

Send your letters to The Editor,  
Greenkeeper International, Aldwark Manor,  
Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF or fax them on 0347 838864

## Sticking to the rules

As product manager for worm control products at Rhône-Poulenc Environmental Products, I would like to explain our situation to the greenkeeper pleading for a wormkiller in last month's issue.

We try very hard to understand customer requirements and realise that chlordane, at the time, must have come close to the ideal solution to the problem of worm control. We, therefore, understand the concerns over its loss of use.

Paradoxically, many of the features of chlordane that users deemed ideal were exactly the same features that led to its withdrawal of approval by MAFF. For example, long persistence and broad spectrum activity.

Due to the long residual nature of chlordane we as a company would be wasting money trying to develop something similar. The registration would fall at the first hurdle.

We work within a very tight regulatory framework, perhaps the strictest of any industry, even pharmaceuticals. This is because we are concerned with the safety, not only of the end user, but also the general public and the environment as a whole. Constantly trying to satisfy both customer requirements and the regulatory authorities is a very difficult task.

Bearing in mind both customer and regulatory requirements, we as a company believe we have the best products on the market in Twister Flow and Castaway Plus.

If anyone requires further information on our worm control products or would like to provide us with further customer feedback, please call us on 01277 301114.

**Jonathan Hill, product manager, Rhône-Poulenc Environmental Products**

### Disappointing

I have just received the November issue of *Greenkeeper International*. I must say I find the content disappointing.

We must remember that BIGGA is an association of greenkeepers and not golfers. The amount of space in the magazine featuring golfers exceeds matters that are relevant to greenkeepers. The

amount of goodwill and sponsorship from leading machinery manufacturers that is poured into golfing events would be better being diverted towards the GTC.

To obtain the status that the greenkeeping profession rightly expects will not be achieved by imposing a glossy image, it will come about by the efforts of fully trained professional greenkeepers maintaining courses to high standards.

**David Ward, course manager, Royal Porthcawl GC, Mid Glamorgan**

● Editor's note: *I was disappointed with the November issue as well, but not for the same reason. November and December are traditionally our smallest issues. I had a great deal of material I wanted to get in but only a limited number of pages to play with since we work on a 50/50 editorial/advertising split. The article by Dr James Beard, published this issue, was planned for November but there was so much news and information for the members (and to recruit new members) that I couldn't fit it in. Only two of the 27 editorial pages featured golfers – and they were greenkeepers competing in a prestigious tournament at The Belfry. Incidentally, the three golf competitions we cover in detail – the Hayter Challenge Tournament, the ICI National Tournament and the Kubota Challenge are all sponsored by companies that give a great deal to greenkeeper education via BIGGA's Education and Development Fund (see BIGGA in Focus, page 7).*

### Invaluable

I would like to convey my thanks to everybody involved in organising and running the management courses that I have attended over two weeks at Aldwark Manor.

I feel that I have been looked after in every way and the knowledge that I have gained is invaluable and will help me in my day to day running on the golf course. It has made me look at greenkeeping in different ways and has given me room for thought. I particularly like the Belbins team role.

I shall look forward to coming back to do the other two courses.  
**Doug Fernie, Epsom GC**



## High flyers collect awards

Here they are – Langside College Glasgow's first HNC in golf course management graduates posing after a ceremony at Strathclyde University. Flanked by lecturers Margaret Hamilton and Colin Urquhart, the students are: (back row)

John Robertson, Stephen Hogg, James O'Neil, Thomas Hindmarch, Hugh Logue; (front row) Iain Barr, Gino Garfagnini, Alex Blacklaw, Brian Porteous, and Paul Brannan. Andrew McDowal and Mark McBride also qualified.

## INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK

# Sydney driving range to stay open all hours

Australia's first central city golf driving range is being developed in Sydney. Situated in the heart of the central business district, the 46-bay complex will operate on a seven day and night basis. It has four levels of undercover parking, a bistro/bar, putting

green and a large retail shop that opens onto Pitt Street.

