



First Sowings at Cropvale

Specialist grass seed breeder Barenbrug has seen the first of its amenity trial plots sown at its UK amenity research site at Cropvale in Worcestershire.

Barenbrug UK's research and development manager Jayne Leyland and UK production manager Andrew Sadler (pictured) were both on hand to scrutinise the plots.

Synergy of mixtures is one of the key areas for study, and the first sowing includes 11 new mixture formulations, which the company will be comparing with its existing BAR range.

Dealer Network Strengthened

Kubota has further strengthened its UK dealer network with the appointment of Rod Gaskin (Farm Equipment) Ltd as a Kubota tractor and groundcare dealer for North Hampshire and West Sussex.

Rod Gaskin Ltd offers the complete Kubota range of ride-on mowers, for domestic and professional use; tractors from 12-128hp, and four variants of the RTV900 all-terrain utility vehicle.

Gaskin's founder and managing director, Rod Gaskin said: "Kubota is a franchise I have always wanted and when the opportunity came up I jumped at it. I am impressed with the quality of Kubota machines, which slot in perfectly alongside the other leading equipment brands we supply, and also with the outstanding level of support provided by Kubota."



Hugh Knowles (left) and Rob Surgey, Senior Course Manager at Burhill Golf Club, Surrey, surveying the successful heather regeneration project at Burhill, part of the group's environment policy and action plan.

ENVIRONMENT POLICY INTRODUCED

Burhill Golf and Leisure Limited has introduced an environment policy designed to enrich the environments of its 10 courses and promote sound, sustainable management of its facilities.

The policy, which demonstrates a high degree of environmental awareness and quality, covers all aspects of on and off-course operations and sets out clear guidelines on the management of water, habitat and waste, as well as introducing an action plan to reduce the group's energy consumption by 15% within six months.

Among the initiatives already underway at the group's three golf clubs and seven pay-and-play golf centres are a heather restoration project at Burhill Golf Club; ornithological surveys and the

addition of bird boxes at Abbey Hill Golf Centre, Milton Keynes; a new reservoir at Hoebridge Golf Centre, Surrey; waste water recycling for machinery wash down at Burhill Golf Club, Wycombe Heights Golf Centre and Abbey Hill Golf Centre; plus integrated supplier plans to reduce packaging and haulage.

An immediate energy reduction plan was put in place at the beginning of 2009 with energy audits being carried out at all 10 facilities, resulting in boiler efficiency improvements, new insulation of heating systems and roof spaces, overnight charging of electric buggies, complete re-lamping of internal and external lighting with energy efficient bulbs, plus the introduction of 'motion detector' light switches.

GOLFERS DRIVE FORE BRAKE

To help raise awareness of the 3,000 people killed every single year on UK roads, Brake is appealing to golfers to 'Drive fore Brake' and organise a charity golf day through their golf club or company.

The appeal, promoted by Brake, aims to raise awareness of crashes in the golfing community and their families.

A horrifying 87 people are killed and seriously injured on UK roads every day. The vast majority of these deaths and serious injuries are a result of dangerous or careless driving and could have been avoided. Brake believes the best way to tackle this is to educate drivers on how they can look after their own and other people's safety. By linking with Brake, we hope golfers will take on board the importance of driving safely.

The funds raised through the appeal will be directed to Brake's support services, including education of all road users and the charity's Brakecare division; supporting people bereaved or seriously injured through road crashes.

For more information contact: 01484 530085 or email: hmervill@brake.org.uk