



Industry Update



The site at Cropvale

NEW TRIALS SITE AT CROPVALE

Specialist grass seed breeder Barenbrug has established its own UK amenity research site at Cropvale, in Worcestershire.

Barenbrug already operates an extensive UK trials programme in conjunction with the STRI backed up by global trials conducted by the Royal Barenbrug Group. However, this new site will strengthen Barenbrug's ability to test new and innovative cultivars specific to UK conditions as well as respond to market and climatic requirements more quickly.

Sowing on the 15-acre site will commence in spring this year, with the synergy of mixtures being one of the key areas for study, as Jayne Leyland, Barenbrug UK's Research and Development Manager explained: "The expansion of our UK trials programme into our own dedicated research site is an important development for us. Cropvale will demonstrate first-hand the synergy of mixtures that include both new, existing and 'in-development' cultivars, furthering our understanding of effective grass seed blending."



NEW AREA MANAGER

Tacit has appointed Steve Milton as their new Area Manager for the West of England and Wales.

In his new position Steve will be responsible for the development and execution of Tacit's business strategy in West of England and Wales.

Before joining Tacit, Steve has worked in the catering and leisure sectors, delivering a bespoke service to many varied customers.

And for many years has had a rather masochistic hobby of watching his beloved Bristol Rovers.

NEW REGIONAL DISTRIBUTOR IN SCOTLAND

Scotia Plant Ltd (part of the Ballyvesey Group) has been appointed Scotland regional distributor for Terex United Kingdom Limited. They will cover and distribute the full-line range of Terex Construction compact equipment, covering the Scottish borders from Forfar in the East and Fort William in the West.

Product lines on offer will include: Mini Dumpers, Site Dumpers, Backhoe Loaders, Pedestrian Rollers, Vibratory Rollers, Mini Excavators, Midi Excavators, Wheeled Excavators, Wheeled Loaders, Mixers, and Compaction Plates. In addition Scotia Plant will promote the Genie® Telehandler range.

NEW UK DISTRIBUTOR

Countax has been formally appointed distributor of Shindaiwa power tools for the UK.

Shindaiwa's range of brushcutters, hedgetrimmers, power blowers and chainsaws are ideal for domestic and professional use, and are currently available via a network of specialist dealerships throughout the UK. Countax Sales Director, Mark Osborne, commented: "We are delighted to be appointed UK distributor for the Shindaiwa range, and are looking to raise the profile of this exciting range in the market place, as well as extend the availability through a larger dealer network. The Shindaiwa products compliment our current range, and are ideally suited to our customer profile."

NEW GOLF CARS FOR SPANISH RESORT

Valle Romano Golf and Resort at Estepona in Andalusia is the latest Spanish golf club to invest in the electric version of the E-Z-GO TXT golf car. Local E-Z-GO distributor Green Mowers delivered the vehicles to the 150 hectare resort which features an 18-hole championship golf course designed by Cabell B Robinson.

Valle Romano is a luxury, high-quality development lying between the Sierra Bermeja mountain range and the Mediterranean Sea. The golf course, which has a gentle and undulating topography, occupies some 60 hectares.



ACADEMICALLY SUCCESSFUL

It's been a busy year for Hamilton Academical FC – not only did the team win promotion to the Scottish Premier League, but the club also installed a brand new pitch.

The Accies had to replace the artificial pitch with a traditional grass one – and install under-soil heating – after gaining promotion to the Scottish Premier League (SPL). So there was no time to lose at the end of the 2007/2008 season if the club was to ensure it was ready for kick off again at the beginning of August 2008.

Enter Souters Sports, a specialist sports turf contractor offering sports turf construction, reconstruction, drainage, aeration and maintenance of all natural grass playing services carried out the work.

THE ELS CLUB RANKS HIGH

Dubai Sports City's The Els Club golf course has won two prestigious international awards.

The Els Club was named the 'best new international course' by Links Magazine and selected as a finalist in the "International Courses" category of the 2008 Golf Inc. Development of the Year contest.

This prestigious recognition establishes The Els Club as one of the leading golf courses worldwide.

"The Els Club at Dubai Sports City is a golf development that will stand up proudly against the best in the world for decades to come," said Ernie Els, its designer.

"The awards put The Els Club in the company of truly great international golf destinations, having already exceeded my own architectural and operational expectations," added Els.

The Els Club is championship golf course designed by three-time major winner Ernie Els. The course offers a luxury golfing experience combined with five-star service and notable prestige.