◆ A new nine-hole course is due to open this month at the Honichi Golf Leisure Club in Shenzhen, China. The 18-hole course that opened there two years ago now supports 1300 members, with most of these coming from Hong Kong, 45 minutes away by motorway. Work on another nine holes is due to start in March. A lodge, hotel and cottages are also being developed and should come on line in the next two years with funding coming 50/50 from Japan and China. There are now 38 clubs in China with 26 of them opening within the next 18 months.

◆ Naples (Florida) National Golf Club's superintendent, Gary Grigg, has been nominated for the presidency of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and should take over the post at the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show in San Francisco, California, February 20-27. He is currently the vice president.



■ Lee-on-Solent Golf Club assistant head greenkeeper Stephen Pellatt has been named as top student on the Sparsholt College greenkeeping phase II/level 2 course. Stephen, 30, was also a regional winner in the Toro/PGA Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award.

# GREENKEEPER

## THE COLLEGES AND THE

The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of colleges offering greenkeeper training courses.

The directory shows colleges offering courses to craft, supervisory and management levels, but it must be stated that until the GTC review is completed only the green coded colleges are approved to train greenkeepers beyond craft level.

The introduction of vocational qualifications into industries, has caused the colleges

to re-think their training policies and the GTC will be issuing guidelines for the golf greenkeeping industry as to which colleges employers and their staff should be supporting.

Until the report is complete, anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeepers Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF, telephone 0347 838640.

NORTH



**ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE** Askham Bryan, York YO2 3PR. Contact Christine Biglin, registrar. Tel: 0904 702121. *Full time courses:* National Certificate – Horticulture; National Diploma – Amenity Horticulture; Higher National Diploma – Horticulture (golf management options). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level 2, City & Guilds Phase III and IV Greenkeeping.



**CITY COLLEGE MANCHESTER** Wythenshawe Park Centre, Moor Road, Manchester M23 9BQ. Contact Peter Riley/Martin Webb. Tel: 061 957 1526. Day Release and Full Time courses leading to NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with the Greenkeeping option.



**HOUGHALL COLLEGE** Durham College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Houghall, Durham DH1 3SG. Contact Tony Milan. Tel: 0191 386 1351. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Horticulture/Greenkeeping and Groundsmanship – 1 Year; National Diploma in Horticulture Turf Option – 2/3 years. *Part time courses:* Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management Level II – Day Release; C&G Phase III Enterprise Management – Afternoon Evening. *Short Courses:* Health & Safety Legislation; Turfcare; Machinery and Mechanisation. All courses contribute towards NVQ Levels I and II.



**KIRKLEY HALL COLLEGE** Ponteland, Northumberland NE20 0AQ. Contact Dr Ron McParlin. Tel: 0661 860808. NVQ Level II with greenkeeping option. Day release or block release – one to two years.



**MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE** Myerscough Hall, Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY. Contact Martyn Jones. Tel: 01995 640611. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Groundsmanship and Greenkeeping – 1 Year; BTEC National Diploma in Turf Science and Sportsground Management – 3 Years; BTEC Higher National Diploma in Turf Science and Golf Course Management – 3 Years (Both these courses include one year's paid industrial experience). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II Greenkeeping; Phase III Supervisory Management; Phase IV Business Management; Certificate and Diploma in Turf Irrigation (in conjunction with BTLIA). A range of short courses including FEPA etc.



**REASEHEATH COLLEGE** Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DF. Contact Dennis Mortram. Tel: 01270 625131 Fax: 01270 625665. *Full time:* BTEC First Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) – 1 year. BTEC National Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) – 2 years. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management – 3 years. *Part time:* NVQ Level I Greenkeeping – Day Release. NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping – Day/Block Release. NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping – Day/Block Release. C&G Phase IV Greenkeeping – Block Release. IoG National Intermediate Diploma in Turf Culture – Day Release. IoG National Diploma – Day Release. *Short Courses:* FEPA Chemical Safety; Safe Lifting; Chainsaws; Off-Road Vehicle Driving; First Aid.



