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## **INDUSTRY UPDATE**

The latest turf industry news from around the globe



"Our award-winning pitch is all thanks to our Kubota ride-on mower" that's the message from Glenn Bellis, Manager of Harefield United.

The Middlesex-based club purchased a Kubota G21 ride-on mower and quickly scooped the title of Best Pitch in the Spartan Premier Division before going on to win the Steps 5 and 6 National Award category in the FA's 2010 Groundsman of the Year Awards.

The accolades came after the club's committee took the decision of cancelling the existing groundcare contract in order to maintain the two pitches for themselves. With this in mind, each committee member personally contributed to the cost of buying the ride-on mower.

It was chosen because of its 21 hp Kubota engine and tight turning circle, which when combined with its light weight, means it can mow both pitches quickly and efficiently without marking the turf.

Glenn said that everyone at the club is absolutely delighted to have won the two awards:

"To be honest, we weren't happy with our pitch, so we decided to buy the Kubota and maintain it ourselves. Our aim was to improve pitch quality so our teams could enjoy better facilities and game play – we never dreamed that we'd go on to win two awards within two years of deciding to maintain it for ourselves.

"It is a reliable machine, extremely easy to use and helps us to get the job done quickly.

"What's more, it's diesel, so it's economical to run too."

## **CARBON CAPTURING TURF**

A new breed of slow growing carbon capturing turf has been launched in joint venture by Inturf, Paynes Turf and Rigby Taylor

In addition to its ability to lock up carbon dioxide, Carbon Capture Turf grows at a slower rate than other grass varieties, thus reducing maintenance costs and producing fewer clippings. Supplies of the new turf are available from this spring.

"Turfgrass already plays an important part in the designed landscape by providing the green open spaces which many people - especially city dwellers - long for," says Brian Robinson, Director of Seed Research for Rigby Taylor.



## Sanli Building Business Across The Irish Sea

Outdoor power equipment specialist Sanli is continuing to spread its wings with the appointment of new sales and service dealers in Ireland.

Now responsible for looking after domestic and professional customers in southern Ireland is Dublin Grass Machinery, based at Castleknock, Dublin. The company, which has a number of sub-dealers located primarily in the Irish Republic's Leinster province showed off a selection of Sanli products recently to existing and prospective dealers' staff at a special, horticultural machinery show staged at Punchestown Racecourse.

Organised by Irish garden machinery distributors, the indoor event represented the first public showing of Sanli outdoor power equipment in the Dublin area.

Moving northwards, newly-appointed Sanli dealer for Northern Ireland, Ground Control, attended a series of open evenings held to give domestic and professional machinery users a preview of some of the new products heading their way for the 2011 season.

A division of Johnston Gilpin of Lisburn, Co. Down, Ground Control has an excellent reputation for pre- and after-sales customer support, attributes that will help Sanli establish a strong and loyal customer base in the north of Ireland.

www.sanli.co.uk