'In seeing this technique in action, it was remarkable how little the turf was damaged'

 circular motion) tends to mash down and close the aerifier holes you are trying to fill!

Please note that this turf tip involves significant handwork, and this may be a limiting factor for some golf course maintenance operations.

As with any golf course maintenance technique, what might work well at one course may not work so well at another. There are no panaceas in our industry. However, in situations where you want to fill aerifier holes completely and reduce the scuffing and abrasion of the grass so common with mechanical drag mat use, give this technique a try. It works well for Paul Latshaw, Sr., at Wilmington Country Club, and it could work for you.

This article first appeared in the USGA Green Section Record and is reproduced here with due acknowledgement and thanks to the USGA Green Section and author Stanley Zontek.









WITH five months to go before BTME '94 takes place in Harrogate next January, a massive 77 per cent of available stand space in Halls A, B and C has *already* been taken up by exhibiting companies.

Interestingly, Ford New Holland, who chose not to attend in 1993, have confirmed they'll be back in 1994. However, the site they occupied in Hall A for the first four exhibitions has been snapped up by someone else, so look out for Ford New Holland this time in Hall C.

Don't be left out in the cold next January. Contact Louise Lunn on 0347 838581 for more information if you are interested in exhibiting – *but don't leave it too long!*

This is YOUR chance to be a BIGGA winner! SIX QUESTIONS TO WIN £600 WORTH OF PRIZES

You could WIN your way to BTME '94, the star-spangled Exhibition and Education Seminar programme that's Number One in the industry!

Each month from June we've been posing questions about the upcoming BTME. Now it's time to tackle a final question and send in all your answers. To help you along, we've repeated the questions and remember all the answers can be found in past issues of Greenkeeper International. There are THREE BIG PRIZES to be won!

First prize: Return rail travel, three nights' accommodation at a top hotel and entry into all the education seminar sessions. *Value: £300.*

Second prize: Return rail travel, two nights' accommodation and entry to all seminar sessions.

THE SIX BIG QUESTIONS:

- 1 In April's BTME Update we carried a letter of congratulation from a Sales Director of one of the industry's leading companies. What is his name?
- 2 In the BTME column in May we introduced our new sales and marketing assistant with special responsibility for the BTME. What is her name?
- 3 How many promotional information packs had already been sent to interested companies? (June issue)
- 4 Who is John Deere's Groundcare Division Manager? (July issue)
- 5 Who is the Managing Director of Multicore Aerators? (August issue)
- And the final question, from this month's column: 6 What percentage of exhibition stand space is already taken up?

lote: competition not open to BIGGA staff. No cash alternatives. Judges' decision is final an

Value: £200. Third prize: A single night's accommodation and entry to all seminar sessions. Value: £100.

★ All you have to do to stand a chance of winning, is to write down your answers, numbered 1 to 6, on a postcard, add your name and address, stick on a stamp and post to: BTME Competition, BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York Y06 2NF to be received by Friday October 15th. The first correct entry drawn after the closing date will win first prize, the second will win second prize and the third – you've got it - will collect the third prize. Good luck!

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Trade Topics



Huxleys have introduced a new version of the increasingly popular 358 Greensmower. Changes to the hydrostatic pump, reel drive pump and wheel motors have enabled the maximum engine speed to be reduced to 2100 rpm. This provides extremely quiet operation, reduced fuel consumption, less wear on engine and transmission and a smoother, cooler and more simple operation.

The new 358 also has "quick adjust" Turf Combs, which avoid the need for spanners when setting combs in and out of work, and a faster reel speed which gives improved grass collection. New optional accessories include headlamp, towbar and flag holder. The new Huxley 358 Greensmower is in production now. Details/demo, Tel: 0962 733222.

The names of T Parker Ltd and Maxwell Hart have been known for over 50 years, and as individual companies they were proud of their service and advancements. In March this expertise was merged to become Parker Hart Ltd – a union conceived to further promote innovation and experience to their joint customer base and to give one company the ability to concentrate on the turfcare aspect of the business.

D S Holdings is the name of the holding company now continuing the other aspects already established under Maxwell Hart: Standard Golf (UK) Ltd, sole distributors for Standard Golf of America, Envirogreen, the first national company to specialise in the disposal of empty containers and the safe destruction of full or banned chemical containers, and Concept Surfacing, who have recently added new artificial golf surfaces to their range.

Greenkeeper International is pleased to inform readers that they are very much alive and still located at Winnersh. Tel: 0734 788044.