**BROOKSBY COLLEGE** Brooksby, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 2LJ. Contact Anne Hurt. Tel: 0664 434291. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management. *Part time courses:* Day Release training to NVQ Level II in Amenity Horticulture – Greenkeeping option. The course is based around the GTC Training Manual. Short courses also available in Horticultural Machinery and Arboriculture.



**BROOMFIELD COLLEGE** Morley, Ilkeston, Derby DE7 6DN. Contact Admissions Officer. Tel: 0332 831345. NVQ Level I and Level II Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping) Block Release course. Two years duration presented in 12 one-week blocks following guidelines of GTC Training Manual. NVQ Level III gained by 9x 3-day blocks, or APL service.



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE COLLEGE** Milton Centre, Landbeach Road, Milton, Cambridgeshire CB4 6DB. Contact Martin Grimmins. Tel: 0223 860701. Part time – Day Release over two years leading to NVQ Level II (Greenkeeping Options), including the GTC Training Manual requirements. Autumn term commences September/October 1994.



**DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY LINCOLN** Caythorpe Court, Caythorpe, Grantham, Lincs. Contact Neil Rowbottom on 0522 522252 or Student Services, telephone 0400 272521. Day Release NVQ Level II. NCH with Greenkeeping. National Diploma in Horticulture with Greenkeeping and Turf Management options. National Diploma in Golf Studies pending approval.



**RODBASTON COLLEGE** Rodbaston, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5HG. Contact Nigel Foskett. Tel: 0785 712209. Courses offered: Craft Level NVQ Level I, II and III. Day Release. Duration: Over two years, each of weeks duration (September – June). Registration Date: Please contact the College.



**WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE** Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9BL. Contact Chris Gray. Tel: 0926 651367. Greenkeeping courses – day release – NVQ Level I; NVQ Level II; NVQ Level III; NVQ Level IV; IoG courses – National Practical Certificate; NVQ Level II, National Intermediate Diploma in Turficulture; Full time two year BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture (with option in Turficulture); *Professional updating courses include:* Groundsmanship, Machinery Maintenance and Repair, Managing Conservation Areas, Plant Identification, Hedgelaying, First Aid, FEPA Spraying Courses, Chainsaw Courses.



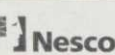
**BRINSBURY COLLEGE** North Heath, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1DL. Contact Keith Harrison. Tel: 0798 873832. *Full time courses:* New Entrant to Greenkeeping Course – 36 weeks. NVQ II Greenkeeping option plus core. Approximately a third of the course is delivered on college's and local golf course. *Part time:* Day Release to NVQ II level. Both full time and part time students with work both to the NVQ II work book and the Greenkeeper manual. NVQ Level II (National Technical Certificate) with Inst. of Groundsmanship manual may be delivered as an evening course. NVQ Level III Greenkeeping. ND Landscape Studies (Option – Sportsturf Management). *New courses and qualifications:* National Technical Certificate (IoG), National Practical Certificate (IoG), Intermediate Diploma (IoG), National Diploma (IoG)



**HADLOW COLLEGE** Hadlow College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0AL. Contact Keith Backhouse. Tel: 0732 850551. NVQ Level II and Level III Part-time Day Release over two years with two periods of Block Release. Level II in Amenity and Groundsmanship Courses with Day Release. Centres at Hadlow, Canterbury and Maidstone.



**MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE** Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE. Contact the Academic Registrar. Tel: 0483 232424. NVQ Levels I, II, III and IV Amenity Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Specialism. Part time... one day per week for 35 weeks commencing in September. Full time National Diploma and National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management, subject to validation.



**NESCOT** North East Surrey College of Technology, Reigate Road, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3DS. Contact Dr S Shaw. Tel: 081 394 3099/3111. NVQ Levels I, II and III in Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping options) Training and assessment for the Greenkeepers Training Manual. Part time, Day Release. Duration: Two years to Level II. FEPA Spraying Courses.

