

Review of 2004

Always a Relief

There is always a sense of trepidation in the lead up to a Harrogate week that for some reason it might not live up to expectations. It may be down to something out of control of BIGGA staff - bad weather springs to mind immediately, but you could include things like general economic climate, industrial action, even something like the fuel protests of a few years ago would have a significant impact on the success of a Harrogate week. You never know, do you?

So it is with a sigh of relief that we can report another good week. Weather was amenable and there wasn't any outside factor to act as a fly in the ointment of the week.

More importantly the feedback we've been receiving has been excellent with the vast majority of exhibitors reporting they had enjoyed a successful show and were keen to rebook for 2005.

The statistics also bear out the fact that BTME & ClubHouse 2004 went well.

- 25 different countries, excluding the home nations, were represented, travelling from five different continents.
- 25% of visitors were attending Harrogate for the first time.
- The breakdown for British visitors was South 23%, Midlands 24%, Scotland 15% and North 38%, indicating that Harrogate draws from all corners of the UK.
- Other than golf, 15 industries were represented, including local authorities; farms; private estates; theme parks; showgrounds; football; racecourses, tennis clubs and polo fields.
- 35% of those who attended had the power to approve and purchase while a further 26% were in a position to influence approval.
- 10% of those who attend spent up to 25% of their annual budget at the Harrogate. 15% spend up to 10% of their budgets while a further 38% spend up to 5% of their annual budget.

We'd also like to salute the 120 people who have attended all 16 Shows. Let's hope you can keep your attendance records at 100% for many years to come.

It is statistics like those that encourage us to think that we have something to build upon for next year, but no doubt those feelings of trepidation will still be there come January 2005.



George Brown officially opens the show at the Hall M entrance watched by some eminent Past Chairmen



A busy Hall A

You Had to be There

Scott MacCallum takes a back seat at the Harrogate week

Change was very much apparent to visitors to Harrogate this year from the moment they arrived.

This was mainly due to the fact that the Continue to Learn Education Conference, supported by the John Deere Team Championship, was being held in Hall D of the Harrogate Conference Centre and not the Majestic Hotel.

The reason was simple. As there is major renovation work required on the Royal Hall which has been the traditional home to the Seminar Sessions, Keynote Speech presentations, etc. a new home had to be found.

Ken Richardson took the decision to create a lecture theatre in Hall D, on the First Floor of the Exhibition Centre which last year housed the ClubHouse Exhibition.

As this had to be created specifically for BIGGA it was felt that we should make the most of this new temporary facility, so moving the education conference to Hall D as well made perfect sense.

With state-of the-art Conference technology, including a series of screens placed down the sides of the theatre to assist with the viewing of photographs and graphics, it proved ideal and the interesting and thought provoking papers delivered by the speakers were given the ideal stage.

The Golf – Sport and Business theme to the Conference, under the excellent Chairmanship of Roger Greenwood, caught many an imagination and the quality of both paper and speaker were superb.

The morning started with Andy Campbell MG CGCS, at the time the soon-to-be-elected Chairman of the Association and Golf Courses and Estates Manager at De Vere Carden Park, who spoke on how performance is now judged on the daily figures produced by the resort as much as by the quality of his two golf courses.

Then came Peter McEvoy OBE, the inspirational Captain of a successful series of Walker Cup teams, who revealed how he got the most out of his team and ensured no inferiority complex when they faced up to their American opponent and also gave a glimpse into a new "golf in an hour" concept he is building near London.

Next, Billy McMillan, Course Manager of Tyrells Wood GC, who interrupted his paper to deliver a hilarious story about visiting the blood transfusion service, was as usual riveting self.

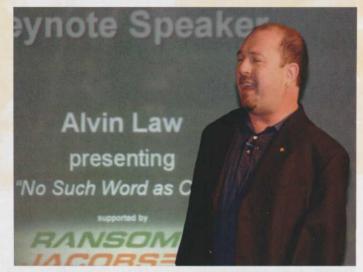
Last on in the morning was Professor Al Turgeon, Professor of Turfgrass Management at Pennsylvania State University, who was excellent, particularly when you consider that due to a cancelled flight he hadn't arrived in the UK until a few hours before he was due to speak.