The much sought after wall chart from Rhone Poulenc Environmental Products has been redesigned. The new chart features information on weeds, pests and diseases, plus details on product choice, application timing and protective clothing. Tel: 0277 301115.

In July H Pattisson and Co Ltd came under new ownership, Mr J F Hinch is now chairman and Mr M C Hinch has taken over from Mr A Hemingway as managing director. In a recent press release, the company declared that it

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remains a family concern and assures its suppliers that there will be no changes within the organisation. Tel: 0582 597262.

Eric Hunter Grinders seem to be installing a fair number of their grinding machines into golf course workshops these days. The latest include Mold GC, Caldy GC, Newbury & Crookham GC, the famous Malone GC in Northern Ireland, the Pine Ridge Centre, and Wimbledon GC. Many course managers are becoming aware of the advantages of 'inhouse' mower maintenance, and the technique of 'relief' grinding taught by Hunter's is fast gaining recognition. The method reduces friction against the bedknife - with amazing results: bedknives last 2-3 times longer, fuel is saved by minimal drag, adjustments are needed less frequently and the cleaner cutting action enables mowing to take place in very wet conditions without tear or skid. Details: Tel 0207 70316.

The greenkeeper has access to some well established and effective selective herbicides. These, in conjunction with regular mowing, can provide control of many unsightly and damaging weeds in established turf. Nonetheless, many weeds can survive and thrive even under close mowing regimes, generally those which have a creeping, prostrate growth habit and are missed by the mower, e.g. slender speedwell, which has proved most difficult to control by existing selective herbicides.

Responding to the challenge of developing a new herbicide for the control of such difficult to control turf weeds, Rigby Taylor and DowElanco evaluated more than 20 candidate herbicides. The result is Bastion T, a highly effective novel herbicide. Based on two powerful modern herbicides, combined in an ingenious micro-emulsion formulation, Bastion T delivers control of not only a wide range of important, broad-leaved weeds, but also on the tough, low-growing weeds whose control has previously proved so difficult. It promises to become the standard treatment for effective control of weeds such as slender speedwell and yellow suckling clover.

Despite its powerful effect on weeds, Bastion T is safe to desirable turf grasses. Unlike most other selectives it can be applied to young turf as little as two months after sowing, providing much-needed protection in the critical stage of turf development.

Trials have confirmed the remarkable length of weed control of Bastion T, in many cases up to six months, and it does not cause unsightly scorch of the weeds, which may only temporarily arrest growth. Rather, activity depends on a sure, thorough kill of problem weeds, eliminating the potential for regrowth.

Approved for use through knapsack sprayers as well as conventional hydraulic equipment, Bastion T is a highly versatile product, tailored to meet the requirements of today's turfgrass manager. **Hardi, the market leader** in amenity spraying equipment, has developed a sprayer for the Toro Workman 3000 utility vehicle. The sprayer is from the Hardi PS range and has a choice of 300 to 800 litre capacity tank sizes and boom widths of either 6 or 8 metres. The design includes the unique Hardi 3-point quick attach/de-mount system. Prices are from £1,990. Details: Tel 0455 233811.

Complete Weed Control, the UK's largest specialist spray contracting service, has introduced a new corporate folder and series of leaflets covering almost every aspect of weed control.

Containing seven inserts, the folder looks at the following areas: reasons for complete weed control, shrubberies, amenity areas, industrial areas, footpaths and pavements, aquatics and forestry. The pack is free, Tel: 0608 644044.



Leading tractor supplier, Kubota (UK) Ltd, has launched a new range of comfortable, practical

clothing for wear in the field. Available for Kubota's frontline staff, dealers and customers, the new collection, which is designed in classic navy and airforce blue, comprises a jog suit, a cotton polo shirt, a warm polar fleece and wool mix sweater, together with a waterproof, breathable jacket.

The new Fibagroom from SISIS is a combined scarifier and sweeper which incorporates all the best features of the SISIS Veemo and SISIS Litamisa, with several new design features particularly for undulating ground. The scarifying blades are interspersed with brushes so that the fibre removed is simultaneously collected into the 2.3 m³ capacity high lift hopper. Organic matter such as leaves and twigs are part-mulched before collection.

The reel comprises two independently floating heads to follow ground contours and gives a 183 cm working width. The scarifying depth is quick and simple to adjust, with a single hand control on each head. Details, Tel: 0625 503030.

Scheduled for opening last month, the Oxfordshire Golf Club have taken delivery of no less that 21[.] Toro's from local Toro dealers, County Motors.

