

NEW PRODUCTS

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 ground-following 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



▲ Workman 3000



▲ Pro-Core 648

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 losing 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 Barkoel 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 width.

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 full-width, 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.



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 protection.

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 micro-organisms 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 ride-on 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



GROWING PORTFOLIO

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

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 casting.

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 broad-leaved 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.

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 box.

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.