The afternoon saw Chris Hartwiger, agronomist with the USGA, speaking on Raising the Bar — How High Can it Go?, and encouraging people to concentrate "down the middle" on tees, fairways, greens, bunkers, etc. and not to become drawn into peripheral work which, in a drastic case he'd seen, included dying the wood chippings used to line wooded areas.

Chris was followed by Kenny Mackay, Senior Course Manager, at the Marriott Forest of Arden Golf Club, and then Alex McCombie, Deputy Head Greenkeeper at Parkstone GC, before Professor Al Turgeon returned to deliver a second paper entitled How Turf Science can Help to Overcome and Future Management Problems.

While the delegates were enjoying an invigorating range of papers at the Conference another group were engrossed in one of three workshops being held in the neighbouring Moat House Hotel.

Dennis Mortram led one on Water and the Golf Course; David Bancroft-Turner another on Real Influencing Skills with Jerrard Winter, hosting the Health and Safety Workshop.



Alvin Hall was a truly inspirational speaker and was given a standing ovation from the audience at the end



▲ Billy McMillan, Course Manager of Tyrells Wood GC, spoke on the Education Conference and again at the Future's Sub- Committee presentation.



▲ David Bancroft-Turner led one of the three workshops in the Moat House Hotel



EURO CAP LTD

"This is our first time at this show and much interest has been shown in our caps and in particular the battery operated golf trolley. A good attendance with a range of attendees.

Clive Helders

While the Education Conference was well under way preparations for BTME and ClubHouse were getting to the frantic stage by Monday afternoon.

It never ceases to amaze how quickly the Harrogate Halls go from being a series of vast empty shells to a home for over 230 colourful, varied and exciting stands.

With a few hours to go you would bet your house it wouldn't be ready in time but with a few minutes to go everyone is ready for a drink and a nibble at the Pre Show party and you're looking forward to life on the streets wondering why you were so daft as to bet the family home on a bet you always lose.

The Education Conference Dinner proved to be a superb occasion and in Jimmy Bright we had a speaker who was obviously towards the front of the queue when new jokes were being issued.

Tuesday saw the opening of the BTME and ClubHouse with the usual buzz that surrounds it each new year. For a change the official opening occurred at the entrance to Hall M rather than Hall A and George Brown proved to be extremely adept with the sheers.

Day Two of the Education Conference saw papers from Dr Kate Entwistle, of the Turf Disease Centre, who posed the question, Will Future Legislation Ban Pest Control? She was appropriately followed by Jeff Carlson CGCS, Superintendent at The Vineyard Golf Club in the States, who spoke on, Managing a Course without Chemicals.

The Conference concluded with papers from renowned golf course architect, Jeremy Pern and Terry Buchen MG CGCS, of Harvard University, who looked into the future of Turf Science and Golf Course Management.

The next three days in the Halls and the Lecture Theatre passed in a blur with a particular highlight for many being the keynote speech given by Alvin Law, a Canadian, who has not let the fact that he was born without arms prevent him playing the piano and drums with great aplomb.

Alvin had a full lecture theatre enthralled with the inspirational story of his life and left the stage to a standing ovation, with everyone even more aware than ever that there is no such word as can't.

The traditional end to the week is the banquet and this year the guests were treated to a performance containing some of the best known songs ever written as Bootleg Abba took to the stage and soon had the dance

The feedback from the Show – see the testimonials – has subsequently been very good and fully justifies the months of hard work the BIGGA staff have put in to ensuring a successful week.



CHARTERHOUSE TURF MACHINERY LTD

"We are particularly delighted with the response we have had this year at BTME. We have had a good cross section of customers on the stand from greenkeepers, of course, but also contractors, councils and some of the smaller sports grounds. We also managed to take some orders. All in all a good show for us."

