

The BIGGA Golf Experience scaled new heights in 2002 with what proved to be the most successful week in the history of the Harrogate week

What a week!



BIGGA TURF MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION
BTME 2002
& EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR PROGRAMME



**THE
GOLF
CLUB
SHOW
2002**

With a new three day format and a new show - the Golf Club Show - visitors flocked to the town in record numbers and exhibitors were rewarded with busy stands and good business. The three day attendance figure was 8,629, which is 10.1% up on last year's two and a half day show thus vindicating the decision, taken jointly between the trade and the Association, to amend the format. Every day was busy with Wednesday being singled out as one of the busiest days in the history of the Show.

In addition there were record numbers attending the Education Conference and workshops on the Monday and Tuesday showing that there is a real thirst for knowledge among the BIGGA membership. One of the biggest draws was legendary American agronomist Dr James Beard, who gave two lectures during the week, while Olympic medalist Roger Black MBE delivered an inspirational key note speech on the Wednesday. Those who attended the Thursday night banquet will never forget Brahms and Liszt, who brought stage diving to BTME for the first time!

It really does whet your appetite for Harrogate 2003.



Plaque for Walton Heath

Clive Osgood presented Findlay Picken, Chairman of Green at Walton Heath Golf Club, with a plaque as thanks for the support given to him by the club during his year as Chairman.



Top. Me and my Shadow. Howard Swan during the Design workshop
 Above: A thoughtful class.
 Left: Bill Paterson, of Beaconsfield GC, displays his technique on the First Aid Course
 Right: Dr James Beard drew huge numbers to his two talks
 Far Right: Dr Kevin Jones was a real hit at the Education Conference Dinner



A TOTAL GOLF EXPERIENCE

Neil Thomas reports on a fantastic week in Harrogate, picking out some of the selected highlights from a very hectic schedule indeed

Sunday, January 20th

Earlier start this year with the change of opening dates. Sunday is now a build-up day. Down to the halls and the early arrivals are already busy. Slow start indicates many companies have delayed arriving until the 'morrow. Prepare for a hectic Monday. Up to the Majestic for Conference/ Workshop registration and delegates are already booking into the hotel. Catastrophe, the hotel in its wisdom has removed Sky Sports coverage. Mass exodus occurs to find a screen elsewhere to watch the football. Relaxed evening as delegates and speakers meet for an informal dinner.

Monday, January 21st

Our numbers for the Conference and Workshops are our best ever and this is reflected when Clive opens the Conference with the room packed to hear the first session with Dr James Beard. We are indebted to Jim for undertaking a strenuous schedule at the BTME bearing in mind that he has not been well recently. With the workshops and STRI course also underway there is a buoyant atmosphere in the hotel and all are looking forward to the week ahead. Back down to the halls which are now a hive of activity. On to the Exhibitor's Reception now traditional on the eve of the show opening. Back at

the hotel I complete preparations for the Conference Dinner which proves to be the best attended of all time. An excellent evening proceeds. Did we ever have a better after-dinner speaker than Dr Kevin Jones, Consultant Chest Physician at the Royal Bolton Hospital. His tales of the NHS and insight into a Consultant's mind were hilarious. His subject was one to which we all can relate. Best summed up - if you are going into hospital, make sure you're dead first!

Clive Osgood performed one of his final acts as BIGGA National Chairman when at 10.30am precisely he pronounced BTME 2002 open with an expertly wielded pair of sheers



Whatever the weather...

Well known former BBC Weather man, Bill Giles, (below) was one of the visitors to the show on the opening day. Bill, with his colleague Simon Strong, have formed a new company, The Weather Index which will provide bespoke weather forecasts for golf clubs accurate enough to enable Course Managers and Head Greenkeepers to plan ahead with confidence. "We have looked at the market and expect to be able to offer a daily emailed or faxed forecast for around £500 per annum," said Bill.



Nostalgic exhibition prompts poet to take up his pen!

Heritage!

Don't put our heritage in a skip Mr Greenkeeper
 Don't put our heritage in a skip.
 The machine's a dog and very old
 It's obsolete so you've been told,
 It stops when hot and won't start cold
 And you're now due for your watch of gold -
 Don't put our heritage in a skip.

Don't put our heritage in a skip Mr Greenkeeper
 Don't put our heritage in a skip.
 You've followed it for years and years
 Through all the highs and all those tears,
 So now retire it to pastures new
 For all your friends to admire and view -
 Don't put our heritage in a skip.

Don't put our heritage in a skip Mr Greenkeeper
 Don't put our heritage in a skip.
 It's given all it's life to you
 So please now take the longer view,
 People are here that think it's great
 To fix it up and show your mates -
 Don't put our heritage in a skip.