MIDLANDS

SOUTH EAST

# GREENKEEPER TRAINING

## COURSES AVAILABLE

### GREENKEEPER International

#### KEY TO COLOURS

Currently GTC approved as Regional Training Centres, offering courses at Craft, Supervisory and Management levels

Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Supervisory level

Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Craft level only

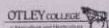
Pending GTC approval for all courses

Please note that all college details on these pages were provided by the colleges themselves. Greenkeeper International takes no responsibility for accuracy of information provided. Contact the colleges direct for prospectuses and comprehensive information.

SOUTH EAST



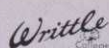
**OAKLANDS COLLEGE** Oaklands Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL4 0JA. Contact Ian Merrick. Tel: 01727 850651. Part time courses leading to NVQ Level II Greenkeeping, evening courses leading to City & Guilds Phase IV Business Management. One year full time NC Greenkeeping & Sports Turf Management. Courses start September 1995.



**OTLEY COLLEGE** Otley College, Otley, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 9EY. Contact Student Applications. Tel: 0473 785543. *Full time courses:* BTEC National Diploma - Sports Turf Management. National Certificate in Horticulture, option in Sports Turf Technology. Part time NVQ 2 Golf Greenkeeping and NVQ 2 Groundsmanship, NVQ 3 Sports Turf Management. IoG Intermediate and Final Diplomas (Evenings). NVQ Horticultural Mechanics. FEPA Courses PA1, PA2, PA6. Otley College ★ Developing individuals ★ Achieving more.

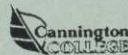


**PLUMPTON COLLEGE** Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE. Contact David Blackmur. Tel: 01273 890454. *Full time courses:* BTEC First Diploma (Greenkeeping Option). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II - Amenity Horticulture Greenkeeping Sportsturf and Sportsground Maintenance Level III - Block and Day Release; City & Guilds Phase III - Enterprise Management, Greenkeepers Supervision - Block and Day Release; City & Guilds Phase IV - Business Management - Day Release. NCH Full time with a greenkeeping bias. (Subject to approval).



**WRITTLE COLLEGE** Chelmsford, Essex CM1 3RR. Contact Dai Edwards. Tel: 01245 420705, Fax: 01245 420456. *Part time courses include:* NVQ Levels I, II, III and IV Sportsturf & Greenkeeping. Day Release. Includes training and assessment of Greenkeepers Training Manual. Full time courses include: BTEC First Diploma (1 year), BTEC National Diploma with Option in Sportsturf and Golf Course Management, 3 year sandwich course; BTEC Higher National Diploma with Option in Golf Course Management 3 year sandwich course, BSc (Hons) Degree course in Landscape and Amenity Management. Short courses for FEPA, Irrigation, Fork Lift Trucks, Chainsaws and First Aid also available. Associate students welcome, progression routes identified, accreditation of prior learning possible.

SOUTH WEST



**CANNINGTON COLLEGE** Cannington Bridgwater, Somerset TA5 2LS. Contact Nick Rigden. Tel: 0278 652226. BTEC First Diploma. BTEC National Diploma in Sportsturf and Golf Course Management. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management (inc. European Studies). NVQ Level 1 and 2 Golf Greenkeeping. NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping and Supervisory Management. NVQ Level 4 Greenkeeping Management. FEPA Training, Chainsaw Certification, Off Road Vehicle Certification, Golf Course Engineers Course.



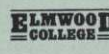
**HARTPURY COLLEGE** Hartpury House, Nr Gloucester GL19 3BE. Contact D. Kirkham. Tel: 0452 700283, Fax: 0452 700629. Courses: NVQ Level II and III in Amenity Horticulture, NVQ Level III Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management, 1st Dipl Horticulture, NC Horticulture (Amenity & Decorative) Dipl Supervisory Management, ND Horticulture (Amenity & Decorative), HND Land Use (Amenity Horticulture), HND Land Use (Greenkeeping & Sportsturf Management)



**SPARSHOLT COLLEGE** Sparsholt College Hampshire, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants SO21 2NF. Contact Bob Young. Tel: 0962 776441. NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping Practice, NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping Supervision, City & Guilds Phase III Enterprise Management (last year to be offered), City & Guilds Phase IV Management Studies, GTC: Greenkeeping Certificate, GTC: Certificate in Golf Course Supervision, FIPA: Short Courses, Chainsaw: Short Courses. All courses, other than Phase IV, are offered on Block release. Full residential facilities available.



