

Greenkeeper International takes a look at the very latest products and services available from the fine turf industry

New mowers from John Deere

John Deere's new 1435 and 1445 front mowers deliver increased standards of traction, manoeuvrability, comfort and productivity for all commercial applications. They are based on a durable, high strength, tubular steel frame, with cast iron front and rear axles and rear bumpers, heavy duty dual hydraulic cylinders, long life steel mower decks and an award winning composite hood design.

Replacing the F735 and F1145 machines, the 1435 and 1445 feature a more powerful Yanmar liquid cooled diesel engine at 24 and 31 gross hp respectively.

A foot activated duff lock gives extra traction on hillsides and in slippery conditions. The mower's lower centre of gravity and wider wheelbase, as well as the mechanical four wheel drive - standard on the 1445 model, and optional on the 1435 provide increased stability and traction in both forward and reverse. Dual drive wheels are optional.

Increased productivity is provided by the large capacity 14.5 gal fuel tank, which allows 10 hours mowing without the need to refuel, and the durable hydrostatic transmission, with higher forward speeds up to 12mph. Both machines became available in April with a choice of heavy duty commercial mower decks made of 7 gauge steel, the thickest in the industry. The 1435 and 1445 claim the smallest front mower turning radius in the industry, at 50cm).

Manoeuvrability is further enhanced



by the exclusive rear clear trimming' feature on 1.82m deck models, which allows the steered wheels to stay within the path cut by the front mower deck.

A patent pending air intake system allows air to enter from the rear and side of the mower, also contributing to lower sound levels and giving less build-up of debris. An integral two post ROPS is standard equipment, and can be folded down for mowing under low hanging trees, for example.

Options include hydraulic weight transfer and cruise control, a rear hitch and hard or soft cabs; heavy

duty attachments include a 1.19m snow blower, 1.37m front blade and 1.52m rotary broom.

Base prices of the new John Deere front mowers are £9,732 for the 1435 with 2WD, and £12,581 for the model 1445 with 4WD. In addition, the 1.52 and 1.82m (60 and 72in) side discharge mower decks cost £2,154 and £2,500 respectively, and the 1.57m (62in) rear discharge deck costs £2,268.

For further information tel: 01949 860491

Kawasaki's latest pumps tackle the dirtiest of waters

Two new models have been introduced to Kawasaki Commercial Products' pump line-up with the introduction of a brace of trash pumps.

Targeted principally at the construction, utilities and other commercial sectors, the arrival of the KWS20-A and KWS30-A dirty water pumps takes the number of Kawasaki models available to the UK market to six.

The 2" and 3" outlet, semi-trash', centrifugal, self-priming models are available to the market after being introduced to Kawasaki's UK dealer network in March.

As with all Kawasaki pumps, the two newcomers are engineered to a high



specification offering exceptional levels of performance, durability and reliability. An impressive FE, OHV, four-stroke heavy duty engine features a large muffler for quieter operation while a larger capacity fuel tank also extends periods of operation.

For heavy working environments, a full-frame provides protection for the water outlets and controls while a specially designed mechanical seal on the PTO shaft improves durability. A superior discharge capacity is maintained by a super-duty impeller design.

Discharge rates for the 2" and 3" trash pumps are 750 and 1,000 litres a minute respectively.

For further information tel: 01285 643756

Carving out a niche market

www.postcarving.co.uk's range of carved tops includes an intricately designed golf ball, ideal for tee marks or perimeter fencing.

One of nine intricate designs, the golf balls are available in pine or beech and are supplied with a threaded dowel for fixing. They can be treated, stained or painted, to become an individual addition to golf courses and surroundings.

Other designs include owls, horses, hounds and frogs, mushrooms, acorns or pineapples.

Purchases can be made from the company website, www.postcarvings.co.uk, with payment by credit card or cheque acceptable.

For further information tel: 01274 732 861

Blooming marvellous mix from Advanta Seeds

Advanta Seeds has introduced a new 100% wild flower mixture into its MM and Designer amenity ranges. The 'corn field annual mix' has been designed to produce a field of traditional wildflowers, reflecting how meadows might look if left to grow wild.

The mix consists of seeds of corn-cockle, corn marigold, common poppy, cornflower and corn chamomile, and produces an attractive and colourful area during the summer flowering period. This mix should be sown on a weed-free site of low fertility, at a rate of 2g per square metre. No fertiliser is needed, as this will encourage broad-leaved and grass weeds to compete too aggressively, making it difficult for the wild flower seeds to establish.

Sowing can take place either in the spring, from March to May, or from



early August to mid September. The seed should be spread evenly across the soil. Mixing one part seed with four parts dry sand will make this easier.

After light raking the seed should be firmed in by treading or rolling - followed by watering with a fine spray if

conditions are dry. The area should be kept well watered and free from unwanted plants until the mixture is established.

For further information tel: 01529 304511



More torque from Euroflexis' turfcutter

Euroflexis, a recently formed company based at Coventry, are powering their turfcutters with Hatz 1B20 diesel engines. The turfcutter originally designed and built by Kevin Ballinger, now the Managing Director of Euroflexis, runs on diesel instead of petrol. The advantages of this are economical and, probably more importantly, because the engine is more powerful with greater torque. Diesel, especially red, is infinitely cheaper than the cheapest petrol available. The engine will perform all day on one tankful. The turfcutter has been tested in extreme conditions. With the ground saturated due to recent terrible weather conditions, the turfcutter stood up well to the challenge. Traction in these conditions was good and the cut maintained.

