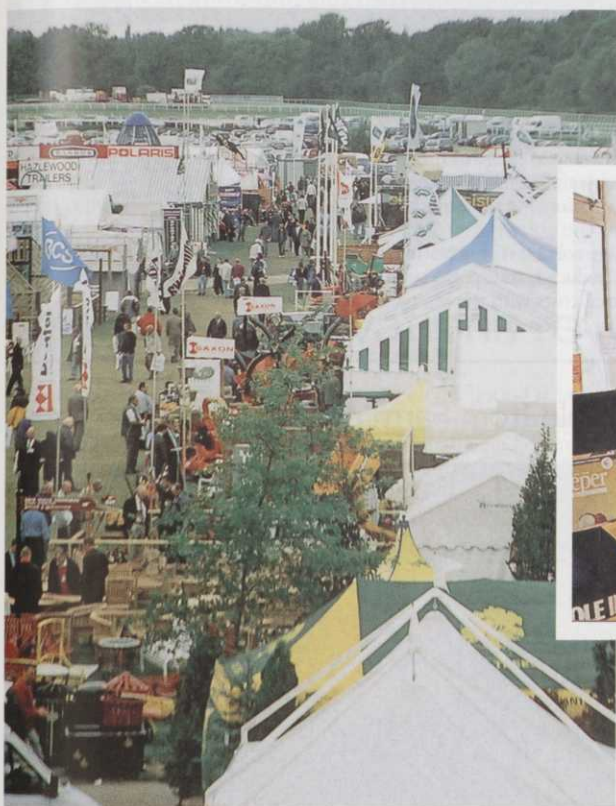


SALTEX REVIEW



BTME's southern outdoor cousin, SALTEX, unveiled a new layout this year, colour coded to assist navigation, and although often in different locations the familiar companies were on-hand to display what's new in the world of fine turf.

The amended layout saw a change to the traditional entrance of the Show with a larger number of companies, together with the Education Pavilion, housed in the centre of the race course.

As in the previous two years BIGGA took the opportunity to launch its annual Golf Directory and the new look publication found many admirers among those lucky enough to see early copies.

Above: Tracey Maddison, BIGGA Membership Services Officer gave a warm welcome to visitors to the BIGGA stand, and answered questions about Membership and the Association in general.

Left: Saltex's new layout ensured a plentiful turnout of exhibitors and visitors.

Alan Stow retires from Vitax



Saltex was also the venue for the final event in Vitax's Alan Stow's extended round of retirement functions.

Having been honoured at several BIGGA functions over the last few months he enjoyed his official send-off at Vitax's headquarters the Friday before SALTEX only for Clive Williams to arrange a surprise party for Alan with all his friends from the industry on the Wednesday of SALTEX. Alan was presented with a brand new spade and fork by Derek Walder, of the IOG.

Spray Watch competition won by Drift GC

Seven successful years and seven sprayers, the annual Blazon 'Spray Watch' campaign continues to educate golf clubs and spray operators to the benefits of including a spray pattern indicator each and every time they spray. This year's lucky winner, selected from a record entry, was The Drift Golf Club, East Horsley, Surrey, who received the first prize of a brand new Gambetti Barre AMK 300 Tractor Mounted Sprayer.

Presentation of the prize to the win-

ning club's Head Greenkeeper Mark Bellamy, was made by Elliott Small and Neil Thomas. Also attending the ceremony were The Drift Golf Club's Course Manager, Paul Weston, and General Manager, Gail Backett.

Commenting on the award, Mark Bellamy stated, "Blazon has become an essential part of our spraying programme. It does not stain and the easily seen spray pattern ensures that all our applications are applied with a high degree of accuracy and uniformity".



