G

INDUSTRY UPDATE

The latest turf industry news from around the globe







We have all been waiting with bated breath for a National Action Plan - a document that each Member State of the EU has to produce to show how the Sustainable Use Directive (SUD) would be implemented in their own country.

When all is said and done, the outcome for the Pesticide Application is disappointing. Due to the current economic climate, the Government was unwilling to 'Gold Plate' EU legislation.

We are now left with a diluted SUD where although training, education and storage are still given prominence, great leaps forward have not been made.

When it comes to accurate Pesticide Application, ALL operators must have gone through PA training to the required standard and should always be able to demonstrate

good knowledge of calibration and understand the product they are using.

Too often, tired specifications are trotted out, only re-dated, and showing little understanding of what is happening in the weed control world. It is now awash with new formulations – Dichlobenil used to give medium longevity control of weeds at 150 kgs per ha. Now, the same level of control can be achieved using a thousandth of this amount - Flazasulfuron at 150 grammes per hal

We are entering a new era for Pesticide Application, and we must all be armed appropriately to deal with the demands ahead. This will mean investing in people, equipment and associated training, which although expensive, ensures the job is carried out to the highest standard possible.



TADMARTON HEATH INVESTS IN 'THE BEST' TO GROW MEMBERSHIP

North Oxfordshire hidden gem Tadmarton Heath Golf Club has signed a new five-year agreement with Toro. This traditional private members club is investing in the new machinery as part of a ten-year course improvement plan to retain and grow membership levels.

Course manager Brian Owen - who recently celebrated 20 years of working at the club - is delighted with the arrival of the new fleet, which includes a Greensmaster TriFlex greensmower:

"The new machines will help keep us moving forwards - we want to achieve a lot more for this club.

TOP TIPS FOR **GREAT GREENS**

British Sugar TOPSOIL, the UK's leading supplier of quality topsoil has teamed up with golf course expert Peter Jones to launch a new course management guide for the industry.

The eight-page technical guide called The essential guide for the golf course industry is aimed at greenkeepers and course managers. It provides useful information and practical advice on using topsoil to improve course quality and performance, along with top tips on golf course management from industry expert Peter Jones.

British Sugar TOPSOIL is a fertile, consistent and traceable topsoil which is

derived from prime arable soils to offer greenkeepers a sustainable topsoil solution. Possessing good nutrient and moisture retention properties British Sugar TOPSOIL is perfect for bunker construction projects and non-irrigated areas of a course.

The new guide is available to download from the TOPSOIL website: www.bstopsoil.co.uk or by telephoning 0870 2402314.