**DUNDEE COLLEGE** Old Glamis Road, Dundee DD3 8LE. Contact Graham Carr. Tel: 01382 834834, Fax: 01382 858117. Courses offered: SVQ Units at Level I and II linked with GTC Training Manual; SCOTVEC HNC Units in Horticulture; SCOTVEC HNC Units on Golf Course Management (available as Flexible Learning). Duration of courses 36 weeks from September/October each year. Attendance full-time, block release and day release. Short courses including "Use of Pesticides" available on demand. Registration June and August.



**ELMWOOD COLLEGE** Cupar, Fife KY15 4JB. Contact Carol Borthwick. Tel: 01334 652781, Fax: 01334 656795. Craft Level courses. Block-release and full-time, following SVQ Level II and the GTC Training Manual. Six week specialist modular programme (January-February), including Golf Course Construction, Pesticide Application and Plant Protection Procedures. Distance Learning supervisory course, with one week in College. SVQ Level III available from September 1995. HNC/HND Golf Course Management available as full-time, day-release and distance learning. FEPA, COSHH and Health & Safety short courses also.



**KYLE AND CARRICK DISTRICT COUNCIL** Burns House, Burns Statue Square, Ayr KA7 1UT. Contact Lesley Keenan. Tel: 0292 281511. SCOTVEC National Certificate in Greenkeeping - Day Release up to three years. Students can enrol at any time.



**LANGSIDE COLLEGE GLASGOW** Langside College Glasgow School of Horticulture, Woodburn House, Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen G73 3PF. Contact Colin S Urquhart. Tel: 041 647 6300. SCOTVEC National Certificate - 3 years day release or 1 year full time. Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management - 2 years day release. SVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with Greenkeeping options plus a range of NC and HNC Horticulture programmes including G SVQ Level III. Short courses on a range of subjects including Tractor Operations and the Safe Use of Pesticides can be negotiated.



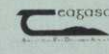
**OATRIDGE COLLEGE** Ecclesmachan, Broxburn, West Lothian EH52 6NH. Contact Steve Miller. Tel: 0506 854387. *Full and part time courses:* Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management; National Certificate in Greenkeeping; National Certificate Modular and Scottish Vocational Qualification Level I and II. National Certificate in Hort. Machinery. Short specialist courses - including safe use of chemicals, operation of greenkeeping machinery.

Northern Ireland



**GREENMOUNT COLLEGE** Greenmount College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Antrim, BT41 4PU. Contact Geoff Jenkins. Tel: 0849 462114 Fax: 0849 428201. Day Release course in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. Two year course leading to NVQ - and a Certificate in Greenkeeping for those completing additional working practices/tasks as specified by the Greenkeepers Training Manual. Course runs from September-May.

EIRE



**TEAGASC COLLEGE** Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. Contact Pat Suttle. Tel: 0103531 371 636. Phase II Greenkeeping - Block Release two weeks, three times per year. Phase III Greenkeeping - Block Release, one week, three times per year.

WALES



**PENCOED COLLEGE** Pencoed, Mid Glamorgan CF35 5LG. Contact Peter Gillard or Richard Browning. Tel: 0656 860202. Day Release courses in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf at Introductory, Technician, Supervisory and Management Levels, incorporating the Training Manual of the Greenkeepers Training Committee.