Above: Chris Byrd (Marketing Manager Blazon), Mark Bellamy (Head Greenkeeper, the Drift Golf Club), Elliott Small (Chairman BIGGA), Paul Weston Course Manager, The Drift), Gail Backett (General Manager, The Drift), Neil Thomas (Executive Director BIGGA), Ian Sellers (GEM Professional)

Advanta range on display at Saltex

Amenity grass seed breeder Advanta Seeds UK, displayed five of the company's most popular branded mixtures at the show including, from the Advanta MM range, MM 10, MM 50 and MM 60. The first is a variation of the traditional fescue/bent greens mixture. It incorporates Mocassin, a new variety of slender creeping red fescue, which adds extra resilience to the turf.

MM50 is a hard-wearing perennial ryegrass mixture, ideal for repairing worn ends of cricket squares and badly divoted golf tees. The mix offers high wear tolerance, rapid establishment and strong root development.

MM60 is a 100 per cent ryegrass mixture for oversowing winter games pitches. The blend of cultivars gives quick establishment, a hard wearing surface and the capacity to regenerate quickly after damage.

The two 'Designer' mixtures will be Premier Sport and Estate. The first has a mix of ryegrass, fescue, smooth stalked meadowgrass and browntop bent cultivars, and is ideal for all heavy-duty winter sports areas, including football and rugby pitches.

Estate is a combination of a fast growing perennial ryegrass with a variety of strong creeping red fescue. Containing true amenity cultivars, it is a value for money option for temporary reseeded, or use in utility areas receiving some wear.

Vitax extends Organic range

Vitax extended its organic range by launching three, new, seaweed based products at Saltex 2000. A natural high strength seaweed, a 12.0.6 seaweed based liquid feed for turf, and a high strength seaweed based iron tonic, which are the result of research carried out on the seaweed variety *Laminaria Digitata*. Harvested from renewable sources in the Atlantic Ocean, this particular variety is rich in trace elements, growth hormones and cytokinins. These three, new products, which come in 10 litre containers, follow the success of Vitax Vitaliser, the 100% organic controlled release fertiliser which was launched at BTME.

Headland additions

Headland Amenity launched a new addition to their successful range of Greentec granular fertilisers.

Homogenous, with rapid breakdown qualities and an average size of 1.25mm, this new formulation of 6.4.12 has all the qualities of the original, but benefits from additional iron to harden turf for the harsher months ahead.

Three different Nitrogen sources ensure that the product produces optimum results over the full range of soil temperatures, especially under cool conditions, and adapts easily to varying weather conditions. The new Greentec 6.4.12 is designed for use on all fine turf including golf and bowling greens, and carries a recommended application rate of 25-35 grams per square metre.

New product wins award for Aventis

Saltex 2000 saw the launch, by Aventis Environmental Science, of an ultra-low dose fungicide, Capricorn, which will treat an entire average size golf green with just 50 ml. The product went on to win the award for Best New Sportsturf Product at the show.

This equates to one litre per hectare and compares with a typical requirement of 20-40 litres per hectare with other fungicides.

The chemistry of the product (which contains epoxiconazole and carben-dazam) enables far greater absorption into the turf, thereby requiring a greatly reduced concentration in application and thus less environmental impact. Capricorn has also been shown to have a positive effect on the beneficial fungus, Arbuscular mycorrhiza, particularly to turf grass.

The product is supplied in 250 ml packs with a measuring cap to ensure the correct dosage is applied. The low,



accurately measured dosage means greater accuracy in usage of the product, thereby making it a more cost efficient solution for fungicide treatment.

The lower volume required will also result in reduced transport, storage and disposal costs with the attendant environmental benefits.



Latest Shibaura tractors available from Farm and Garden Machinery

Farm and Garden Machinery showed the Shibaura ST 321 and 324 compact tractors with power assisted steering and four wheel drive.

The diesel engine has been designed to provide extreme efficiency with better combustion, cleaner emissions and reduced fuel consumption. Model ST321 has a 21hp engine and the ST324 a 24hp.

For operator comfort there are low noise and low vibration features and this tractor has been designed to balance rigidity and strength with light weight and easy maintenance.