Nick Darking



▲ Jerrard Winter took his workshop through important health and safety issues



▲ The temporary lecture theatre proved to be an ideal venue



▲ Dennis and Adrian Mortram were in charge of the Water and the Golf Course workshop



LOCKER SOLUTIONS LTD

"As first time exhibitors the show was very worthwhile and a number of good leads were obtained. We will certainly be back in 2005."

Carl Foreman

Three More Members of the Master Greenkeeper Club

The group of greenkeepers who have achieved the prestigious Master Greenkeeper Award reached 39 when the latest three to earn the right to put the letters MG after their name where honoured at Harrogate.

Phil Gates, Course Manager at Trentham Golf Club; Norbert Lischka,
Course Manager of Hamburg Falkenstein Golf Club, in Germany and
Stephen Matuza, Superintendent of the Town of Oyster Bay Golf Club, Long
Island, New York State, formed a cosmopolitan group at the presentation
of their Master Greenkeeper Blazers and plaques by outgoing BIGGA
Chairman, George Brown and BIGGA's first Chairman, Walter Woods BEM
on Wednesday, January 21.

Three stages of qualification means candidates have to collect 200 credits for education, training and experience, followed by a detailed assessment of their golf course operation and then a two part written examination.



▲ Norbert Lischka with George Brown and Walter Woods BEM



▲ Stephen Matuza, of Town of Oyster Bay GC with his plaque and jacket



Phil Gates, of Trentham GC, was the only "home grown" Master Greenkeeper this year

Unsung Heroes

Brian Payne, Head Greenkeeper of Burnham Beeches GC, High Wycombe, and Tim Parker, groundsman for the Royal Hospital School, Ipswich, and part time groundsman for Woolpit Cricket Club, Suffolk, have been chosen as Unsung Heroes for 2003.



▲ Brian Payne (left) and Tim Parker (right) celebrate with David and Lynda Green, of Terrain Aeration

Brian Payne, nominated by Burnham Beeches' General Manager Mr T. P. Jackson, was praised by the judges for his tireless hard work over 33 years, always keeping the course in superb condition and instigating many improvements. Although it is widely accepted that Burnham Beeches owes its reputation for excellence during important golfing occasions to Brian's efforts, he has always shunned any form of official recognition.

Mr Jackson, who kept his nomination secret until the judges had made their selection, commented that Brian would be devastated to think praise may be heaped on him.

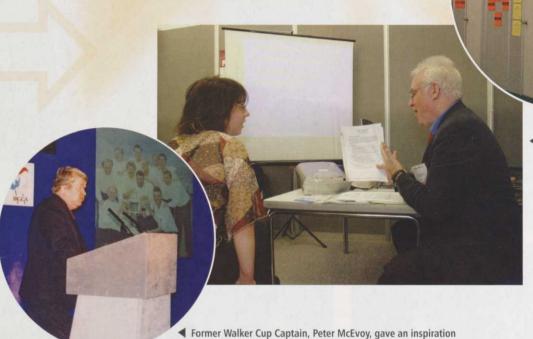
Tim Parker, who holds a full time job as groundsman during the day, was nominated by the Chairman of his village cricket club, Mr E. Walker, for his unpaid after work activities which have made Woolpit's cricket wicket one of the finest in the county.

Tim Lodge, of the STRI, announced the winners during BTME, on behalf of his fellow judges, Gordon Child of BIGGA, and Derek Walder of the IOG, before the Unsung Heroes were presented with the keys to a house in Neffies, South of France, by Lynda Green, of Terrain Aeration, who has mounted the award. Chris Biddle and John Richards, (the award's sponsors), presented a cheque of £150, to each man, towards travelling expenses. The winners will enjoy a week's holiday this year, in the Neffies house.