I beg you Please Mr Greenkeeper,
 "Don't put our heritage in a skip"

Peter Hampton, UK Territory Manager,
 Bernhard and Company Ltd

Brand new for this year's show was a dedicated exhibition of items which captured the history of turfcare in years gone by.

Well received by the thousands of visitors who were interested in the display, one contributor to the exhibition, Peter Hampton, put some of his thoughts together in a poem about the exhibition.

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Tuesday, January 22nd

Early morning visit to the halls prior to the 10.30am 'cutting of the ribbon ceremony'. Preparation has gone well for both the BTME and the new Golf Club Show. We are pleased with a steady build-up on this new

opening day. Various meetings to attend. Board of Management meets to elect new Chairman and Vice Chairman. In the evening, the Past Chairmen gather for their annual dinner while the Chairman is pleased to welcome our President, Sir Michael Bonallack. I attend

the Hayter Dinner for the ninth successive year in the St George Hotel. Kim Macfie is again the welcoming host and it's good to meet up with Hayter's recently retired Managing Director, Tony Bourke. We take our leave sensing that tomorrow's going to be a busy day.

Irrigation companies gain Merit Certificates

The BTLIA announced that five contracting members have attained the prestigious BTLIA Certificate of Merit.

"The award of a Certificate of Merit should be the goal of all contracting members of the BTLIA. It represents the pinnacle of customer service and professionalism. As Chairman, I am particularly pleased that five members have attained the Award this year. It is indicative of the greater awareness that the

BTLIA has gained in recent years and demonstrates the commitment of the Association and the Award winners to the raising the standards of irrigation provision in the UK," said Graeme Francis, BTLIA Chairman.

The companies that have been awarded the Certificate of Merit for 2001 are: Irrigation Control Limited; Irriturf; M J Abbott Limited; Par 4 (Irrigation) Limited and SJS Irrigation



Happy Birthday

Mike Lincoln Smith, of Hayter, must have suspected something was up when Kim Macfie, cut short his normal eloquent address at the annual Hayter Dinner to give the floor to some of his colleagues. With his 60th birthday looming Mike was about to become the star of the show. His understanding colleagues presented him with a state-of-the-art walking stick, some sprays and ointments to make his advancing years comfortable... and a little bit more exciting and a blown up portrait of himself while still in his prime.



Deere's Team Championship goes global

John Deere announced that its established Team Championship golf tournament is to become a worldwide event for the first time in 2002.

Now in its 16th year, the Team Championship has previously been open only to teams from the USA and Canada. This year, invitations have been extended to Great Britain, Ireland, Germany and Australia to send teams to the world final taking place at the Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale, Arizona, in November. John Deere dealers in each participating country organise their own qualifying tournament with each team of four entered including a greenkeeper, two club officials, and the club's professional. The winning teams from these regional qualifiers go through to the National Championship. "Extending the Team Championship to include Great Britain and Ireland, as well as the other countries taking part, is a major

undertaking and underlines John Deere's programme of continued support for our dealers," says Graham Williams, Commercial & Consumer Equipment Division Manager.

"Teams in the Great Britain and Ireland regional qualifiers will compete for a place in the national final on the Brabazon course at The De Vere Belfry in August, just ahead of the Ryder Cup.

"Two teams, one from Great Britain and one from Ireland, will qualify to travel to the USA in November to take part in the world final." John Deere will also be making a donation of £25 for every British and Irish team entered, to support the educational activities of BIGGA and GCSA.

Above: Clive Osgood; John Deere UK Managing Director, Clay Sherrill; Worldwide Golf & Turf market Development Manager, Chuck Greif; Neil Thomas; Graham Williams and Richard Barker.

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Roger wows the audience at Harrogate

Key Note Speaker Roger Black delivered a superb motivational talk which inspired the full house in the Royal Hall.

Roger took us through his career from his days as a young soon to be world beater who relied on talent rather than hard work, through the injuries he endured, to the latter half of his career by which time he had rededicated himself to his sport and learned how to get the most from himself. He talked how, like most top sportsmen and women he had learned to reach for success and to minimise the fear of failure. He also talked about his relationship with Kris Akibusi with whom he said one and one added up to four or five and not two.

"Without Kris I wouldn't have achieved half of what I did, and without me Kris wouldn't have achieved anything," he joked.

At the end of the talk he walked down to the front of the stage, signed autographs, posed for pictures and let people hold and wear the two silver medals he won at the Atlanta Olympics in 1996. "You might see a silver medal," he said when holding up the individual medal he won in the 400 metres behind Michael Johnston. "But to me it will always be gold because I ran my perfect race that day," he explained.



Second Bernhards Scholarship takes off

The Second Bernhards Scholarship - to the GCSAA Conference and Show in Orlando this month - got off to a superb start with a reception in the Majestic Hotel at which nine of the 10 BIGGA delegates were presented with their tickets and had a chance to meet the delegates who had traveled on the inaugural trip to Canada last year.

