

NEW PRODUCTS

POND MATS INTRODUCED TO THE UK

AquaMats, a high performance, environmentally friendly aquatic technology, has been launch in the UK.

AquaMats significantly reduce nitrite and ammonia stress on any aquatic system by supplementing the existing biofiltration.

With a 20 year proven track record in the US and Belgium, AquaMats are a revolutionary line of patented aquatic technology products that increase the surface area of aquatic habitats, resulting in a number of benefits to pond ecosystems, especially during the variable seasons of autumn and spring when nitrate levels fluctuate.

AquaMats resemble aquatic grass in appearance and combine an aquatic habitat, in situ biofiltration and supplemental natural food production all in the same unique product. They are designed for a wide range of aquatic

species and environments and complement existing filtration systems.

There are two versions, full size AquaMats for larger ponds (500 gallons and up) and AquaMats Minis for ornamental ponds, water gardens and koi ponds.

AquaMats have bioengineered surfaces that radically increase the beneficial biological activity of ornamental ponds and water gardens. They are environmentally friendly, manufactured from food-grade polymers with no binders or phthalates, which means no harmful chemicals are leached into the water.

AquaMats don't require cleaning as they are cleaned by the 'grazing' of pond fish (although they can be hand cleaned at the pond side).

At the end of their useful life, they are completely recyclable.

For further information Tel: 0117 9088841

LOW COST WEATHER STATION



With efficient water management being a vital issue for greenkeepers currently, manufacturer of irrigation equipment Rain Bird will reveal their latest Weather Station WS PRO LT at BTME.

"This weather station is very affordable allowing all golf clubs to eliminate unnecessary watering," says Victor Jamieson, Regional Manager for Northern Europe. "Costs can be reduced dramatically, especially where mains water is used either solely or as a back-up."

Designed to be used with Rain Bird central control systems the evapotranspiration (ET) rates

are automatically downloaded from the environmental data supplied by the weather station. Their full sensor array provides accurate measurements of air temperature, wind speed, solar radiation, wind direction, relative humidity, rainfall and barometric pressure.

When an irrigation program is run off ET, having taken into consideration any rainfall the central automatically calculates new station run times to apply only the amount of water lost through evaporation and transpiration.

With changing weather patterns, data reports can be generated to show current and past weather conditions by the hour, day, week, month or year.

For further information Tel: 01273 891326

NEW GREENTEC GRANULE

Headland have launched a new Greentec fine turf fertiliser, which will be on show at BTME.

A homogenous granule (average 1mm diameter), the new formulation of 6+5+18 is designed to replace the existing 6+4+12 product, and, like the rest of the Greentec range, contains all the turf nutrients in one granule, rather than as a blend of individual particles. The result is more uniform coverage across fine turf surfaces.

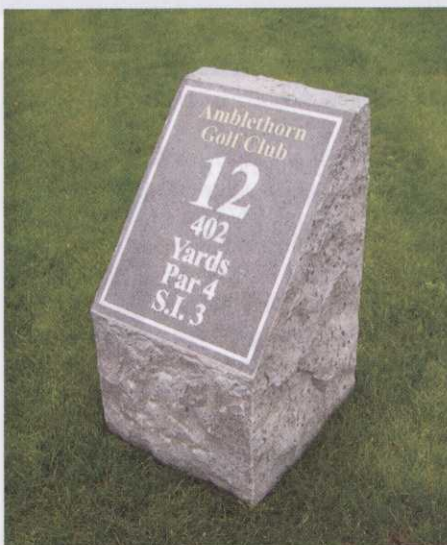
The product's increased potassium content aids winter hardiness, helping reduce stress and the likelihood of disease, as well as improving turf vigour and colour. The inclusion of potassium nitrate means that Greentec 6+5+18 is lower in sulphur, which contributes to "Black Layer" in anaerobic soils.

Potassium nitrate also provides an immediately available source

of nitrogen giving a plant response even under cooler temperatures. For this reason, the new Greentec 6+5+18 is not only ideal as an autumn feed, but can also be applied in early spring.

Designed for all fine turf areas, golf and bowling greens, as well as croquet lawns, Greentec 6+5+18 can also be applied to golf tees, surrounds and approaches plus other close cut turf.

The product's 4% iron and 1% magnesium aids leaf hardness and improves winter colour. For more information Tel: 01223 597834



GOLF TEE SIGNS UNVEIL NEW RANGE

Golf Tee Signs will be launching a number of new products at BTME 2005 including, The Lakes Range, a selection of unique 'Granite only' Tee Signs, and new additions to the Sherwood Range of Hardwood posts and frames.

An addition to the Golf Tee Signs range of Golf Course signage is The Lakes range of Granite Tee signs, consisting of three new products.