For further information contact: Euroflexis Ltd, Turflin, 9 Bayton Way, Exhall, Coventry, West Midlands CV7 9ER

Small is 'super' for Kubota's new range

April saw the launch by Kubota of six new four-wheel drive compact tractors covering the 17hp to 27hp power band. Described by Kubota as the "new generation" Super B series, they supersede the original Super B compact tractors which were introduced in 1996 and have been the UK's best-selling compact tractor range ever since. Kubota's latest Super B tractors comprise the 17hp B1710 with gearbox transmission, the 21hp B2110 and 24hp B2410 available either with gearbox or dual-range hydrostatic transmission (HST), and the B2710, a 27hp tractor with a three-range hydrostatic transmission. The B2710 is an addition to Kubota's Super B series line-up, the highest-powered tractor in the previous range being the 24hp B2400.

All of the new models are powered by Kubota's quick-starting E-TVCS (three vortex combustion system) water-cooled Diesel engine.

The three Super B hydrostatic models have as standard Kubota's unique Bi-Speed Turn, which helps produce faster, smoother, tighter turns with reduced surface scuffing. Electro-hydraulically activated, the system engages automatically when front wheel turning angle exceeds 35deg. At this point, front wheel speed is increased by 60% over the rear, helping pull the tractor through corners and produce easier steering around obstacles. Bi-Speed Turn disengages as the wheels straighten. For improved manoeuvrability and reduced operator fatigue, the Super B range has speed-sensitive power steering, enhanced by tandem hydraulic pumps which boost oil flow, pressure and rear linkage lift capacity to levels associated with far larger tractors. The B2710 HST can lift loads of 830kg at its lower link ends. Mid-mounted mowing equipment available for the latest Super B series tractors comprises 1.37m and 1.52m side-discharge rotary decks with an optional high dump grass collector. There is also a 1.52m rear discharge rotary deck. All mowing equipment can be attached or removed in minutes. To allow unobstructed movement across kerbs, each mower deck incorporates a high-lift cylinder which gives a ground clearance of 170mm.

For further information tel: 01844 268111

Kubota get tough with ride-ons

New from Kubota for the 2001 grass-cutting season is the G2160 ride-on mid mower, ruggedly built to withstand the toughest professional use.

Powered by a low noise, low emissions 21hp diesel engine, the G2160 is the first in a new line of heavy-duty ride-on mowers from Kubota. Key features include speed-sensitive power-assisted steering, high capacity hydrostatic transmission and a pressed steel ladder-frame chassis which provides exceptional strength and torsional stability.

A choice of 1.22m and 1.37m side-discharge mid mower decks is offered, both having shaft and twin vee-belt drive and hydraulic lift and lower. Cutting height can be varied from 25mm to 100mm by means of a hand dial beneath the driving seat. When mowing has been completed, the G2160's high power output and commercial build quality enable it to be used to tow suitably-matched implements such as a trailer, turf scarifier or leaf sweeper, extending the machine's year-round versatility. The mower deck can be fitted or removed by one person in minutes.

Shaft-driven from the engine, the hydrostatic transmission (HST) system produces infinitely-variable travel speeds in forward or reverse up to a maximum of almost 10mph.

Operating performance is enhanced



by the large capacity HST unit, which helps keep oil temperature low, and the gear final-drive which ensures that power is transmitted positively and smoothly to the rear wheels.

Available now for demonstrations nation-wide, the Kubota G2160 is ideal for maintaining amenity and landscaped grass in public and private parks and estates as well as roadside verges, golf courses and larger gardens.

For further information tel: 01844 268169

Get totally tropical with Tonick

The new, tropical strength, two wire decoder from Tonick Watering is designed for use in the Tropics and incorporates the most effective lightning protection currently available. Developed from a proven technique used in another industry, the lightning protection is uniquely afforded to remote solenoids up to 800 metres away; decoder clusters can therefore also be used to replace old satellites.

Designed to last at least 10 years, this ruggedly constructed decoder brings benefits to installations in both tropical and other locations. Earth stakes are not required and this reduces cost and installation time. The five year warranty extends to lightning strike.

A low cost programmer can be used for quick, simple address setting and testing before installation. This address



can be reprogrammed if necessary.

The Tropical Strength decoder is available to order from nearly all independent irrigation installers.

For further information tel: 01269 832325

Allman's latest addition not shrouded in secrecy

Allman has introduced a six metre "Drift-Master" Shrouded Boom. This lightweight boom shroud is available as an add on kit for all hydraulic or electric folding six metre Allman booms, which makes it easy to fit to existing machines operating in the field.

With the increasing pressures to protect the environment and meet the growing demands to control and main-

tain high quality turf, Allmans now offer a system which will help to maximise the window of opportunity to enable greenkeepers and amenity spraying contractors to carry out spraying. Prices for 6 metre boom shroud kits start from £1,180.00 + VAT

For further information tel: 01245 - 512511

Powerful thatch remover from Sisis

The new SISIS Rotorake 600 is a superb thatch remover for regular routine use when used at a shallow setting, this powerful, heavy-duty machine also has the capability to work deeper when required. With a maximum working depth of 45mm, severe thatch problems, increasingly common with climatic changes and some of the newer species of grasses, can now be controlled with ease. A range of interchangeable reels is available for year-round use, including a heavy duty reel of extra-durable blades for deep scarification.

When used at maximum depth the Rotorake 600 retains the finesse of the SISIS AutoRotorake and leaves a clean cut groove.



It incorporates the SISIS Rotorake contra-rotation principle, whereby the reel rotates at high speed against the direction of travel. The blades therefore cut upwards continuously throwing fibre forwards rather than pushing it into the surface. The machine is also held to the ground to maintain a regular working depth.

It also contributes to aeration. The clean, continuous slits assist water and air absorption through a heavy thatch layer, and integration of top dressings is also improved.

For further information tel: 01625 503030

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