TURFCARE GROUP

Turfcare Group came to BTME for the second year. The attendance demonstrated the positive state of our industry and Turfcare received a number of genuine enquiries from potential customers nationwide and overseas. The event also provides a wonderful opportunity to meet up with friends and industry associates. The event was organized and managed as professionally as ever."

Roger Jones



The Careers' Fair sponsored by Toro proved to be a big hit with visitors

TURF STILL RECOVERING FROM LAST YEAR'S DRY SUMMER?

account of how he turned his men into winners









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JAYMAC SECURITY PRODUCTS LTD

"This is our second year at ClubHouse and the show has proved as successful as last year. As experts in providing security access systems to golf clubs throughout the UK the show gives us the opportunity to meet golf club secretaries face to face and demonstrate our company products which is not usually possible when visiting the clubs. I shall be booking for 2005!" John McCleans





Austin Sutton, of Syngenta, and Matt Reed, of Scotts, present Geoff Henderson and Ian Shepherd, of Kenwick Park GC with the BIGGA Golf Environment Trophy, watched by George Brown and Bob Taylor, Senior Ecologist with the STRI









▲ As they stand at the moment clockwise from the top right they are. Prize winners in the BIGGA Environment Competition receive their awards. Thorpeness GC (South East winner); York GC, (North); Minchinhampton GC (Best Newcomer); St Andrews Links (Scotland); Notts GC (Special Project Award and runner-up in the Midlands/SW). Kenwick Park were the overall winner - see education page.

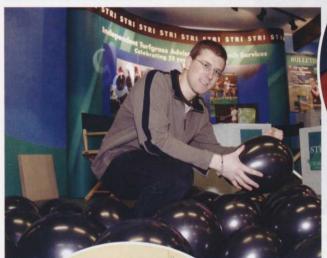


AMENITY TECHNOLOGY

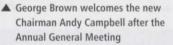
"Great show, lots of business. Busiest show ever." Carl Crome



▲ George Brown with BIGGA Golden and Silver Key supporters after the annual Chairman's Lunch in the Majestic Hotel



▲ BIGGA's Museum is always a big hit, particularly with the older visitors





▲ Andy Campbell draws out the winning scorecard in BIGGA's 18-Hole Competition assisted by John Pemberton, Acting Executive Director of BIGGA. The winner was Jean-Paul Bowers, of De Vere **Belton Woods**

▲ The STRI celebrated the start of their 75th anniversary with a series of events on the Thursday including a balloon burst with the chance of winning one a several prizes



MOX UK

"Sales gone very well. We picked up some good leads and people have been enthusiastic about the new products" Chris Glover



▲ The Bernhard's Delegation were presented with their tickets to San Diego by Stephen Bernhard at a cocktail party on the Wednesday evening



BATGOLF.COM

"BATgolf has had tremendous success with all the visitors from the UK and overseas. We will need to have at least double stand space for next year to accommodate everyone."





DELTA T DEVICES LTD

"Our first experience of this type of trade show - very pleased with the response to the products. A wide spectrum of delegates with an interest in our range of products. Hopefully we will see the level of interest result in sales." Derek Fogg

▲ Bootleg ABBA were a great way to finish the week at the banquet on the Thursday night

> Jimmy Bright had the National **Education Conference Dinner in** stitches on the Monday evening



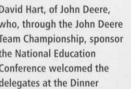




MCCORMICK TRACTORS

"Excellent event this year. Numerous enquiries from both potential customers and dealers." Adrian Winnett

David Hart, of John Deere, who, through the John Deere Team Championship, sponsor the National Education Conference welcomed the delegates at the Dinner





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ODUCT

JCB TEAM UP WITH COUNTAX

JCB Groundcare teamed up with Countax to show a lawn and garden tractor with unrivalled performance at BTME.

Available through both JCB Groundcare and Countax dealers, the JCB branded D20-50 is built to class leading specifications in terms of power, versatility and efficiency.