Stephen Bernhard, Managing Director, promised the nine that they would have a wonderful time but warned that they would have to do homework and prepare if they were to make the absolute most they could from the trip.

Tommy Witt, President of the GCSAA told the delegates that they would be welcome at a number of events being organised for the Orlando Show and ensured that GCSAA officials would be furnished with contact details for the 10.

The delegates are: Phil Gates, David Winterton, Tony Smith, Patrick McAteer, Ronnie Bunting, Jim Paton, Ivor Scones, Jeff Mills, and Tony Dunstan. Ian Willett, who will also be part of the BIGGA delegation was unable to attend the reception.

Agronomists sign up for new register

The Register of Independent, Professional Turfgrass Agronomists was launched at the Show. The Register which is open to consultants who hold a recognised plant or earth science degree; have at least four years acting as an independent consultant in the turfgrass industry; no association or understanding, however informal, with any commercial organisation that could influence his or her independence; must have and maintain insurance including Professional Indemnity insurance that satisfies the requirements of the Register Administrator;

have not other business activities which might conflict with their ability to provide advice and all those on the Register must abide by a written code of ethics. The Keeper of the Register is Jeff Perris, of the STRI, and it was launched with 17 agronomists on it, some of whom are pictured below.

Members: Alistair Beggs, Emma Beggs, Andy Cole, Eddie Connaughton, John Hacker, Mike Harbridge, Steve Isaac, Gordon Jaaback, Robert Laycock, Tim Lodge, Ian McClements, Stuart Ormondroyd, Jeff Perris, George Shiels, David Stansfield, Neil Squires and Peter Winter.



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Wednesday, January 23rd

Quick tour of the halls and then to the Royal Hall to check on final preparations for the Awards Ceremony and the Keynote Speaker Session. At 9.30am we are underway. Having recognised our major achievers, including four new Master Greenkeepers, the Chairman introduces Roger Black. What an inspiring session this turns out to be as we learn of his motivation and dedication in winning an Olympic Silver Medal as well as World Championship Gold with the 400 metres relay team. He had brought his medals with him and many of the audience took the opportunity for photographs with Roger and to adorn themselves with the medals which he was happy to pass around. All in all, he left a quite excellent impression.

The halls are now exceptionally busy and this year the registration system is working well with an even split of

visitors around the various entrances. Up at the Majestic, I prepare for the Chairman's Luncheon. Speeches from our President and Chairman are followed by presentations in recognition of their services to greenkeeping and the industry to Ray Burniston, Roger Robinson and David Smith. Clive presents a plaque to Findlay Picken, Chairman of Green at Walton Heath Golf Club, to recognise the club's support to him during his year of office. Then follows the recognition of our Golden and Silver Key companies for 2002 whose support of the Education and Development Fund is so vital. Back at the halls, the numbers are excellent before I leave to prepare for the AGM.

Well this AGM certainly turned out to be different from any I have attended since 1987. The Board of Management had proposed some changes to the

Constitution and Rules to enable the introduction of a minimum qualification for greenkeeper membership to proceed as of February 1. After an invigorating debate the proposals, in each case after an amendment was proposed and seconded, were referred back for further consideration. So this matter will now be reconsidered and, however one views the proposed introduction of the minimum qualification, I was left to reflect that the outcome of this particular AGM was conclusive proof, not that it were needed, that the democratic processes most certainly prevail within BIGGA.

My final official function that evening was to attend the BIGGA/Bernhards reception for our ten delegates to the forthcoming GCSAA Conference and Show in Orlando. There was a mood of eager anticipation with Bernhards' initiative, for a second year running, much applauded.



Above: The Association's Golden and Silver Key Supporters were presented with their momentos at the Chairman's Lunch by Sir Michael Bonallack and Clive Osgood.



BIGGA Master Greenkeepers receive their awards at Harrogate

BIGGA President Sir Michael Bonallack presented three of the four attending new Master Greenkeepers with their plaques and blazers.



MASTER GREENKEEPER CERTIFICATE

Lee Strutt, of Richmond Golf Club; Philip Helmn, of Overstone Park GC, and David Leach, of Lancaster Golf and Country Club. Steven Cook, of Oakland Hills Country Club, in Michigan, will receive his plaque and blazer in Orlando at the GCSAA Conference and Show.



The write stuff

Stefan Antolik, of Cooden Beach Golf Club, was also presented with his cheque as winner of the Head Greenkeeper/ Course Manager and Deputies



BIGGA ESSAY COMPETITION

category in the BIGGA Essay Competition; Richard Clarke, Royal Eastbourne GC, was the winner of the Assistants Over 25 category and David Gillon, Tulliallan GC, was the winner of the Assistant Under 25 category - His boss, Elliott Small, (not pictured) collected the prize on David's behalf.