**WELSH COLLEGE** Welsh College of Horticulture, Northrop, Mold, Clywyd CH7 6AA. Contact GM Wright. Tel: 0352 840861, Fax: 0352 840731. *Full time courses:* ND - Golf Course Construction Option - equivalent to NVQ Level III. NEBSM - equivalent to NVQ Level III. BTEC First in Landbase Golf Greenkeeping NVQ Level II. *Part time course:* Phase 3 Greenkeeping Management - equivalent to NVQ Level III. NVQ Level IV from Autumn 1993 (if available). NVQ Level I and II Greenkeeping. *Short courses:* Pesticide PA1, PA2, PA6, 1-3 day courses (training and testing); COSHH Assessments; Safe lifting and carrying; PICKUP courses. Home study learning at NVQ Level II Option Greenkeeping.

**Out with the old and in with the new? Michael Bird draws up a list of what's new for '95**

As clubs prepare and finalise budgets for the coming season, greenkeepers will find that there is no shortage of innovative and interesting machinery set to make its commercial debut on British turf.

Some may have been at work for a season or more already, most likely on North American courses, while others will have been on trial during 1994 with selected greenkeepers in Britain and continental Europe.

Whatever the preparations for launch onto the UK market, no machine will be suitable for every course. Turf conditions, climate, maintenance regimes, staffing levels, required standards, purchase price, running costs and a host of other factors must always be considered before making the final purchase decision.

Whenever possible, selection should be made with the help of a demonstration. If appropriate and practicable, the item should remain on the course for a few days so that its performance, ease of use, maintenance requirements, running costs and general suitability can be better assessed.

One machine which attracts more attention than most others is the greens mower. Plenty has been written already about the Ransomes E-Plex – the first all-electric greens mower in the world to go to work commercially.

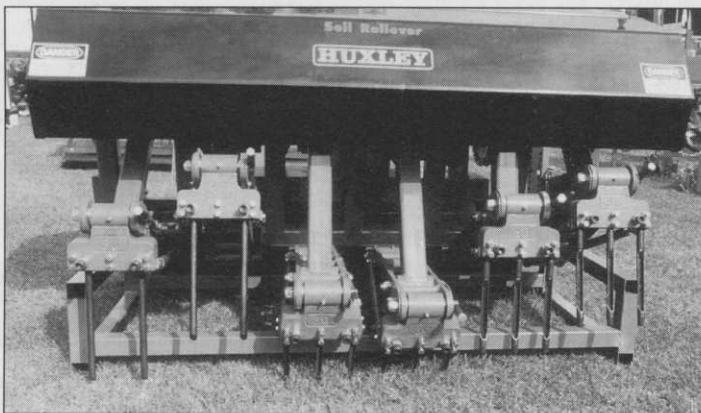
To prove that it is not abandoning the concept of conventionally-powered greens machines, Ransomes has introduced the Greensplex 160, available with either a 16hp petrol or 17hp diesel engine and equipped with "traditional" hydrostatic transmission, power steering and hydraulically-driven reels.

The company says that the Greensplex has been developed with continuous input from greenkeepers to provide a precision cut, excellent manoeuvrability and maximum ease of operation and servicing.

Key features of the machine are three steerable cutting units (9 or 11 blades) with an overall mowing width of 1.6m (62in) and minimum cutting height of 2mm (5/64in), variable mowing speed settings, an uncluttered driver's platform with column-mounted controls, in-situ backlapping and a kick pedal for lift, lower and engagement of the cutting units.

Already proven in the USA, the Greensplex 160 is expected to win the approval of many golf greenkeepers in Britain thanks to its exceptional ease of use and maintenance.

# Coming to a course near you ... soon



**Huxley Soil Reliever**

The latest greens mower offering from John Deere is the walk-behind 220 model, which has a 60cm (22in) cut and is equipped with a 3.7hp petrol engine, 11 blade reel and choice of standard or tournament bedknives, the latter giving a cutting height down to 2.8mm (7/64in).

The machine's loop-style handlebars incorporate an "operator presence system" with the on/off switch and mowing controls conveniently located to hand. Attachments includes a vertical cutter and rotary brush.