Powered by a direct injection V-twin 20hp diesel engine, the tractor is highly economic with increased cutting between fills. Ideally suited for coverage of up to 10 acres, the JCB model has a grass collecting capacity of 380 litres.

In addition to power assisted steering, a series of automated functions make the D20-50 simple and convenient to use. The electronic 'dial-a-height' control adjusts the level of the cutter deck depending on the application.

The interactive blade system utilises three contra-rotating blades for highly efficient cutting while the rear roller control allows the operator to set the perfect height for creating immaculate striped lawns. The high grass mulching deck uses chains fore and aft to cut long grass and scrub.

The tractor has been designed to allow quick change between attachments and is compatible with Countax's range of accessories - including trailers, cutters, scarifiers, shredders and chippers. The Power Take Off feature provides extra power when undertaking these activities.

The final feature prominent on the D20-50 is the inclusion of integral safety measures. The tractor cannot be started unless the handbrake is engaged and the tractor also boasts hydrostatic transmission with differential lock giving control on slopes and maximum traction in difficult conditions.

For further information Tel: 01844 278800.



TORO LAUNCHES

Toro debuted the ProCore 648 green aerator which will be available from May

The self-powered, pedestrian, vertical corer has a large 48in working width which means 18 greens can be aerated in just over seven hours, enabling greenkeepers to get their greens back in play faster than ever before.

A feature of the ProCore is that its wheels are located in front of the tines, so the machine never runs over the cores.

The ProCore is powered by a 25hp Kohler petrol engine and can be fitted with both solid and hollow tines. Coring can be done at variable spacing between one-and-a-half and three inches, at depths up to four inches.

Unique Toro technology fitted to the aerator includes the TrueCore groundfollowing system, which automatically maintains tine depth in operation to match ground undulations and give a consistent coring depth.

In addition, Toro's patented three-wheel series/parallel traction drive, combined with high-torque, low-speed wheel motors, prevents slippage for reliable traction and even hole spacing.

Toro has designed the ProCore for easy operation. A single switch on the handle controls the tine head while a handle bail engages forward and reverse

- so no shifting is required. A fail-safe system stops the machine and lifts the coring head if the handle bail is released.

Toro also unveiled its new-look Workman 3000 and 4000 heavy-duty utility vehicles, which have been given a stylish new appearance and a host of new



features for greater driver comfort, easier operation and better control.

Gauges and controls are made easier to reach with a higher dashboard, while the parking brake and dump lever have been repositioned for even easier operation. For further information Tel: 01508 491400.



NEW FOUR WHEEL DRIVE MOWER

BTME saw the debut of John Deere's new 3245C four wheel drive mower the company's first five deck rotary machine for semi-rough amenity grass.

The 3245C features a John Deere Series 220 liquid cooled and turbocharged diesel engine, with a maximum power rating of 48.5hp.

Combining the ability to follow ground contours closely with optimum cutting performance, at mowing speeds of up to 9mph, the 3245C has five 53cm independent rotary rear discharge decks, made of heavy duty 10 gauge steel. These provide a total cutting width of 228cm, while height of cut is quick and easy to change, without tools, from 25 to 102mm, in 6mm increments.

Individual turn assist brakes work in conjunction with the newly designed hydrostatic foot controls to stop or slow the mower for tight turns and to provide additional traction when working on slopes.

Standard equipment includes a two post roll guard, plus front anti-scalp and rear rollers which produce an attractive striping effect.

A new Command Arm operator console, as featured on the John Deere 2500 greensmower, is designed for maximum driver comfort and convenience.

Further operator benefits include a high capacity 68 litre fuel tank for all day mowing, power steering, adjustable deluxe seat and steering column, and SOW halogen headlights for increased visibility. Options include cruise control and a mulching kit.

For further information Tel: 01949 860491.





REACHING THE PARTS...

Terrain Aeration launched "Airforce G", the company's latest hydraulic Terralift machine, specifically designed for deep, compressed air de-compaction treatment on golf courses.