True versatility is offered by the ST tractor models. They are compatible with a whole range of attachments which can be rear-mounted. If required, as an option there is also a hydraulic outlet on the side for out-front implements. From flail mowers,



rotary tillers, harrows, cultivators through to snow blowers – all can be harnessed to operate with this compact tractor.

Shibaura's ST tractor has a 20 litre fuel tank, lifting capacity of 669kg and can travel at a speed of from under 1 mph up to 9.97mph.

New combi-trailer from Lloyds puts an end to wet weather woes

Lloyds & Co Letchworth Ltd has launched the multi-purpose Greenline combi-trailer.

The machine can be used for a variety of tasks, from the maintenance of grass areas, including cutting and scarifying, to the collection of grass, leaves and wood chippings taking advantage of the high tipping and various size high capacity trailer available, thus saving the necessity and expense of having a dedicated machines for each task.

The unique design is based on the "building block principle" in that you decide which blocks and configuration you need to perform a specific task knowing that it will be carried out to a standard you would expect from a dedicated machine.

The combi-trailer is constructed



from high quality, hardwearing materials and this together with its low centre of gravity and variable track width, means it can be used

on difficult terrains and in all weather conditions. Bad weather will no longer be an excuse for work not being carried out!

Tigarake removes thatch with a real roar

The new Sisis Tigarake, hydraulic scarifier, has been designed for fast, effective thatch removal on bowling greens, lawn tennis courts, cricket squares, golf greens/tees/approaches, football pitches. The twin scarifying units have a working width of just over a metre.

The entire machine floats on a front roller, and each individual unit floats independently across the width of the machine. It therefore follows undulations maintaining depth of cut and eliminating scalping.

The Tigarake incorporates the Sisis Rotorake contra-rotation principle, whereby the blades rotate at high speed in the opposite direction to that of the conventional cylinder mower. The blades therefore cut upwards, continuously taking fibre away from the



surface and leaving a clean finish.

There is a high speed hydraulic motor on each unit while there are four interchangeable reels available: thatch removal reel; verticutting reel comprising close-pitched triangular blades

for light scarification during the growing season; brush reel to remove light surface debris and lift grasses prior to mowing; combined reel with thatch removal blades interspersed with brushes to remove thatch.

New Toro innovations revealed at Saltex

The new Groundsmaster 3500-D Sidewinder unveiled by Toro at SALTEX is an innovative rotary mower with cutting units that can be shifted to either side of the machine to provide an overhang for trimming grass edges such as bunker rims and fringes.

The GM 3500-Ds innovative cutting system comprises three individual, 2TIn floating rotary decks with front and rear rollers which follow ground contours to virtually eliminate scalping. The deck overlap configuration prevents grass streaks in turns and on banks.

Versatility is provided by an adjustable width of cut, which allows the machine to be set up for three different cutting widths - 68in, 70in and 72in - by simply changing a bolted assembly.

The Sidewinder system enables the decks to slide 12in left and right of centre. This provides a 12in overhang on either side of the mower at a 68in width of cut.



The GM 3500-D is designed to appeal to greenkeepers, grounds managers and landscape contractors. In golf, its use is primarily for surround mowing, trim work in roughs and striping around the clubhouse and other desirable areas.

The Toro GM 3500-D is fitted with a Kubota 35hp turbo diesel engine and has permanent three-wheel drive for both mowing and transport. Mowing speed is factory set at 6mph, but is adjustable, and the unit can travel at up to 9mph in transport.

The Toro Groundsmaster 4000-D is a lift rotary mower that is manoeuvrable and produces a high-quality cut.

On cutting performance, the focus is on the quality of cut, mowing capacity, ground following and after-cut dispersion of the clippings. Rear discharge decks are fitted for even dispersion of cuttings for a clean after-cut finish.

For cleaner cutting management and added safety, these can be converted by customers to Toro's Guardian Recycler design simply by bolting on baffles and kickers.

