

NEW PRODUCTS



THREE'S A CHARM FOR KUBOTA

A three model range of stylish, yet highly functional compact tractors has been introduced by Kubota into the UK and Ireland.

Known as the STV Series, the STV32, STV36 and STV40 tractors are powered by Kubota water-cooled diesel engines rated at 32hp, 36hp and 40hp respectively.

Renowned for its low levels of noise, vibration and fuel consumption, Kubota's three vortex combustion system (E-TVCS) engine offers consistent output and a high torque rise for exceptional working efficiency, even at low-speed applications.

The engine's design also produces a very thorough burn with resulting cleaner emissions.

Equipped with a high capacity three-range hydrostatic transmission as standard, the STV Series offers users infinitely variable forward and reverse travel up to a maximum speed of 30km/h (19mph).

Cruise control allows driving speeds to be altered and set at the touch of a lever, with a grooved lever compartment giving great accuracy of setting to produce a constant speed over any terrain.

As befits a tractor of this size and

performance, Kubota's unique Bi-Speed Turn system is standard on the STV Series, speeding up the front wheels on tighter turns to help "pull" the tractor through corners without scuffing the tyres or the surface.

Operators will appreciate the tractors' new engagement system for the single speed mid and two-speed rear PTO drives.

In place of a floor-mounted lever, Kubota has fitted a simple twist-on, push-off electromagnetic switch positioned to the right-hand side of the seat.

Hydraulically actuated, the system allows the PTO to be engaged and disengaged totally independently of tractor movement.

A new brake function brings the powered implement swiftly and safely to a halt when the PTO is disengaged.

With its spacious flat deck platform, wide seat and new, enlarged instrument panel, the workstation of the STV Series tractors is designed for optimum driver efficiency and comfort.

In addition to displaying engine rpm, water temperature and fuel level, the instrument panel informs the driver also when Bi-Speed Turn and the mid and rear PTOs are engaged.

All main control levers are located conveniently to the driver's right hand.

For further information Tel: 01844 268111.

PIN POINT ACCURACY

A brand new card system, 'PinPoint', allowing golfers to see exactly where the hole is cut on each green, together with the yardages from front and side of the green has been launched at the Wentworth Club, Surrey, England. The Wentworth Club is issuing PinPoint cards everyday to golfers using their three courses.

'PinPoint', a Patent applied for product, offering a world first in accurate daily pin positions on a card system has been developed by Sports Analysis Ltd to meet the needs of golfers and golf courses.

"In our discussions with golf course operators it became clear that more and more golfers were requesting accurate pin locations.

"We have developed PinPoint to meet this need while also ensuring that the system is easy to operate," said Simon Roper, Director of Sports Analysis.

PinPoint is currently being launched at 11 courses in the UK and Ireland, with other courses lining up to introduce the product.

PinPoint was also used in conjunction with the European Seniors Tour at the Travis Perkins Senior Masters. Both the existing hole location sheets and the Sports Analysis PinPoint cards were issued to all competitors on all three days of the competition.

Sports Analysis creates a highly accurate geo referenced map of the golf course. This is then combined with industry leading patented software to create the PinPoint system.

New hole location is identified on the green and a GPS handheld is held over the spot and within seconds a reading is taken and transmitted back to the host system.

The new location can be seen on the screen and when all 18 holes have been marked, the cards can be printed off.

Chris Kennedy, Wentworth Club Golf Courses Manager, said, "Our greenkeepers have found the PinPoint system

Above, before and below, afterwards.



quick and simple to operate and have taken a real pride in seeing the cards being so well used by our golfers."

Accuracy is within a yard for the standard product but can be reduced for Tour events down to within 25cms, using more expensive equipment.

For further information Tel: 01344 623112.



MAKING SAFETY SMARTER

The new 'Integra' helmet has been specifically designed for chainsaw and clearing saw users who need comfortable protection for the head, face, ears and eyes.

Helmets with ear defenders and visor are commonplace, however, STIHL has added integral safety goggles to the new 'Integra' helmet, giving all-round protection with minimum fuss.

The lightweight helmet meets appropriate safety

standards for chainsaw and clearing saw use and excellent shell ventilation ensures comfortable wear, even in warm conditions.