Sporting a new engine and compressor combination, manufactured by Pneumofore, the Turin based Italian light engineering specialists, Airforce G retains the hydraulically driven JCB hammer and rams used in the Airforce prototype, and remains true to the original Terralift technology.

Terrain's Managing Director, David Green, who has designed and built the new machine, explained that at two feet shorter, and approx 300Kg lighter, Airforce G is more compact and has greater manoeuvrability than its predecessor without loosing the one tonne of down force available to deliver the probe one metre down through compacted soil.

"Airforce G has lost 250Kg on the new engine and compressor alone and we've been able to reduce the wheelbase by half a metre, bringing the overall machine weight down to the one tonne target. It's also quieter due to the sound proof casing."

For further information Tel: 01449 673783.

CENTENARY YEAR

BTME marked the start of an exciting year for Barenbrug, as the company underlines its pedigree in specialist grass seed breeding by celebrating its centenary.

The company launched its new 2004 catalogue at Harrogate. The guide to Barenbrug cultivars and mixtures also contains advice and information on all applications, together with recommended sowing rates and depths.

Barenbrug also unveiled a new mixture which it claims is the ultimate low maintenance product. Called BAR 40, it's ideal for golf greens, tees and surrounds, as well as the landscaping market. It contains 75% Barkoel crested

hairgrass and 25% Barcrown slender creeping red fescue, and offers all Barkeol characteristics such as low maintenance, disease resistance, low thatch production and good all-year-round colour.

Heading the list for recovery is Romance perennial ryegrass, a cultivar included in both BAR 7, the UK'S leading sports renovation mixture and BAR 8 construction mixture, with a new specification, for 2004. Bred by Barenbrug Research, Romance combines recovery characteristics with wear tolerance. It offers good shoot density while maintaining a consistent mid-green colour in both summer and winter, making it ideal for heavy duty sports turf use and turf production.

For further information Tel: 01359 272000.

NEW CAMPEY HARVESTER

The new trailed Raycam Core Harvester from Campey TurfCare Systems collects cores speedily via its fully floating and adjustable pick-up head, having been gathered by guides extending on either side of the unit. The cores are then swept up by a rotating brush and fed via an integral conveyor into a 580-litre capacity, high-tip, side-discharge hopper, for easy collection and disposal.

Powered by a compact tractor of 24-30hp, the Raycam Core Harvester's steering axle enables the unit to be positioned exactly in relation to the tractor line. The machine is powered by an independent hydraulic system, via a pump mounted on the tractor's rear power take-off.

By using the Raycam Turf Harvester, turf professionals can achieve a clean playing surface quickly and efficiently, with minimal labour. An added advantage is that treated areas can be brought back into play in considerably less time, so that there is less likelihood of losing revenue through having to close part or all of a facility.



A SMALLER VERSION

EarthQuake Turfcare launched a 1m wide version of its Tremor rotary turf decompactor to complement its existing 1.5m and 2.2m Tremor models.

Weighing 300kg, the new Tremor 100 requires a compact tractor of 20hp to 30hp, making it ideal for relieving compaction beneath fine or sensitive areas of turf where excessive tractor or machine weight could diminish the beneficial effects of any decompaction treatment.

The new T100 machine follows the same working principles as its larger stablemates. It has 12 rotating wedge-shaped knives which pass through the soil to a maximum depth of 210mm, moving the soil sideways across the full

The subsoil cracks and fissures created by this soil movement maintain and promote the passage of essential air, nutrients and water to encourage good drainage and strong, healthy grass growth.

The progressive entry into the turf of the T100's curved knives with their sharp leading edge ensures fast, reliable, economical operation with minimal stress or strain on the tractor or operator. As the knives exit the turf, a fullwidth, single-piece depth skid prevents the turf from lifting, leaving the surface ready for almost immediate use.

Price of the T100 is £6,400 and demonstrations will be available through EarthQuake Turfcare and its appointed dealers from early spring 2004 onwards. For further information Tel: 01889 271509.