The Kendal, an upright Granite boulder, The Keswick, a round Granite boulder, and The Askam, an angled Granite pedestal. These new signs are produced entirely from natural Granite and bring a new meaning to the phrase 'maintenance free signage'.

The new signs blend in naturally with their environment, while withstanding the harshest

weather conditions, to become an integral part of the surrounding landscape.

They will be of particular interest to golf courses that are located in exposed areas and/or in coastal regions. Another benefit, particularly to those courses that get the odd un-welcome visitor, is that they are vandal and theft resistant.

Also on display will be the latest new products which have been added to the Sherwood Range, using the finest quality hardwood. These include Twin and Links posts with granite plates, and a new range of premier outdoor hardwood furniture featuring chairs and tables with hexagonal Granite inserts showing the Club's logo.

For further information Tel: 01422 345990

SANDBANDER SLITS INTO MARKET PLACE

The AFT Sandbander quickly installs 25mm wide drainage slits, filling them at the same time with consolidated sand up to a depth of 250mm. The unique blade design and fast oscillation create minimal heave and permit even moist sand to be used.

The machine is the ideal tool to quickly drain excess surface water to free draining subsoil or existing drainage system. Using sand rather than gravel ensures that essential moisture levels are retained in the root zones and that no harmful spills can damage mowers or players.

Designed for tractors from 20HP, it can safely work on sensitive areas like golf greens. If required the Sandbander can also be used with gravel or similar backfilling materials.

For further information Tel: 01787 311811



KRISTAL KLEAR APPROACH TO CLEAN WATER

Whether recreational or functional, watercourses have great potential to provide valuable wildlife and visual features.

A constant problem encountered with regard to their management is an effective method of maintaining a healthy and diverse aquatic environment, focusing on algae-free surfaces and control of anaerobic sub-surface conditions.

In the majority of cases a combination of minimal aeration and a build up of de-oxygenating organic sediment results in a stagnant, lifeless water feature. Kristal Klear aerators, created by Trevor Smith Golf Consultancy, work on the basic principle of facilitating a sustainable source of oxygen within the entire watercourse.

Regardless of the size and depth of the feature, Kristal Klear systems can be tailor made to your precise requirements. A feature of the Kristal Klear system is that it can be run off your existing

irrigation system, or stand alone with its own integrated pump.

More than ever it is imperative to promote environmentally responsible management techniques. They are pioneering a move away from short term chemical solutions that treat only the symptoms, by targeting the underlying cause of most water management issues in a way that is environmentally accountable.

The Kristal Klear diffusion aeration system combines pressurised water with oxygen delivered at the lake bottom creating large volumes of air bubbles, which rise bringing the bottom water to the surface.

The diffusers are especially designed to produce bubbles that circulate water to the surface as it picks up oxygen. The diffuser is placed on the bottom of the pond (preferably in the deepest water).

For further information Tel: 01202 824966

TURGOR TOUGHENS TURF

Following rigorous trials on some of the world's busiest winter sports pitches, Floratine have launch Turgor, the company's new protective silicon product, onto the golf market.

Aimed specifically at Creeping Bent greens grasses, Turgor increases the plant's ability to withstand wear, hastens recovery, and reduces pitch marks and the likelihood of devoting.

David Snowden, European Technical Manager for the company, says that Turgor is the only form of silicon that is absorbed through the leaf, and therefore mobile throughout the plant, rather than coating the surface.

"For this reason, Turgor strengthens the plant from the inside," he explains, "not only enabling it to withstand the wear and tear of play, but also rendering the sward less prone to disease."

"We've tested the product at Rasunda, Sweden's National Stadium during the football season, and conditions don't get much tougher than that."

Turgor comes in 2 x 10 litre cans, and for peak protection should be applied every one to two weeks during the growing season. The alternative is to apply two to three days before special events or tournaments. For further information Tel: 01765 658021

HUNTER GRINDERS LOOK TO THE STARS

The Jupiter ATI Relief/Spin Grinder with fully integrated guarding system will be on display at BTME 2005.

The Jupiter ATI combines the solid stability of a cast iron bed, with precision relief grinding for accuracy second to none. The ATI is fully automatic, using a computer programme that allows the operator to leave the grinder unattended while other tasks are completed.

The fully integrated guard is fitted with micro switches which instantly shut off the machine if any of the guard panels are removed.

Speed is often mentioned when looking at short term gains and when set up the ATI will spin grind as quickly as any other machine. However, the long term benefits of having a Hunter Grinder come into play once the mower units are back on the course.

The Jupiter ATI will return all cylinders and bottom blades back to the manufacturer's specification and keep them on cut for up to four times longer than any other method of grinding.

For further information Tel: 01207 270316

