

NEW PRODUCTS

NEW AIRONE SLITTER-AERATORS

Airone slitter-aerators offer five different aerating options and are available in 0.9 metre and 1.6 metre working widths. Adjustable rotor spacing further increases the versatility of the equipment, which is distributed in the UK by Reco.

Hollow tines, with or without springs, remove soil cores and maximise penetration of light, water and nutrients. Springs fitted round each tine minimise surface disturbance by holding down the turf during coring.

Slitting blades in two lengths - 100mm and 150mm - provide root-cutting and encourage growth by allowing light, water and nutrients to penetrate the surface. Open C-section tines are available for deeper penetration without soil removal.

The 0.9 metre machines have eight rotors, and the 1.6 metre models have 14 rotors. An integral frame allows extra weight to be added to increase penetration on hard ground. The equipment is three point mounted and suitable for 20hp to 40hp tractors.



SPRAY IN SAFETY

Due to the increased demand for low cost compression sprayers outside the agricultural/garden market sectors to spray more concentrated industrial chemical formulae, Allman has released the new Saturn Compression Sprayers to replace its Jupiter range.

The new Saturn range offers improved design features over that of the Jupiter fore runner.

- Viton rubber seals and Desomopan pump plunger seal for greater resistance from chemical attack
- Improved attachment of pump seal to plunger shaft
- Viton seals and shut off valve to lance trigger
- Bottom of tank completely sealed with hose outlets positioned in top of tank making them less vulnerable to accidental damage

In the past some products have proved too aggressive and have attacked or softened the Jupiter seals, O rings and valves. However, the new Saturn models with Viton and Desomopan plunger seal offer greater resistance to chemical attack are better suited for a wider range of applications.



NUTRITION FOR YOUR PLANTS

Angus Horticulture Ltd has brought out a new range of plant nutrition products for the Amenity Turf Industry.

Based on their Turf Rise range and using their knowledge in plant nutrition and manufacturing, the new range incorporates Zeolite (Clinoptilolite), a naturally occurring mineral. Marketed under the banner EcophaZe they are products suitable for Spring, Summer and Autumn applications.

ROUGH GRASS CUTTING

The ME and ZME series of mowers from Ferri are highly effective for cutting rough grass and light scrub and are designed for mounting on the type of compact tractors commonly used by golf clubs and amenity contractors.

Both models incorporate several high-specification features such as large diameter adjustable rear rollers, dynamically balanced rotors, bolted balance weights, double-skin flail housings and pto shafts with over-run clutches

The ME series offers 1.05, 1.25 and 1.55 metre cutting widths and is suitable for 14hp to 35hp tractors. The machines are three point mounted directly behind the tractor, and cutting is performed at 2600rpm with hardened steel articulated Y-shaped blades. Versions for front mounting or reverse drive tractors are also available.

The ZME models are particularly versatile, as they can work in-line with the tractor or off-set to left or right while the cutting head can be rotated to any angle between 90° vertical and 50° downwards for cutting hedges, level ground or ditches. The ZME models have a choice of 1.25 metre or 1.55 metre cutting widths and use a similar flail design to the ME machines. The smaller models require 18 to 30hp and the larger models 25 to 40hp.

Maximum side reach is 2.1 metres from the tractor centre line.

The Ferri ME and ZME mowers are distributed in the UK by Reco.



NEW TRAILER SIEVE

The new SCH Supplies Ltd trailer sieve attachment (G TSA) is designed for use with the dump trailers, this mild steel sieve improves the grading of soil and compost heaps. The adjustable corner legs allow the levelling of the attachment when the trailer is not attached to a tractor unit or is on a steep bank. By transporting larger quantities of sieved product in one go, the backache is removed out of an important job.



STIHL TO THE RESCUE

Grass, weeds and scrub thrive best wherever they are out of reach of the lawn mower: in inaccessible areas, under trees and bushes, on steps, along walls and around fences. The new Stihl FS100 and FS100R brushcutters, and the innovative technology, mean that wild growth can be kept in check, conveniently and without harming the environment. Employing the new mixture-lubricated Stihl 4-MIX engine, the new brushcutters combine the benefits of two-stroke and four-stroke engines in one, driving high torque and powerful performance through these versatile machines with optimum eco-properties.

On steep slopes and uneven ground, the new STIHL FS100 and FS100R brushcutters cut through long grass, strong weeds and tough scrub.

Unlike a conventional four-stroke engine, the STIHL 4-MIX is fuelled with a mixture of petrol and oil. No need for a separate oil tank, oil pump and oil filter; no need to check oil levels, change or dispose of the oil. Using a completely new lubrication principle, the STIHL 4-MIX engine is lubricated in every working position (crucial for hand tool applications), and the reduced number of components makes the engine surprisingly compact with the new brushcutters weighing distinctly less than conventional four-stroke machines with separate lubrication.



MAKE IT SNAPPY

The Snapper range of mowers from Saxon Industries has been extended by the addition of the latest zero-turning-radius Snapper EYZ15334BE riding mower.

It is fun to use, thanks to the joystick control which pilots the mower easily round obstacles such as trees, garden ornaments and flowerbeds with accuracy enhanced by the front positioned deck which lets the operator see exactly where he or she is cutting.

The genuine, zero turning capability is the result of dual path transmission which allows the wheels to counter rotate.

An electric-start Briggs & Stratton 15 hp overhead valve engine supplies plenty of power for the largest grassed area and the 33" Hi Vac articulated cutting deck hugs the ground, coping with any undulations.

There is a choice of grass disposal methods: mulching, side discharge and collection.



IMPROVED WEBSITE

STRI have recently launched a Turfgrass Pests, Weeds and Diseases Guide as part of a major overhaul on its website www.stri.co.uk.

"We believe this is the most comprehensive on-line guide available in the UK for greenkeepers, grounds staff and turf growers. Users can also supplement the on-line guide with telephone advice and sample analysis to identify or confirm their turfgrass problems," said Dr Ruth Mann, STRI's Turfgrass Pathologist.

The re-designed site has led to a direct rise in monthly hits. In less than a month of the site being live the number of hits has more than doubled. An independent report, based on a key word search of 51 main search engines, highlighted that STRI appeared among the top ten positions 40 times and was number one in each of the top twenty positions.

Other new developments on the site include: A News section; staff profiles; guidelines for sending in samples for analysis; lists of current research; a golf research database funded by the R&A; bookshop news for new titles; content details for our magazine the International Turfgrass Bulletin magazine and the annual Journal of Turfgrass Science, including electronic access to back issues for STRI subscribers.