Jacobsen's Greens King 418 has a narrow 46cm (18in) cut designed specifically for work on severely undulating greens without scalping. The walk-behind mower has an 11-bladed reel capable of cutting down to 2mm (5/64in).

Power comes from a 4hp petrol engine with three belts providing traction and reel drive. Other features of the 418 are self-adjusting, tapered roller bearings on the reel, an automotive-type differential housed within the traction drum and the options of grooved rollers and a Turf Groomer.

The advantages of relief grinding precision mowing reels are regularly spelt out by cylinder manufacturers and the makers of the grinding machines designed to

keep cylinders in peak condition.

Relief grinding involves removing metal at a pre-determined angle from behind the leading edge of each cylinder blade to reduce the contact area between the rotating cylinder and the bottom blade. The result is less friction and wear, helping maintain a keener cutting edge and longer cylinder life.

Until now, relief grinding has normally involved constant attention from the engineer, repositioning the cylinder manually for each blade being relief ground. Supreme Mowing has changed all that with the introduction of an automatic relief grinding attachment for its Supreme System and Golf Leader cylinder grinders.

The device automatically rotates and locks the cylinder in place at the correct angle prior to each pass of the grinding stone along the individual blades, resulting in faster, safer and more convenient operation.

Rotary mowers are not usually considered as the first choice for precision grass cutting. However, the roller mower, with its height-adjustable rollers in front of and behind the blades, follows an identical contour-hugging principle to the greens mower making it ideal for close, even cutting of undulating areas such as the

semi-rough and other open areas of longer, more formal grass.

Dowdeswell has introduced an uprated version of its 2.4m (8ft) Roller Mower fitted with three blades in place of the previous four. The result is said to create improved air flow beneath the hood and a more even spread of material across the complete cutting width of the machine.

Suitable for tractors from 25hp to 55hp, the machine is also available with a 1.8m (6ft) cut width.

Helping to eliminate double-handling of materials while reducing the effort and manpower needed to refill top dressers and fertiliser spreaders is a new high-lift dump trailer from Ultra Plant of Dungannon, Co Tyrone.

The 4 tonne capacity trailer has a tipping angle of 50deg and a rear vertical clearance of 1.68m (66in) at full ram extension. Precise control of flow is achieved by a guillotine-action rear door and the unit is equipped with four flotation tyres. Options include hydraulic brakes, full road lighting kit and extension sides.

Soil compaction is a problem which needs to be constantly addressed if turf is to be maintained in peak condition. A new concept in deep tine aeration will be making its UK debut in 1995 following the appointment of Huxleys as UK distributor for the American-built Soil Reliever range.

Available in two working widths – 1.5m and 2m (60in and 80in), the Soil Reliever is able to work to a maximum depth of 40cm (16in) using 19mm (3/4in) solid tines. Other lengths and diameters are available in both solid and hollow-coring form, suitable for greens and fairway treatment. Tractor requirement is from 30hp.

Said to be the first walk-behind hollow corer capable of working deeper than 76cm (3in), the Greencare Coremaster 6/150 from Hardi has six legs each equipped with two tines. Working depth is adjustable from 12mm to 150mm (0.5in to 6in) to help alleviate compaction pans created by feet, equipment and years of treatment at a constant depth. Both 12mm and 16mm (0.5in and 0.6in) diameter follow corers are available.

Increased commonality of parts with other machines in the company's range has resulted from improvements made to the Lloyds Leda five gang trailed mower.

An all-hollow box section frame has enabled simpler fabrication while helping to increase strength and reduce weight. Lloyds has also added the option of nine-bladed welded cylinders to the four, five or six bladed units previously offered.

# Golf centre plays safe

A 27-hole golf centre has been built at Leroch Farm, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.

The course is designed by John

■ Andrew Robinson has been appointed to the board of Rigby Taylor Ltd as divisional director with responsibility for Scotland. Mr Robinson joined Rigby Taylor as Scottish area manager in 1993 when Sports Turf Services Sales, the business in which he was a partner, was acquired by Rigby Taylor.