A large nylon visor gives good protection to the sides of the face and the ear defenders, with a high attenuation rate SNR 26db(A), are well padded for optimum comfort. Finally, the innovative safety goggles are tested to EN 166 - giving effective eye protection without the need to wear, or keep track of, separate safety goggles.

For further information Tel: 0800 137574.

STAKING YOUR REPUTATION

Tackling problems such as turf erosion with rigid, non-organic ground stakes poses a serious risk of injury to individuals and damage to valuable equipment.

A revolutionary new biodegradable solution - the GreenStake from turf management specialists Farmura - offers an eco-friendly alternative to traditional staking, yet is not just kind to the earth.

This innovation offers powerful advantages over competitors, is cost-effective, quick and easy to deploy and, in today's compensation culture, could play a vital role in minimising the risk of costly accidents.

The innovative breakdown mechanism of the eco-friendly stakes ensures that once driven into the ground, where they pose no risk to individuals, they can simply be left to dissolve over the space of two years (sometimes less, depending on ground conditions).

Microbes found in the ground naturally consume the stakes from the moment of insertion, dissolving them into the carbon dioxide, water and biomass already found in the natural environment.

The added advantage of biodegradable solutions is that they are specifically engineered to be better performers.

The 'green' stakes are able to both hold their ground and bend where necessary.

By combining larger, smooth heads with hooked ends they increase the area of holding force applied to fabric and turf, and by doing so ensure netting and meshes remain firmly in place.

Unlike the older alternatives that can easily snap, causing a jagged object to protrude from the ground, eco-friendly stakes also withstand heavy traffic from people and machinery by absorbing moisture from the ground to increase their elasticity.

Although the head of the stake becomes more pliable as it becomes more elastic, it still retains all of its holding strength, not shattering when hammered, or ripping through fabric and turf if tugged.

For further information Tel: 01233 756241.

RIGBY TAYLOR GETS ACTIVATE

Mascot Activate R from Rigby Taylor is an established biostimulant for use on amenity turf, improving root development and nutrient retention.

The benefits of this multi component product have now been further advanced by the addition of an Enhanced Root Developer (ERD) system.

Four years of independent trials on Activate R with the ERD complex showed it to have significant beneficial effects on both shoot and root development, with root mass being increased by 21% while root length increased by 32%.

In sand constructions the uncharged surface of the sand particles cannot hold nutrients, and

large amounts of fertiliser input can be lost due to leaching.

Humic acids, contained in Activate R, give the sand rootzone a negative charge, thus creating molecular attraction between the negatively charged sand particles and the positively charged nutrients (e.g. fertiliser).

Humic acids hold nutrients in a form that can be used by the plant, having a natural chelating effect, so improving the transfer of nutrients within the plant.



Soils with a high clay content can become compacted and resist plant rooting. Humic acids work on the soil by altering/rearranging the soil platelets allowing air and water penetration, which is especially useful when high salt content in the soil has caused clay platelets to bind very tightly causing compaction.

Humic acids biologically stimulate plant enzymes and increase their production, stimulate root growth, increase root respiration and root formation and promote the development of chlorophyll, sugars and amino acids as well as aiding photosynthesis.

Activate R + ERD is available in a granular formulation, and also as a liquid which is tank mix compatible with Mascot Microflow liquid fertilisers and products from the Mascot Specialities Range.

For further information Tel: 0800 424 919.



NEW TRACKER DELIVERS FULL POWER

Terrain Aeration has launched Airforce Tracker, the company's latest terralift aeration machine, following tests of the prototype in a waterlogged garden.

Weighing 400 kilos, 690mm wide, and mounted on twin rubber tracks that give a ground pressure of just 5 PSI, Airforce Tracker is nimble enough to work within established plantings, but delivers all the power of the ride on Airforce machines.

Terrain's MD David Green, who has designed and built the new model, says Tracker has the same hydraulic hammer and probe as his standard Airforce machines, but it's mounted on a Honda HP500 Powered Barrow.

"The diesel powered compressor stays on the trailer and a 50 metre long, high pressure hose connects the two pieces of kit," he explains. "This means we can inject compressed air up to 20 bar, but have the manoeuvrability needed to work in small spaces."

Designed principally to relieve compaction panning in domestic gardens, where access is generally limited, Airforce Tracker can be used to treat lawns between flowerbeds in municipal parks, and, due to its light weight and low ground pressure, heavily waterlogged golf greens and sports fields.

For further information Tel: 01449 673783.