

NEW PRODUCTS

NEW LAUNCH FROM PROTON

A utility vehicle combining the versatility of a pick-up with the driving style and comfort of a car was launched in the UK last month by Proton.

Renowned for rugged and reliable passenger cars offering exceptional value for money, Proton now brings the same qualities to the utility market, with prices starting at just £5,995 ex-VAT.

The Proton Jumbuck has already been successfully launched in Malaysia, where it is made, and in Australia. Now the UK importer is set to exploit the currently dormant half ton utility market with its new pick-up.

With 635 kg payload and load capacity of over 800 litres, the Proton Jumbuck offers potential for workmen of all trades and the company has identified greenkeepers as a potential market.

A 1.63 metre long load tray can accommodate mid sized machinery while 415 mm high side panels provide a secure load area.

Proton's British subsidiary Lotus Engineering has played a key role in the Jumbuck's development, from its ride and handling to the design of the load area, integrity of the body structure and robust construction capable of handling the demands of Malaysian jungle tracks and the Australian outback.

Power comes from a transverse mounted 1.5 litre, 12 valve, four cylinder petrol engine and a five speed manual gearbox driving the front wheels.

The Jumbuck went on sale in UK Proton dealer showrooms on June 16, buyers can choose between a practical and well equipped base model at £5,995 ex-VAT or a GLS version with cloth seats, CD player, alloy wheels, driving lamps, electric windows and two-tone metallic paint with wheel arch and body side mouldings at £6,895 ex-VAT, backed by a three year / 60,000 mile warranty.



THE PNEUMATIC TYRE THAT ISN'T

Redstone specialist tyre suppliers to the turf and ATV market are now offering the "flatfree" range from Amerityre.

Totally unpuncturable and out-matching rubber on every count, we feel the "flatfree" will prove indispensable where pneumatic characteristics are needed. It is of interest that this brand of urethane tyre is unique in it's "closed-cell" structure and being micro-cellular throughout, has no tyre casing to wear through and no inside filling to burst out.

Sizes range from castor wheel applications, 8 x 3.00-4, through to 13 x 6.50-6 and on to the wheel barrow tyre 4.80/4.00-8, with more to follow.



CAN'T FAIL WITH A FLAIL

Rytec has just introduced their 'S' class Contractor flail mower which adds a new dimension to the already well specified Contractor range.

The 'S' class is available on the 2.0 to 2.8m models of the Contractor range (1.6/1.8/2.0/2.2/2.5/2.8m cutting widths) and is recognisable by its larger frame size. This accommodates a thick walled 200mm diameter flail rotor with larger hammer flails thus improving cutting efficiency because of the greater overall flail diameter and tip speed. Greater clearance between flail tip and frame allows large volumes of cut material to pass more easily and the two rows of static counter blades reduce this volume to a minimum.

The standard rear three position opening hood allows for controlled ejection of cuttings even from the heaviest growth. The 'S' model is available for front or rear mounting and with fixed, manual or hydraulic side shift head stock. For maximum flexibility the Contractor 'SFR' has both front and rear linkage and PTO shafts and all the usual features of the 'S' class. Prices start from £4060 + VAT.



"YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT'S NOT GRASS"

The Green Approach has introduced a new range of all weather synthetic golf surfaces to the UK and Ireland and will offer 'SofTrak' turf for golf greens, 'SofTee' turf for golf tees/practice ranges and 'SofPath' turf for paths/cartways.

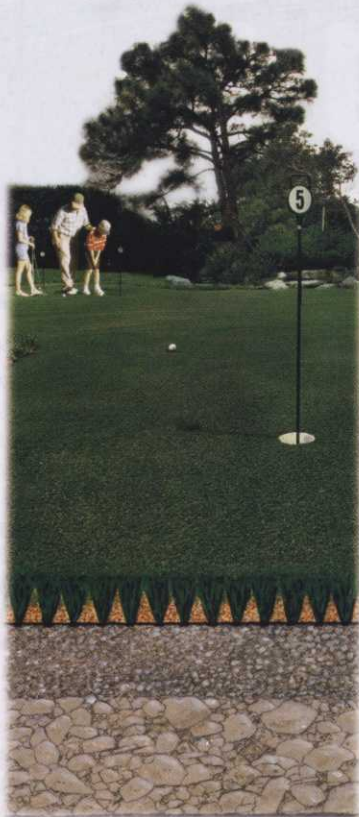
Their solutions are aimed at golf courses, practice ranges and driving ranges, but will also appeal to other public, commercial and private clients.

The SofTrak system starts with a two layer flex base installed under the turf. The fibres of the turf are specifically designed to simulate the softness, texture, density, and colour of natural bent-grass.

The system integrates a in-fill system called RQS-2000 into the fibres of the turf. RQS consists of a specially formulated blend of rounded quartz particles which keep the surface feeling soft/natural, unlike sand which is angular and compacts / hardens over time. The result is a putting surface that is truly realistic, performing just like a natural golf green.