GROWING PORTFOLIO

Headland increased the company's pesticide portfolio with the launch of two

Snare, aimed at the amenity turf market, is a thiophanate – methyl based systemic fungicide, which is active against common diseases such as fusarium patch and red thread as well as dollar spot. It has the added advantage of activity against earthworms and can be used for the suppression of worm

Where necessary, Snare can also be combined with Headland's 'Cyren', insecticide for control of both casting worms and leatherjackets in one application.

Tangent, Headland's new, non-selective, non-residual herbicide is a 450g/litre glyphosate formulation, which carries no hazard classification.

Absorbed by the foliage and translocated throughout the plant and root systems, Tangent is effective on annual and perennial grasses as well as broadleaved weeds, but inactivated on contact with the soil and rapidly degraded by micro-organisms.

Tangent's high rate of active ingredient means a 20% lower application rate than other glyphosate formulations. Its use is recommended on non-crop areas such as hard surfaces, paved areas, highways and industrial sites, as well as around trees and shrubs in landscaped areas and forestry situations. Tangent is also recommended for aquatic areas.

For further information Tel: 01223 597834.

TAKE-ALL BEWARE!

Scotts announced an additional on-label approval against Take-All disease for their new fungicide Heritage at BTME this week.

Heritage has proved highly popular with turf managers since its launch at BTME 2003, due to the unparalleled control of Fusarium disease that the new active ingredient offers. The additional on-label approval for Heritage against

Take-All will be equally welcome to UK greenkeepers and groundsmen as it is the only turf fungicide to carry such approval.

Heritage belongs to a new class of environmentally sound fungicides, which have been developed from naturally occurring chemicals found in saprophytic woodland fungi.

Heritage disrupts the mitochondrial respiration of target fungi and prevents the pathogen from transferring energy, leading to the death of the fungal cells.

Application of Heritage offers a long lasting prevention and early cure of turf disease, and efficacy is further enhanced by the products systemic mobility within the grass plant. It is absorbed through leaf blade, crown, root and stem, and moves throughout the plant, via the xylem vessels, to provide total

Scotts also introduced a new organic turf supplement that enhances sward health and vigour through stimulating soil microbial activity. New Greenmaster Blade is an advanced combination of carbohydrate and seaweed technology.

Greenmaster Blade works indirectly, instead of feeding the turf, the carbohydrate and seaweed spray feeds and stimulates the beneficial microorganisms in the soil surface.

Modern turf management can result in a near sterile environment in the upper inches of the soil, starving the micro flora and fauna and preventing the natural recycling of organic matter into plant nutrients. This has contributed to the increasing problems turf managers experience with thatch build up and conditions such as black layer.

Greenmaster Blade tackles this issue by providing an energy source to reinvigorate the activity of these organisms. The result is an acceleration of natural composting - breaking down thatch and black layer, improving air and water flow into the soil and continually releasing new plant nutrients to the turf roots.

For further information Tel: 01473 830492.

NEW ZERO TURN ARTICULATED ROTARY

Lastec took the wraps off a new fully articulating three deck zero turn rideon rotary mower at Harrogate. The new mower has an overall cutting width of 72", and the right and left hand 25" wing decks each have 13" of articulation to achieve the highest quality of cut without 'scalping'. Powered by a 28HP Kubota diesel engine, the new machine incorporates the latest developments in Lastec's patented Articulator technology which, since its introduction in 1990, has been proven on hundreds of championship golf courses around the world.