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This superb and unusual aerial picture of the exhibition shows just how busy the three-day marathon has become. With a head for heights, the BIGGA Sales Team, ably led by Sherpa Whichello, captured the action from the gantry 40 feet above Hall M!



Banquet which leaves us all Brahms and Liszt!

Brahms and Liszt provided the unique, not to say, off the wall, cabaret on the Thursday night. An occasion when can have 50 Scots highland dancing during a dinner; Welshmen, including your Executive Director, jumping over candles; a Rest of the World Riverdance troupe; a brass band comprising many well known greenkeepers and the first recorded instance of stage diving at a BTME Banquet will be remembered for many years to come.

Vitax winner

The annual Vitax prize draw was conducted by Richard Barker ably assisted Clive Williams. The lucky winner was Nigel Weller, of North Downs GC, Surrey, who won a BTME voucher which he was presented with in the week following the Show.



The worm has turned for Sportsworld Amenity

Sportsworld Amenity used the show to launch Wormaway, a totally organic worm repellent. Developed over several seasons in an effort to fine a naturally occurring substance that will help reduce worm casts it reduces casting on the surface but does not affect the benefits of naturally occurring aeration. It is available in liquid form and can be applied through an conventional sprayer. Wormaway boasts a long lasting formula, non irritant formula; a blend of 40 active organic compounds and includes wetting agent. The Sportsworld team is pictured on their stand.

A TOTAL GOLF EXPERIENCE

Thursday, January 24th

Down to the halls. Slow start to the day in the first hour. Too many late nights I surmise. Make mental note to consider readjusting the opening times on the Thursday next year. Steady build up follows and my guess is that Thursday's attendance will match Tuesday's with Wednesday being the busiest day. Press briefing is followed by a well-attended FEGGA AGM. Busy afternoon - unless I take a secret short-cut, it can take a long time indeed for me to progress from Hall A to Q and return! Response to the Golf Club Show seems favourable. Back at the Majestic I check on final preparations for the Exhibition Banquet, quick change and then onto the VIP Reception.

The Banquet was certainly going to be different this year. Our new Chairman and myself speak for a couple of minutes and I am delighted to announce an all time record attendance of 8,629 visitors. Then we are underway. The entertainment commences immediately and continues through the meal. Did we ever have a better night than the one we enjoyed with Brahms and Liszt? These two guys were excellent musicians with a wide repertoire and masters of ensuring audience participation. They built up to a grand climax in a performance which was hugely enjoyed by all. Then followed the popular local group, The Nightjars, and Fun Time Music disco. Great to see everyone enjoying themselves after a busy week. This was indeed a night to remember.

Friday, January 25th

There's a hint of snow in the air and goodbyes are said for another year. No Friday morning session this time. Breakdown has gone well at the halls. Brief meeting with a group of bleary eyed but happy staff who can reflect on a job well done. Away at 11am with a host of thoughts circulating in my mind for next year. How quickly that will come around!

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New Golf Club Show smashes all expectations



The inaugural Golf Club Show enjoyed an extremely successful first year with a variety of exhibitors ranging from legal protection, golf course photography, health and safety to the English Golf Union and the Association of Golf Club Owners.

Indeed a new Association was formed during the Show - the European Golf Course Owners Association (EGCOA) - by the national Associations in Great Britain, Holland, Germany and Ireland.

The aims of the new Association include lobbying for tax and VAT changes for golf course owners across Europe, inter country communication, the development of increased revenues through travel packages and inter club communications for owners. The handicapping system across Europe will also be looked at in depth.

The European Association will be operated initially from Great Britain, but with 300 proprietary golf courses across Europe represented by the new European Association the influence will be great in the market place across the continent.



"Anyone in the golf industry, should make time and funds available for BTME 2003"

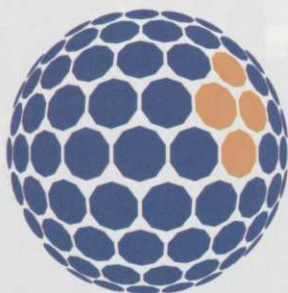
"Golf Course News International have been exhibiting at BTME since 1995 with just one break, in 2001. On all levels BTME 2002 worked for us; from the point of view of meeting our readers and advertisers 'face to face' Harrogate is an ideal showcase. From our standpoint BTME 2002 was an essential marketplace that has, no doubt, gone a long way to strengthening our position in the golf industry publications market. Anyone in the golf industry, particularly in the service sector, should make time and funds available for BTME 2003; we have and are already planning for yet another successful show." **Trevor Ledger, Editor, GCNI**