Machinery supplied include ten Pedestrian Greensmowers GR 1000's, two 3000-D Triple Greensmowers, two Reelmaster 5100 Fairway Mowers, two 216-D's for semi-rough, two 325-D's with Re-cycler decks for out of play areas, two Sand Pro 5000's; and one Multi Pro self propelled sprayer used in particular for liquid fertiliser.

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GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL September 1993

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E arlier this year members of the Kent sec-tion of BIGGA visited the London Golf Club, a new 36 hole development situated on the Kentish North Downs close to the Brands Hatch motor racing circuit, perhaps best publicised as the latest course 'that Jack built'. Yes indeed, Golden Bear Inc. heads the architectural team responsible for both courses and Jack Nicklaus personally has designed one of the 7,000 yard courses, the par 72 Heritage championship layout. Rumours, of course, have abounded regarding the total cost of the finished project: could it really be £40 million, was this going to be another luxury, Japanese funded, American bent grass experiment and, inevitably, questions were raised regarding the merits of this type of project and construction in the UK?

This visit seemed an incredible chance to see for ourselves one of the largest golf developments in Europe, so with the help and enthusiasm of the course manager, Joe Paulin, a visit to look at aspects of the site was arranged. To over-simplify the itinerary, Joe greeted us with a brief talk on the details of the site, its construction and technical specifications, whilst irrigation and science supremo, Colin Sainsbury, talked about and demonstrated aspects



of the million pound irrigation system and showed us the newly delivered laboratory equipment for on-site leaf analysis. Dennis Exell, the club's chief mechanic, showed us the extensive machinery storage and maintenance facilities, followed by Steve Marsden, LGC's assistant course manager, taking us on a guided tour of the site, showing us stages of

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REF 62 both on-going and finished construction.

Many of this country's 'experts' may have already prejudged other, similar, constructions of this type and have appeared all too eager to knock and scoff, but the open-minded purpose of the visit was to see which aspects, if any, were relevant to our present or future British greenkeeping practices. The LGC is on a huge

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'The greens at LGC, despite being very large, were all hand mown and at our own courses this would be an ideal daily objective. But...' – Paul Copsey

approach to all other areas is obvious. Many of us admire the use of lightweight fairway mowers to regularly mow and stripe fairways, but in general, one pass a week with a trusty (and often rusty) set of gangs has to suffice. In simple terms, many of us are being forced to make cost compromises on the condition of our courses in just about every aspect of maintenance. What we need is for this fact to be fully understood by our club members, especially when they complain of poor course conditions compared to the 'bigger' course they played 'up the road'. It's the same in all walks of life – you can have anything, as long as you can pay for it!

Staying with the subject of machinery, at the LGC this is cared for meticulously and maintained to perform at its optimum, always ready for use at the crack of dawn each day. With all equipment now being so expensive, shouldn't more clubs be taking this attitude toward extending the life and maintaining the performance of their machines, perhaps by hiring an on-site mechanic, or by improving workshop facilities?

Now some of you are probably still asking the question, 'why do you need on-site lab equipment and why analyse grass cuttings?'. Well, one of the key points that strikes the visitor at LGC is the coupling of site maintenance practicalities with those of science. Joe was at pains to point out that greenkeeping basics never change, no matter how big or small the project, that bigger projects often have bigger and more complex problems, and that greenkeeping will always be an art or skill. Linking these, however, he pointed out the everincreasing need to understand the science of greenkeeping. The science, he believes, has to be be used as a yard stick, as another tool.

I need not elaborate further, for the argu-





site and in every way is a very big project, comprising some 560 acres, 11 lakes, USGA Spec. greens and tees, creeping bent and more traditional seed mixtures, high staffing levels, and the very latest in machinery.

We were, perhaps, somewhat overwhelmed by the sheer scale of the operation, but I am sure in our minds we began to draw comparisons with our own courses, especially bearing in mind Joe's opening address: 'the attitude and objectives of my team – to deliver a top class golfing facility for their client – with the assembled machinery and equipment being the tools to aid in achieving that task.' Well for the 'traditionalist', like it or not, this is perhaps what we should all be aiming for on our own courses, though what seems lacking in our own cases, more often than not, is that 'our' clients – the golf clubs – seem unable to grasp this simple but essential fact.

As an example, various members of our group commented that the greens at LGC, despite being very large, were all being hand mown, and that at their own courses this would be an ideal daily objective. The fact is that we could all do this, given the equipment and (more importantly) the extra staff with which to carry out the task. To extend this



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