

## BEAT BUNKER PROBLEMS IN NO TIME

The new Mantis BunkerMaster has received high praise from greenkeepers using it to resolve perennial bunker problems.

Ten years after the launch of the first Mantis 2 stroke BunkerMaster, the new more powerful 4 stroke model will prove to be a very cost effective solution to any course looking to raise the standard of its bunker preparation.

While bunkers cover only one to two percent of the total area of the golf course they can take up to as much as 25% of the available resources to maintain.

You want to get bunkers back into shape as fast as possible after bad weather, heavy play and during general bunker maintenance, preparing them to the highest standards.

The BunkerMaster's 35cc engine has the torque to spin the spring tines at 200 rpm, yet it is lightweight and offers a low cost solution to fast redistribution of the sand. It lifts and aerates the top 30mm of sand without digging in and it's designed to work away from the operator for maximum control.

All of which means you have a fast and efficient answer to loosening and dressing the sand, ready for final top dressing using a conventional rake.

The light weight of the BunkerMaster also means you can work in tight edges and along banks.

Overall, what is most impressive about the BunkerMaster is the sheer speed of bunker preparation you can achieve, especially after heavy rain.



Removing moss and thatch from awkward banks is another benefit, with sixty spring picks letting you dethatch a 15" (38cm) swathe at a single pass and the minimum of effort.

Lightweight they may be but these little machines have proved themselves to be tough and built to last. The long-life precision worm gear and drive shaft transmission are all enclosed in a robust aluminium casing while the Subaru engine also has its own rugged housing.

A unique centrifugal clutch gives the operator complete control and there is sealed electronic ignition plus a convenient engine cut-off switch on the handle.

At the end of the day, the light weight and compact shape make the BunkerMaster easy to pop into the back of a UTV and all components, including the engine and attachments come with a 1 year professional guarantee against defects in materials and workmanship.

## GALLEON IS A TOP REGENERATING PERENNIAL RYEGRASS



A spreading perennial ryegrass exclusive to Germinal Seeds in the UK has been hailed for its divot recovery qualities in research trials.

The regenerative growth qualities of Galleon were demonstrated when it bettered two other competitor brands in a trial at Oregon State University.

Galleon was developed as a hardwearing variety of perennial ryegrass with exceptional recovery due to its spreading growth habit. This fine leaved variety also exhibits high resistance to insects and nematode attack due to high endophyte levels.

The highly rated variety, was evaluated in the trial against two recent ryegrass blends marketed heavily for their spreading characteristics – RPR and Natural Knit. It was found to repair the divots faster and maintained active growth late into the autumn.

Richard Brown, Amenity Sales Manager of Germinal Seeds (GB), said: "We have great faith in Galleon's qualities and are delighted but not surprised at how well it has done in this research study."



## NATIONAL GOLF MONTH LAUNCHED

A closest to the pin shoot-out by Liz Young and Holly Aitchinson of the Ladies European Tour marked the Official Launch of National Golf Month at the Playgolf Centre, Northwick Park. The launch was well attended by Golf Industry members and the press who gathered to see Doug Poole (Director of National Golf Month) speak passionately about growing the game of golf and how National Golf Month aims to achieve this.

National Golf Month (NGM) – a British Golf Industry initiative – is an amazing event where all the leading golf companies and associations are joining together to increase the numbers playing golf. Support for National Golf Month has seen all the major Golf Unions and Associations, Golf Clubs, Driving Ranges, Golf Manufacturers and PGA Professionals sign up to work together to reverse the trend and get more players on course to enjoy the game.

Bubba Watson's rallying cry that he "plays golf because I just love the game" coincides with the launch of National Golf Month which aims to get an extra 100,000 lapsed or new golfers playing the game in May.

Watson, who captured his second Masters title last month, declared "I don't play golf because I want people to tell me how great I am at it. I don't play golf to make a living. It has given me my values and everything I have ever owned in my life."

Sir Nick Faldo, three times champion of The Open and The Masters, said: "I'm very excited to be supporting National Golf Month. It's a special effort to get thousands of golfers playing actively or learning to play golf. The game provides an eternal number of self-challenges; an endless stream of goals to beat your own best."

Charley Hull, who was introduced to golf aged two and won Rookie of the Year on the Ladies European Tour in 2013 when she became the youngest competitor to play in the Solheim Cup, said: "Golf is a fun game you can enjoy with all your family and friends, so use the great offers available during National Golf Month and get out playing this coming May."



## ETESIA MOWERS STAND THE TEST OF TIME

A range of Etesia mowers, including two new Duocut RMHB 46cm pedestrian mowers, are helping to maintain the green space areas surrounding and including Durham University - the UK's third oldest university.

Durham University has a unique estate, which includes 63 listed buildings and also owns and manages the World Heritage Site in partnership with Durham Cathedral. The University's ownership of the World Heritage site includes Durham Castle, Palace Green, and the surrounding buildings including the historic Cosin's library.

Barry Shipman has been working in the garden and grounds team at the university for over 40 years and was recently promoted to garden and grounds supervisor. He now has a team of nine gardeners to assist with the upkeep of the facility which is roughly a third of Durham city and also includes the botanical gardens.

When purchasing new equipment, Barry discusses matters with the horticultural officer to see what machines are suitable and could make the life of their operators easier which include noise, vibrations etc.

Barry and his team like to keep the grass short and presentable at all times, which over the last year has been very testing, but as he explains, has been made easier with the range of ride-on and pedestrian mowers he discovered over 15 years ago.

"We have an excellent relationship with our local machinery dealer, Lloyds, who are very knowledgeable and they recommended Etesia to us when we were looking for a mower which we could use in the wet and capable of being able to cut and collect or cut and drop," explained Barry.

"I like the fact that we can cut, collect or cut and drop using the same machine because it saves us so much time. We order three new machines per year, which simply replace the oldest ones and so the cycle continues.

"The Etesia mowers have really come into their own in the past 12 months because they have been so good at cutting and collecting in the wet weather we've experienced. We have mobile grass cutting teams and the new Duocut models have been popular with them because they are very light for people to lift on and off van/trailer from site to site.

The new range of Duocut 46cm mowers are extremely versatile, and are capable of mowing with or without collection in all conditions, or allowing high-quality mulching. And they do all of this with no need for an accessory – you just place the removable insert under the deck if you choose to mulch, making them very operator-friendly. Excellent mulching results are achieved because the grass is very finely 'crushed', even if it is long and wet.