The new machine is an addition to Lastec's established line-up of Articulator. Four other models from the range – selected to demonstrate the versatility of the Articulator concept for all UK and European golf course requirements were on display. They were:

Articulator 3696 - 4 deck (96") 36HP zero turn ride-on rotary mower

Articulator 721XR - 7 deck (132") tow behind rotary mower

Articulator 621EF - 3 deck (126") front mounted rotary mower

Articulator 325EF - 3 deck (72") front mounted rotary mower



NEW FROM RANSOMES JACOBSEN

Ransomes Jacobsen launched a new four-wheel drive utility vehicle at the show

The E-Z-GO ST4x4 turf utility vehicle is powered by an 18hp, 614cc Honda petrol engine, renowned for its quality, reliability and performance, with a top speed of 25 mph. Load carrying capacity is impressive, as at just shy of 500 kg, it can tow up to 540 kg. The rotomoulded crosslink polyethylene cargo bed has a removable tailgate, and can be divided into sections when carrying different materials

Robustly constructed to meet every eventuality, the galvanised steel frame is hot-wax dipped throughout for added corrosion protection. The front axle is articulated to ensure that the front wheels stay in contact with the ground, especially in steep approach and exit conditions and the McPherson struts allows 11.5cm of travel.

The rugged truck-style front engine cowl can be raised for easy access to the vibration tolerant, maintenance free battery, brake master cylinder and fuse

Locking front and rear differentials, dual rate rear leaf springs, hydraulic shock absorbers together with rack and pinion steering provide superb traction and handling. Standard 63.5cm self cleaning tyres provide 24cm ground clearance and 135cm wide wheel base all contribute to the ST4x4's excellent stability and manoeuvrability.

Another debutant on the Ransomes Jacobsen stand was the Iseki TH 4330 Hydro compact tractor. This new machine is powered by an Iseki E3CD, 3 cylinder clean burn diesel engine with a displacement of 1498cc and developing 32 ps at 2600 rpm.

With a 30 litre fuel tank (23 litre main tank and seven litre reserve) and 1,100kg lifting capacity, it's ideal for heavy work over long hours.

Unique to this new machine is the smooth acceleration from the HST pedal. All control levers are side mounted while the contoured nose provides a clear view to the front of the machine. Hydrostatic transmission allows stepless speed selection in both forward and reverse.

A flip-up bonnet allows easy access to all components for daily maintenance, with servicing points kept to a minimum and all within easy reach. Standard features include a mid-mounted pto, folding ROPS, EC approved lighting and number plate light.

The TH 4330 Hydro is the first in a new range of Iseki tractors and will be followed shortly by a manual transmission derivative and two machines with slightly reduced power ratings, the TH 4260 and the TH 4290.

For further information Tel: 01473 270000.



▲ E-Z-GO ST 4x4 utility vehicle

▼ Iseki TH 4330 Hydro compact tractor



LAG MOWER

Designed primarily for golf and amenity turf applications, the four wheel drive 1905 lag mower features a new Yanmar 43hp four-cylinder diesel engine and hydrostatic transmission. Initial production models will be fitted as standard with John Deere's established ESP (extra strength & precision) cutting reels, which are particularly popular with golf course users.

This new mower will also be available with a luxury Mauser cab, with integrated air conditioning and new armrest controls. It has a total cutting width of 3.45m, and can travel at speeds of up to 15.5mph on the road, or 8mph when mowing.

Tel: 01949 860491.

NEW LAUNCH FROM HAYTER

Hayter chose BTME for the launch of their new small triple, the MT313. Designed to cope with a variety of applications and conditions, the 20hp, 3 wheel drive MT313 is ideally suited maintaining fine turf on golf courses and sportsfields as well as cutting in demanding municipal

applications.

Excellent traction is achieved with a unique transmission system which ensures drive to a minimum of two wheels at all times. The three US interchangeable cutting units are also powered hydraulically through direct drive motors. The standard machine is supplied with single lift control for raising and lowering all units simultaneously. Individual lift for each unit is available as an option.

Designed for a variety of applications there are a number of options available including a flashing beacon, working lights, grass catchers and arm rests. The seating position gives the operator maximum comfort and excellent visibility to both the cutting units and drive wheels. The operating platform can be raised for routine maintenance and the centre unit, always the most difficult to maintain and adjust, swings out from under the chassis for easy access. These features are unique to a machine of this type.

For further information Tel: 01279 723444.