Excellent manoeuvrability has been achieved by Toro engineers through a combination of wheel tread width, wheel base and the positioning of the two wing decks.

Finally, to meet today's requirements for high operator comfort, ease of use and safety, the lift rotary utilises much of the driver's platform and controls of Toro's Groundsmaster 3000. This provides workers with excellent visibility for both cutting and transport operations.

The Toro Groundsmaster 4000-D is expected to be available in the UK next spring.

Richard Campey shows latest Koro developments

The latest developments from the Koro Design and Manufacturing Centre in Holland were shown for the first time, on the Richard Campey stand.

The Field Top Maker has given birth to a 'Mini' version for specific surface management work in tight areas. The Koro 120 FTM is a 1.2mtr version of the original FTM for use with compact tractors.

The working depth is easily adjusted by four micro screw jacks, enabling the machine to fraise mow, removing surface irregularities. Thatch layer and weak shallow rooted grasses can also be removed by further adjustment, leaving the roots of any good grass cultivars to quickly re-establish.

Material is removed by specially designed blades, direct onto a cross conveyor and elevator into a trailer running alongside the machine. The result is a level playing surface.

Home-grown success for BSH

A new UK-bred perennial ryegrass - the second home-produced cultivar to emerge from the British Seed Houses' turfgrass breeding programme at the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research (IGER) - tops the 2001 STRI ryegrass listings for fine turf situations.

AberImp is a sister variety to AberElf - the first IGER-bred perennial ryegrass that still heads the STRI listings for winter sports pitches two years after its launch. AberElf has since become a firm favourite with UK turf producers and groundsmen and is firmly established on many pitches in the Carling Premiership. AberElf also forms part of the sward at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff and at Murrayfield.

Described by British Seed Houses as the ideal, low maintenance dual-purpose ryegrass, AberImp shares the wear tolerance attributes of AberElf with the added benefits of unrivalled shoot density and exceptional slow re-growth characteristics under regular mowing.

Move Mountains... (well almost!)



Here is some of the debris that customers have shifted with their Turfmech

Tornado blowers. Leaves...litter...bottles...cans... twigs...pine needles...fir cones...snow...dew... puddles of water... grass clippings...soil...dust... scarified thatch...rubber drills...small stones...plastic waste... hedge trimmings...waste paper...

Call us for more information on the Tornado blower range, **Don't sweep it, Tornado it.** We'll be happy to demonstrate.

Visit our website at:
www.turfmech.co.uk

Turfmech Machinery Ltd. New Road Industrial Estate,
Hixon, Staffs ST18 0PJ, UK Tel: 01889 271503 Fax: 01889 271321
e-mail: sales@turfmech.co.uk

Turfmech

Tough jobs are no problem for E-Z-GO

Appearing for the first time at SALTEX the Workhorse LX series from Textron is a range of dependable, multi-purpose E-Z-GO utility vehicles designed to handle the toughest jobs.

Each vehicle in the range includes an array of standard features including heavy duty bed liner with tailgate cover, differential protection guard, engine skid plate, fuel gauge or state of charge meter, halogen headlights, hour meter, trailer hitch and tubular steel bumpers. The Workhorse 800 LX features a 9hp, 295cc twin cylinder, air cooled overhead cam, petrol engine with automatic, continuous variable transmission forward and reverse and a payload of 363.2kg. The Workhorse 1000 LX is an electrically driven derivative with a 36-volt, DC high efficiency series motor with the capability to carry a payload of 454kg. Topping the range is the powerful Workhorse 1200 LX featuring an 11 hp, 350cc, air cooled overhead cam petrol engine and a payload of 544.8kg. The E-Z-GO Workhorse LX series provides the versatility required for a host of applications on golf courses, parks, leisure complexes, smallholdings, farms, woodland and amenity areas.