The ball will roll true and at an even pace, whether the green is at fast or slow stimp speed. SofTrak green will also hold a shot, just like a natural grass green. When chipping onto the green, the ball will hold up and with backspin you can even make a ball stop or back up.

SofTee turf is new and purpose designed for golf tees. At the base of the turf, there is a unique nylon mesh which is bonded to the synthetic fibres above. The mesh is filled with a special infill, retaining it much better than other competitive synthetic turf products, which often turn to concrete. This minimises maintenance requirements and provides tremendous resilience to abrasion/wear. It will even accept a tee peg if required.



THE DJ LINEAR AERATOR

DJ Turfcare Equipment, the company formed last year by David Jenkins, have designed and built a linear aerator to add to the company's growing portfolio of products. Linear aerators provide a deep vertical cutting action, removing excessive root and leaf tissue, stimulating vigorous growth with negligible disruption to any playing surface.

The result is the DJ linear aerator system now launched in time for the 2003 season and incorporating a host of features that will appeal to the professional user.

The machine can aerate, scarify, groom and sweep using interchangeable cartridges all mounted on a heavy-duty chassis, with further heads being made available in due course.

Cartridges can be changed in less than five minutes by the use of a special tool provided with the machine. Possession of the tool also makes unauthorised attempts at changing the work head impossible.

The machines also features user-friendly electric lift and lower facility and advanced anti-vibration handle bar mountings, providing precision steering with minimum vibration. Advanced safety skirts around the blades are standard.

Power is from an electric start 17.5hp Briggs & Stratton Intek engine with the latest anti-vibration system and hydrostatic drive means maximum manoeuvrability.

With a working width of 510mm (21in), the aerating head has 17 specially heat treated blades with tungsten carbide tips that can reach a depth of 50mm (2in.).



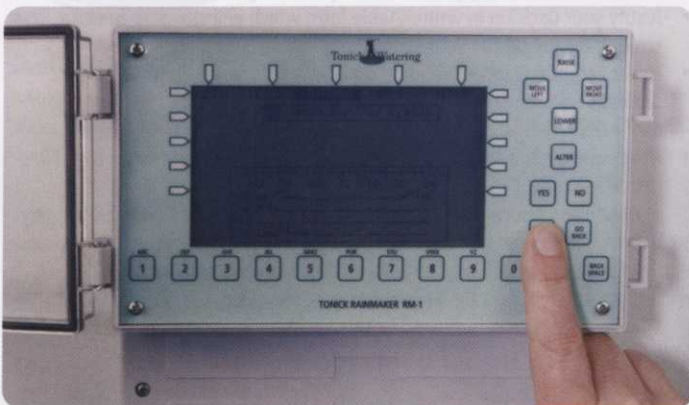
PRECISE WATERING CONTROL

The new Rainmaker RM-1 ET irrigation controller from Tonick Watering allows precisely the right amount of water to be applied. It incorporates multi-zone flow management and provides comprehensive, printed reporting of water usage.

The controller is supplied complete with a "weather station" containing ET (Evapotranspiration) and rainfall sensors. Readings logged from these permit the greenkeeper to effortlessly adjust the irrigation to precisely fit the needs of each area.

Comprehensive reports can be printed of water usage versus the requirement; such reporting will be essential for applicants for the new, forthcoming water extraction and mains water licences.

The Rainmaker RM-1 ET easily runs a full fairway irrigation system and has the additional option of radio remote control. It can operate with existing, installed decoders on the golf course which allows for easy retrofitting. The controller incorporates highly effective, plug-in lightning protection and comes with a three year warranty.



WIPE-OUT WEEDS AT A STROKE

The BFS MicroWipe is the ideal applicator for spot treating weeds in areas that do not require blanket herbicide coverage, where surrounding vegetation is at risk or spraying may be difficult or hazardous when using conventional equipment.

Just fill the MicroWipe's handle reservoir from the top with diluted glyphosate and gravity delivers the chemical down to impregnate the wick on the end of the handle. The operator 'wipes' the wick over the target vegetation and a small amount of the herbicide is deposited onto the leaf surface. Because glyphosate is a translocated herbicide, the chemical is taken right down to the roots ensuring a complete kill.

A Viton seal protects the operator from leakage and, because there is no drift, only the leaf surface receives the herbicide leaving the surrounding vegetation unaffected and soil with minimal contamination.

The MicroWipe is light to use, easy to operate, does not require calibrating and is quick to clean. Large areas can be treated quickly and the applicator is an ideal substitute for conventional means of spot treating weeds and grasses around tree bases, whip plantings, fence lines, paths, shrub and ornamental plantings, bunker surrounds, water hazards, SSI's, buildings, ditches, difficult to access, remote or hazardous areas.