BIGGA's Golf Club Show – The safe bet

"Being represented at BIGGA's Golf Club Show 2002 helped our company. Safety Measures, promote our Safety Club initiative and help make golf clubs safer places to work and play." **Sandy Geddes, Safety Measures**

"GCS is set to go from strength to strength"

"Like any first time it was a memorable experience. I made superb contacts and spread the word about the International Pairs Golf Tournament. The Exhibition can only go on from strength to strength." **Peter Richardson, WLM Public Relations**



THE GOLF CLUB SHOW 2002



GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL TAKES A LOOK AT THE VERY LATEST PRODUCTS AND SERVICES LAUNCHED AT THIS YEAR'S PREMIER TURFCARE EXHIBITION IN HARROGATE

Quality finish from new Deere

John Deere's new B Series family of durable greens mowers have been developed through the successful customer feedback initiative, which helps frame Deere's product development and improvement programmes.

The 46cm 180B, 56cm 22DB and 66cm 26DB walk-behind greens mowers are designed to provide a quality finish on golf courses, tennis courts, bowling greens and other fine turf areas, giving greenkeepers and groundsmen a true choice of machines for all applications.

All three mowers feature a 4hp air cooled Honda engine, cutting height up to 22mm, and an 11 blade, 127mm (Sin) diameter reel as standard (seven blade optional on the 260B), delivering a high quality cut at up to 5.2mph.

The smaller 18DB reduces the overall weight of the mower and allows the operator to follow cut lines and overlap more easily and with more accuracy. The larger 260B provides a higher capacity machine for all sports turf applications, and incorporates a dimpled drum for increased traction.



New features include lower noise levels, a redesigned height adjustable handlebar, an improved grassbox and easier bedknife-to-reel adjustment. The grassbox design improves the operator's vision of the mowing path, as well as the cut line marker, which increases productivity by reducing overlaps and misses.

Key options include detachable

transport wheels, to make it easier to move the mower from trailer to green, a Greens Tender™ conditioner and a pull-back clutch that allows the mower to be reversed while the reels are engaged.

The new John Deere 180B and 260B walk-behind greens mowers will be available from April 2002, with the 220B following in June.

Product range Xtended

Sports-pitches, outfields and other course turf areas stand to benefit from a new range of granular fertilisers from Headland Amenity Products. Headland Xtend features a slow release form of soluble nitrogen, which is safe to apply, and lasts for up to 12 weeks. Utilising UMAXX and UFLEXX stabilised nitrogen technology, each urea prill is treated with two soluble chemical coatings which prevent loss of nitrogen to the atmosphere, while slowing down its conversion in the soil. The product is less prone to leaching and will respond even under cool conditions. Available in three formulations, 46+0+0, 25+5+10+2MgO and 15+5+20+2MgO, Headland Xtend can be applied as a granule directly after cutting to allow maximum time for the product to penetrate the turf between cuts. Pickup is minimal as Xtend is fully soluble, and breaks down rapidly in the soil. "In addition, the 46+0+0 formulation can be dissolved and applied as a liquid spray. When tank mixed with Headland's Relay Turf Herbicide, this provides a labour saving, cost effective "weed and feed" application," said Headland's Andy Russell.

New Sisis Javelin gets straight to the point



The new SISIS Javelin 1500 has been developed following eight successful years with the SISIS Technicore. The new machine retains all the popular features of the Technicore including full 5" operating depth, but offers a wider working width, faster forward speed, quick, single lever depth setting and minimal maintenance. Nine different interchangeable tines are available including Microcore, Multiline, Needle, and Jumbo Hollow. Turf retainers are available and a wide range of hole patterns can be selected as desired.

Best of both worlds with Express Dual 1000

The Express Dual from Bernhard and Company, now comes in a most cost-effective format. The Show saw the launch of new Express Dual 1000 - a compact, but robust spin grinder for cylinder mowers with heavy duty chassis in mild steel plate. This allows greenkeepers and groundsmen with more modest budgets to create a highly profitable in-house grinding facility. Giving excellent results, ED 1000 has many key components common to the higher specification models in the Express Dual range, and is supplied with a 10 year warranty.

The machine can spin grind blades in-frame up to 36" long and is launched with three optional configurations; bench mounted with manual traverse; manual traverse supplied with a stable support frame; machine with automatic traverse and support frame; Overload protected, the mainshaft drive motor rotates at 3400rpm and is fan cooled and brushless. Mower support systems have fully adjustable front roller mounting brackets with quick adjustment in one plane - without the necessity of tools.

