drum brakes on all four wheels plus differential lock, hydrostatic power steering and a maximum speed of nearly 20mph. The tilting steering wheel has a choice of five positions for maximum driver comfort, and there is a large eight gallon fuel tank.

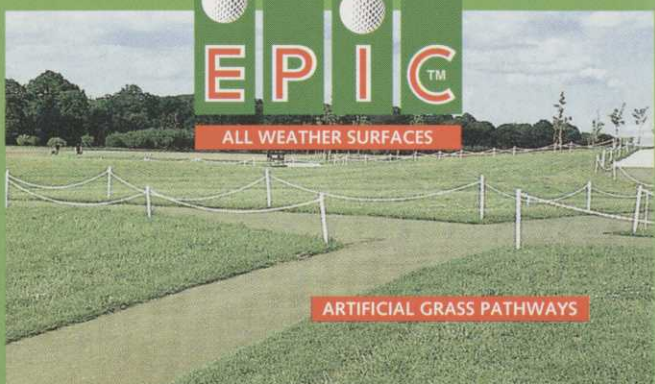
The standard tipping cargo box has a capacity of 876kg, and towing capacity at the rear hitch is 680kg.

In addition to the cargo box, it can be fitted with a range of different attachments utilising the vehicle's hydraulic services and mechanical pto. These include sprayers, spreaders, top dressers, materials collection systems and adapter kits for other turf maintenance equipment.


An optional cab can also be fitted in place of the standard ROPS frame.



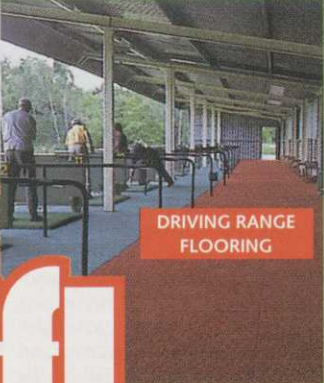





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## Sisis drift along with Ecospray

The new single unit SISIS ECOSPRAY has been designed for use on small areas of natural or synthetic turf, sites with restricted access and hard surfaces such as pavements, car parks etc.

One of the major problems of carrying out selective weed control is waiting for exactly the right weather conditions, particularly wind velocity. Spray drift can damage neighbouring properties, pollute water courses or affect ornamental flower beds. New MAFF codes of practice state that "all pesticides must be contained within the area intended for application" - in other words no drift.

The single-unit "no-drift" ECOSPRAY incorporates the same shrouded spraying unit as those used on the well established tractor models. The patented mesh shroud was developed following extensive research at Cranfield University and scientifically designed to allow the correct amount of air flow to reduce drift to a minimum, while maintaining the correct spray pattern. Bubble jet nozzles are fitted to give a hollow droplet which bursts to give a more uniform droplet size. The shrouded spraying head can be offset to left or right to ensure spray goes right to the edge.

All controls are on the handle which is spring loaded to ensure operator comfort. The spraying head lifts and locks for ease of transport, calibration, change of nozzles etc.

## Fertiliser range expanded at Headland

Headland Amenity has expanded their range of fertilisers based on Multi-K potassium nitrate.

"Multi-K potassium nitrate has many advantages as a turf fertiliser and is ideally suited for use in our climatic conditions," said Mark Hunt, Headland's Fertiliser Product Manager.

Headland has added a mini-prill formulation of Multi-K potassium nitrate, to its existing water soluble and coated products. Multi-K Mini Prill is 1.2mm prill suitable for application to all fine and close mown turf.

The prill breaks down quickly on contact with moisture and provides a rapid response even at low soil temperatures.

"Turf managers now have a choice when applying Multi-K," said Hunt, they can either spray using the water-soluble formulation or apply the mini prill through a spreader as conditions dictate".

With an analysis of 13+0+46, Multi-K Mini Prill is ideally suited as an autumn/winter or spring starter fertiliser.

All Multi-K products are sulphur free, and this linked with their oxidising nature, can help counteract the formation of 'black layer'.



The Show saw the launch of the Ecosol Aero-Fil System from Ecosolve Ltd. The drill and fill aerator is designed to relieve compaction instantly, penetrate the hardest soils, backfill accurately up to 30cm, improve water infiltration, increase root depth and is gentle on the turf which enables play to resume immediately. Launched at the same time vs Ecosol Sportslite, a zeolite soil amendment designed to be used with the Ecosol Aero-fil system's drill and fill.

## Stihl launch their new scrub cutter

The introduction of a new scrub cutter from STIHL, allows tidy cutting alongside roads, paths, planted and play areas, as the cutting blades operate like a mower beam and material literally falls where it is cut.

The FH75 scrub cutter is operated in the same way as a brushcutter, with the cutter bar mounted on a long, loop-handled shaft which is swung in an arcing action close to the ground. The cutter bar can be set to nine different angles between zero and 90 degrees, enhancing the tool's versatility as it can be instantly adapted to suit different cutting situations.