New Knife Rite from Bernhard & Co

The latest addition to Bernhard & Co's professional range of precision grinding equipment, is the Knife Rite 1000 bottom blade grinder with powerful 1 hp motor.

This bench-mounted grind machine is highly accurate and sharpens with speed, safety and simplicity. Capable of grinding bottom blades up to 40 inches long, the machine has a unique angle indicator device. Extremely easy to operate, it provides the convenience of an in-house grinding facility at a very affordable price.

Golf and sports clubs, local authorities, landscape contractors and schools with restricted resources can now undertake a regular programme of blade sharpening using Knife Rite 1000.

Used in tandem with the Express Dual 1000 cylinder grinder, turf can be maintained to higher standards with a cleaner cut.

Rolawn expansion

Rolawn Screened Topsoil is now available in full motor loads for delivery direct to site. Also available in 600 litre boxes, containing approximately one tonne of topsoil, from selected depots. The soil meets ICRCCL specification, is safe for use in domestic gardens and playing fields. Rolawn Soil Conditioner is 100% peat free, screened wood chip compost. Available in full 60 cubic metre loads.

It is light and easy to use, excellent for incorporation into soil when planting shrubs and trees. Both products join Rolawn's GroRight pre turfing/seeding fertiliser which came on to the market last year and has proved to be very successful.

John Deere range gets new additions

John Deere's F1145 front mower is now available with a 1.8m articulating rotary mower deck.

The new deck comprises three 63cm front rotary mowers. Wheels under each section ensure a constant deck weight. Cutting height is adjustable from 25 to 127mm in 6mm stages, and the mower can be set to side discharge or mulch as required.

The traction unit retains its heavy duty 27hp diesel engine and hydrostatic transmission, which are similar to those used in John Deere's compact utility tractor range. Dual pedal foot controls and power steering are standard, with cruise control available as an option.

In addition, a choice of two four wheel drive functions offers the operator increased traction for improved mowing performance. The new F1145 front mower with articulating deck costs £17,289.

The new John Deere 4700 compact tractor also had its UK launch at SALTEX 2000. Powered by a 48 gross hp diesel engine, the 4700 compact tractor provides the highest horsepower with hydrostatic transmission in its class. In addition to this transmission, developing 40hp at the pto, there is a standard hydraulic PowrReverser transmission with 24 forward and reverse gears, including creeper speeds, which develops 41.5 pto hp.

The reverser transmission allows the operator to change direction by flipping a lever without using the clutch, speeding up repetitive loader and front blade work for increased productivity. Twin Touch foot pedals on the hydrostatic version provide simple forward and reverse operation.

With the new John Deere 1620 wide area mower, large areas of grass with inclines, dips and other hard to reach places can be tackled.

It is based on the same traction unit as its stablemate, the 1600 wide area mower launched at BTME 2000. The 1620 has a 2.4m articulating rotary mower deck with 76cm wings that can mow undulating areas at a consistent height of cut. Operating at a speed of 6.5mph, the 1620 can easily cover over six acres per hour.



Envirosafe a boom for Gambetti UK

Keeping the spray away from the environment and all on the target was Gambetti UK's aim this year. The launch of the new ENVIROSAFE covered boom, with many extra safety features added as standard proved very successful not just for the UK but around Europe too.

Calibration and maintenance is made easy with the addition of a hydraulic ram which enables the entire boom to be tilted forward in order to provide open access to the nozzles. The operator can work safely on the underpart of the boom. This ram also allows the boom to be reversed up into tight corners and up

sloping ground without risk of damage to the canopies.

Triple jet nozzle bodies allow safe and quick changing of application rates. Underneath the canopy there are no wheels or bracing bars that could interfere with the spray pattern or become rusted with chemical or liquid fertiliser contamination.

The extra height in the canopy allows 110 deg fan angle jets to be used which give a more even coverage and eliminates the risk of striping. Billericy bubble jets can be fitted which carry the LERAP 3 star rating.

Gambetti hopes to have full production available in November.