Barenbrug take grass species to a higher level with Bargold

Perennial ryegrass, the most important grass species for sport and amenity applications in the UK, has been taken to an unprecedented level of performance in the shape of Bargold, the aptly named new variety bred by Barenbrug UK. This exciting cultivar is unique because it can be used as a key component in swards for fine turf, such as golf greens, as well as for heavy wear situations like soccer pitches. Recognised as having superb wear tolerance characteristics combined with rapid establishment and persistence, perennial ryegrass is invariably chosen for winter games pitches and other heavily used grassed areas. But the species typically has broad, coarse leaves, a factor previously making it unsuitable for fine turf applications. Barenbrug UK, however, has led the drive to develop a fine-leaved variety. Bargold is the latest in a series of cultivars bred by the seed specialists to offer what was once thought impossible: a perennial ryegrass with the characteristics of finer species, like fescues and bents, but without their vulnerability to wear and disease. It has a fineness of leaf similar to that of red fescues, and has outstanding tolerance of close mowing, down to 5-6mm. This makes Bargold suitable for use across the turf management spectrum, including golf greens, tees, fairways and surrounds, bowling greens, cricket wickets and tennis courts, as well as the traditional applications of soccer and rugby pitches.

Further advances for Blazon

Adding an effective drift control agent to the Blazon formulation as a single, ready to use product, has made a further advance.

Blazon LoDrift offers spray operators the best of both worlds. Maximum application accuracy, uniformity and target coverage, with minimum off-target application, reduced environmental contamination and wasted chemical.

In addition to the visual spray pattern providing the spray operator with a visual guide so that the spray swath can easily be seen and matched up on each return pass, Blazon LoDrift, ensures more of the very small spray droplets ('fines'), are contained and a greater proportion of the spray reaches its intended target ensuring increased product coverage, reduced off-target application and improved product performance.

Blazon-LoDrift has been developed to reduce the environmental impact of chemical and other spray treatments. Each product also features the Multiple Release Format™ technology.

Nutri-Rational Foliars are specifically formulated to bypass the root system and provide an efficient and reliable intake of nutrients through the leaf tissue. Over 95% of the nutrient intake is directly through the leaf. In addition, as the plant is obtaining its nutrition through the leaf, it is not wasting its energy reserves and therefore more able



Marketing Link's MD, Richard Fry, who markets the blazon range of products and Dr David Drahos at BTME

to tolerate stress more effectively.

The Nutri-Rational range includes N, P & K formulations (19.1.6, 6.12.6 & 2.0.16) combined with turf micronutrients and two more specialised products (6.0.4 plus 6% Ca, 0.2% B & 3.0.10 plus 1% Si) offering calcium and silica.

Also on the Green Relief stand was Dr David Drahos, of Novozymes Biologicals, the group research leader in the development of Green Reliefs range of microbial products, who in addition spoke on the BTME Seminar programme.

Please send your latest product release notes or press releases to; The Editor, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF

The right is reserved to edit submissions before publication. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Association. No responsibility is accepted for such content, advertising or product information which may appear

Allen Power shows its latest range of hovers

On the Allen stand could be seen the new generation of hover mowers powered by the Honda four stroke petrol engine. These new power units provide easier starting, quieter, smoother running and reliable cutting without the need for mixing two stroke fuel. They will cut slopes up to 45 degrees and three variations are available with engine capacities ranging from 50cc to 160cc with nylon or traditional metal cutting blades depending on the model.



The three models are:

440 Hover trim featuring 16in cutting width with swinging nylon blades and 2.5 hp, 50cc four stroke Honda engine.

446 Hover Trim with 18in cutting width with nylon blades and a 4.8hp 135cc four stroke engine. Designed for steep banks and undulating ground.

450 Hover Professional. A 21in cutting blade is powered by a 5.8hp, 160cc four stroke Honda engine. Designed for more heavy duty hover mowing.

The grass is always greener. Always ...?

The grass that stays green all year round was formally unveiled at BTME 2002, giving turfgrass professionals across the amenity industry the opportunity to sow a hard-wearing seed mixture based on a newly-bred ryegrass that never goes yellow. According to ex-IGER1 scientist and British Seed Houses' Technical Consultant Dai Hides, the new Grade A26 SO-GREEN mixture represents a quantum leap in plant breeding. Speaking at the Show he said that the new seed offers unparalleled opportunities to keep lawns and other amenity grassed areas looking good, even under summer drought and other stress conditions. "Grade A26 SO-GREEN2 is the result of many years development, starting in 1969 after scientists at IGER noticed that leaves on one grass plant in a population failed to turn yellow over winter or during drought," he pointed out. "Now thanks to the IGER1 turfgrass programme - funded by British Seed Houses since 1987 and already credited with the development of AberElf and AberImp - a new 'stay green' perennial ryegrass called AberNile has been produced. AberNile is unique because it combines the 'stay green' benefit with all the other desirable characteristics required in an amenity ryegrass, such as high shoot density and an ability to withstand high levels of wear," explained Dai.