An additional benefit of the FH75 scrub cutter is the user's ability to see the tip of the cutting head during operation enabling a more accurate cut around tender and static objects.

The FH75 is highly versatile and clearly suited to a wide range of applications from road, rail and highway maintenance to park, nursery and garden care.



## Kubota go for the triple at Saltex



Kubota has extended its range of professional grass-care products with the G18 GlideCut - the world's first triple-bladed through-cut mower with integral rear-mounted grass collector.

Equipped with a 1.2m wide, three-bladed rotary cutter deck and rear collector which can be emptied hydraulically from the driving seat, the Kubota G18 GlideCut has a low noise, low emissions 18hp diesel engine, single pedal hydrostatic transmission and power steering.

The G18 GlideCut's low centre of gravity, clean cut and high workrate make it equally suited to maintaining most areas of amenity grass where clip-

pings need to be collected and disposed of cleanly, quickly and efficiently.

Features of the G18 GlideCut which will be of particular benefit to users are its:

- Quick-attach 1.2m wide triple-bladed cutter deck
- Narrow overall working width of just 1.26m
- Low noise, low emissions Kubota 18hp water-cooled E-TVCS diesel engine
- Comfortable and easily accessible flat floor operator's platform
- Shaft-driven transmission and mower deck, with hydraulic deck lift
- Simple dial-type cuffing height

adjustment from 25mm - 102mm

- Large 22 litre diesel tank
- Large tyres all-round: 16 x 6.8 -8 front, 23 x 10.5 -12 rear
- Single pedal hydrostatic drive giving a maximum travelling speed of 9.5mph
- 500 litre capacity rear grass collector

Safety features on the Kubota G18 GlideCut include a neutral start switch, a seat cut-out switch to the mower drive, a blade-brake clutch and a mower cut-out switch when the rear grass collector is tipped for emptying.

## Latest release from STRI a hit

Turfgrass Titles of the World was launched by the STRI at Saltex.

This new catalogue is a landmark in the history of publishing within the Turfgrass Industry. It pulls together from around the world the widest range of Turfgrass Titles available from a single source. Although a leading publisher and supplier of turfgrass titles since 1929, STRI has never before been able to offer such a comprehensive list of books and publications through its mail-order service.

This first edition of the catalogue contains 57 titles covering all aspects of turf management and maintenance, design, construction, drainage, irrigation, turfgrass research, ecology etc. for golf courses, sports facilities, stadia, racecourses, sports grounds and recreational areas. The second edition, planned for the millennium, will expand to include almost 200 titles.

All books ordered via the catalogue can be sourced and dispatched direct from STRI with a single payment.

The new book catalogue is available free of charge from STRI.

## 'Best Value' from Barenbrug

Barenbrug launched its Best Value range of turfgrass seed, which makes it easier to find high quality cultivars at great value prices.

There is a Fine Turf Mixture for ornamental lawns, golf and bowling greens; Sports Turf Construction and Renovation for football, rugby and hockey; Sports and General Landscaping Mixture for parks, open spaces, housing and industrial estates; Low Maintenance, featuring Barkoel; an MOT-Approved Mixture for roadside verges, embankments and roundabouts; plus Barflora, a general-purpose wildflower seed mixture.

Barkoel is also one of Barenbrug's listings in the STRI Turfgrass Seed 2000, showing improved shoot density. It offers ultimate low maintenance, reducing mowing by 40%. It has withstood close mowing down to 5mm and performs best under a very low nitrogen regime. Low input requirements mean savings in fertilisation, mowing and irrigation. Barkoel also works well in conjunction with wildflowers.

Another new cultivar is Barlouise, a dwarf perennial ryegrass which scored the highest in the 'slow regrowth under regular mowing' category. One of the best new cultivars in resisting red thread, it makes a superb component in any medium fine turf mixture.

## Etesia's Attila battles the toughest rough

Following on from its Attila ride-on brushcutter, Etesia launched the Attila AV5 1 - a heavy-duty pedestrian-controlled machine.

This 51cm brushcutter is ideal for sites where access is restricted and for taming wild areas such as woodland rides, fire breaks plus weed control in plantations.

Powered by the latest Kawasaki FC 180 6hp OHV engine this machine is capable of taking on the roughest and toughest of conditions. Extra large diameter rear wheels have wide tread tyres for traction grip and all four wheels are mounted on ball bearings for long life.

The chassis is manufactured from boxed steel and three forward gears and one reverse transmission enable the operator to match the machine's travel to suit prevailing conditions. There is a differential lock for extra traction when it is needed on difficult terrain.

All the controls have been designed for ease of use and two central levers adjust the cutting height. These can be removed to avoid snagging on undergrowth.



Next month we will list more of the new products on show at Saltex