Toro's Groundmaster receives an added punch

Toro unveiled the latest addition to its range of Groundmaster rotary mowers. The GM 4500-D has been specially developed for operators seeking a better quality of cut from a rotary mower.

The mower is fitted with five rotary cutting decks, which produce a consistent height of cut by accurately following undulating ground contours over a cutting width of 2.8 metres. Efficient operator manoeuvring and excellent visibility results from the balanced placement of three cutting decks out-front and two underneath.

Another feature of the new Groundmaster is its superb traction and hill-climbing ability, provided by full-time, bi-directional four-wheel drive that operates while the unit is mowing.

Toro also unveiled its revolutionary Greensmaster Flex 21 - which shaves greens closer than anything before.

The Flex 21, which has a 21 in cutting unit that not only flexes from side to side, but backwards and forwards too. It means the unit can hug the contours of the most undulating greens,



shaving the turf right down to one-sixteenth of an inch, with virtually no scalping.

The new greens mower has been developed in collaboration with greenkeepers and follows the move by the golf industry towards designing more-undulating, faster greens that take

advantage of new plant cultivars that can be clipped right down.

The Flex 21 is simple and easy to operate, with all controls easily reached via two handle-mounted levers. For quick and easy maintenance, removing just two bolts separates the cutting unit from the traction unit.

Is Lindum's latest ryegrass, a turf for all seasons?

Lindum launched Ryegreen, their first fine-leaved ryegrass turf for golf greens, available to the industry from spring this year. Seeded in May 2001, and cultivated at the company's specialist turf nursery near York, this new sward containing 30% exceptionally fine ryegrass, 50% creeping red and 20% chewing fescue, is hardwearing, with a good recovery rate and the capacity to with-

stand mowing down to 7mms. Lindum's Managing Director Stephen Fell, who has been following STRI trials of the latest fine-leaved ryegrasses closely, says the Ryegreen is a welcome addition to the company's range.

"As growers, we are always willing to experiment, and following the successfully established cultivation of Ryegreen, we will be closely monitoring the emergence

of new ryegrasses with a view to subsequent sowings. Judging by the amount of enquiries we have received from course managers, these new varieties are already creating a great deal of interest."

Ryegreen, which is suitable for all fine turf areas and particularly applicable to pay and play courses, can also, due to its robust nature, be laid on tees, cricket wickets and tennis courts.

Lastec unveil new addition



A new version of the world's only practical articulator rotary mowers will be launched in the Spring, revealed inventor and manufacturer, Lastec, at the BTME show. The company also announced that it will unveil a new flat pan mower around the same time. The new articulating mower will have a cutting width of 77 inches and will feature a deck that folds for ease of transport. It will be powered by a Kubota 33hp turbo charged engine which has Lastec's patent-pending automatic radiator cleaning system. The new flat pan mower will include several new features such as cast iron spindles, Marbain steel blades and an updated hinge design between its decks for long life.

High-power helps to achieve low-costs

The use of higher horsepower tractors of 50hp plus can help cut golf course operating costs by up to 20%, according to Renault, but also enable valuable staff to have the time to complete more jobs around the course.

"The output benefits that a higher powered tractor provides is considerable," comments Ian Thomson, Renault's Groundcare Product Manager.

"With the even distribution of weight and the correct choice of tyres, course managers are finding that with larger tractors such as the Renault PALES and CERES ranges can do up to 80% of the jobs previously done with a smaller tractor, but far quicker and more efficiently."

Consistently courses have been reporting that this has helped them trim their operating costs by between 15% and 20%. Just as importantly, by getting more mundane jobs done faster, greens staff have additional time to pay more attention to detail and fine tune course presentation. In addition to helping cut costs, there are also Health and Safety benefits. Many courses have found that one of the biggest benefits of operating a larger tractor fitted with a loader, is the materials handling capability it provides, so enabling one person to quickly and safely off load materials on pallets, that previously might have required three people to off-load by hand.

GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL TAKES A LOOK AT THE VERY LATEST PRODUCTS AND SERVICES LAUNCHED AT THIS YEAR'S PREMIER TURFCARE EXHIBITION IN HARROGATE

Textron had something for everyone at show

Making its UK debut at BTME was the Iseki TK538 compact tractor complete with hydrostatic transmission, the latest addition to the TK range of compact tractors that combines power, strength and top performance to provide machines that are ideal for a variety of professional grounds care operations.

Powered by a water-cooled 3-cylinder turbo diesel engine developing 38hp, the TK538 hydrostatic offers smooth-changing, infinitely variable speed within three gear ranges.

With a lifting capacity of 1,300 kgs there's enough muscle to handle heavy, trailed or mounted implements with ease and the independent electro-hydraulic PTO system offers engagement and disengagement at the flick of a switch.

Also appearing for the first time at BTME, the Workhorse ST480 is the most powerful turf utility vehicle in the E-Z-GO Workhorse range.

With its 16hp Vanguard V-twin air cooled petrol engine and payload of 363.2kg, including operator, it has the power and performance required for a host of applications on golf courses, parks, leisure complexes, smallholdings, farms, woodland and amenity areas.

Robustly constructed to meet every eventuality, the front axle is articulated to ensure that the front wheels stay in contact with the ground, especially in steep approach and exit conditions.

Following the success of last year's No Pay 'Til May finance plan, Textron Total Care Finance has launched an innovative finance package for their complete range of golf and turf products - Pay-as-you-Play.

"This is a three year plan, tailored



to the income stream of any particular golf club. When a club purchases any item or package of equipment from our golf and turf range, the repayments are tailored for their maximum periods of income," explained Sales Director, Glynn Patrick.

"In reality this means that payments are made from May to October in the first season, followed by a six-month repayment holiday, then further payments begin in May the following season with this pattern repeated in year three to complete the purchase.

"We believe that this new package



offers excellent value and enables golf course owners and managers to procure quality equipment at an affordable price with a repayment structure tailored to their income stream."

Waste2Water smash expectations with latest product launch

Waste2Water Recycling Wash-Off System created a tremendous amount of interest at BTME. Orders were received from a number of golf courses for installation as soon as possible, including; Woburn Golf & Country Club, The Forest of Arden, Sunningdale Golf Club, and Lilley Brooke Golf Club. Most interesting was that more than one of the clubs chose to defer other expenditure to provide for this expenditure, which they viewed as essential. We are delighted as this confirms the increasing importance of environmental awareness, and recognition that it is within our reach to do something positive to assist nature.

Richard Campey launch recycling attachment at show



Everyone appreciates the benefits of recycling, and now the same principle can be applied to sports turf, thanks to the latest attachment introduced at BTME 2002 by Campey Turf Care Systems. The new, heavy-duty Koro Recycling Dresser features two sets of different blades. These break up compacted soil to depths of up to 20cm and then recycle material from below the surface as a fine top-dressing. Two models were launched. The RD1650 has a working width of 165cm and can be powered by a tractor of 70hp or more. The RD2000 has a 200cm working width and requires a tractor of 85hp. Both machines are seen as ideal for the speedy renovation of heavily used, larger sports turf areas, such as soccer grounds, multi-pitch complexes and golf fairways. A major plus-point is that, as the machines 'recycle' the existing soil, less material has to be imported to site for turf renovation projects, saving time, effort and money.

New image: New services

BTME 2002 was a significant show for seed company Cebeco Seeds, as it unveiled a new image and range of services to its customers that will combine technical support, new varieties and mixtures. Cebeco Seeds - previously known as Cebeco Oliver Seeds - supplies amenity seeds to the golf, sport and landscape industries and its new brand and name reinforces the integrated approach of the Cebeco group. "The changes unveiled at BTME extend beyond the new brand image to include a change of strategy in our customer service and support," said the company's Amenity Product Manager, Roger Peacock. "In particular, we are expanding the technical support available to customers, agronomists and specifiers, which will enable them to take full advantage of our superior technical knowledge and experience in grass seed varieties and mixtures."

Aiming to make worm casts a thing of the past

Worm management is an increasing problem in the turf grass industry. Legislation is removing effective chemicals from use, leaving the turf grass manager with only mild alternatives with which to seek short-term solutions. The seaweed people introduced a new product that is the solution to worm cast problems.

Devised as a means of water purification, the Greensaver successfully treats algae, Escherichia coli, coliform germs and Clostridium. Knowing that numerous golf courses are irrigated from their own ponds and lakes, field trials were carried out and it was discovered that the solution produced by the Greensaver, known as Biodyozon, demonstrated an excellent expellant effect on earthworms.

Biodyozon is the liquid product processed by the Greensaver. Needing only a power supply, a water supply and salt tablets the electrolytic process of the Greensaver converts the water to Biodyozon. The solution being a short lived chlorine/oxygen combina-

tion is in a metastable state eventually returning back to water.

The Seaweed People stand at Harrogate had a constant stream of curious visitors eager to see a demonstration of Biodyozon in action.

Vino Pankhania, Managing director of Seaweed People says, "We have been looking for an environmentally friendly means of treating worms for some time, the results of Biodyozon have been outstanding, and interest from golf clubs is exceptional. We look forward to providing golf clubs with a real solution to what has become an annual problem."

The Seaweed People supplies over 600 golf clubs throughout the UK with Sea Nymph liquid fertilisers, in numerous formulations, seaweed meal products and compound fertilisers.