■ Sports Ground Irrigation Co, Hunter distributors for the UK and Eire, have appointed Sports Turf Services as sole Hunter distributors for Scotland. And Hunter Industries has appointed Barry Pedler as district manager for Europe, South Africa and the Middle East. He will be based in London.

■ Rockingham Castle Estates near Market Harborough, Leicestershire, will be the venue for the Drainage '95 exhibition on May 9.

Salvesen, who was also responsible for the new pay as you play course at Charleton, Colinsburgh, Fife.

Strathmore Golf Centre will also have a 10-bay driving range and practice ground, and a relatively small clubhouse. When demand justifies and finances permit the changing area and

lounge bar will be extended to incorporate full dining facilities, a larger bar area and pro shop. Jim Brown, 36, formerly course manager at The Deer Park, Livingston, West Lothian, is growing in the course single handedly this winter and will eventually head a team of four or five when the complex opens in spring '96.

## ORAG acquisition expands Textron operation to Europe

US-based Textron Inc, a \$9.1 billion multi-industry company, has bought ORAG, the Switzerland-based golf and turf care equipment distributor.

"This acquisition enables Textron to expand ORAG's role to include market development, sales and distribution of our E-Z-GO golf cars and Jacobsen products throughout Europe," said Textron chairman and CEO James Hardymon.

"By maximising ORAG's sophisticated distribution network and experienced, in-country management teams, we will be better positioned to capi-

talise on market opportunities and expand market share in Europe," he added.

### On the move

Graham Wissett, formerly deputy head greenkeeper at Llanwern, has taken charge of Lydney, a nine-hole course in meadowland overlooking the River Severn. One of 33-year-old Graham's first tasks will be moving the 9th tee to a new position to make way for a new by-pass alongside the course. Graham replaces Paul Gibson who has moved to Forest Hills Golf Club.

## FLYING DIVOTS

■ Course manager Gary Munro has left Bedale GC to take charge of the course being built at Wynyard Hall near Billingham.



■ Allan Moffat has joined Risboro Turf as sales rep for South Bucks, Middlesex and Surrey. Tel: 0844 274127.

■ St Pierre Golf Club course manager Mark Proctor is currently conducting trials with British Seed Houses' Cobra creeping bentgrass. BSH says Cobra is ideal for greens that have become thin or badly worn.

■ Eagle-eyed readers who thought Liphook GC were advertising for a position that had already been filled failed to realise the obvious - we slipped up. Gordon Smith has not got the Liphook job, he is leaving it to replace retiring William Barrie at Swinley Forest.

## Greenkeeper's Festive Puzzle

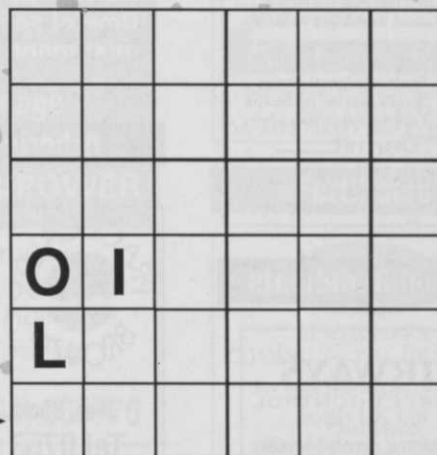
Can you insert these ten pieces into the grid in such a way that each vertical column contains a six letter word connected with Christmas and a seventh appears in the horizontal row indicated with an arrow. We've inserted one piece to start you off.

Last month's Crossword solution:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | E | N | E | D | V | I | L | L | A | G | E |
| H | E | N | I | R | I | V |   |   |   |   |   |
| E | S | T | E | S | E | N | L | A | R | G | E |
| S | T | N | E | W | D | E | R |   |   |   |   |
| O | V | I | N | A | E | A | C | H | D | A | Y |
| L | N | R | R | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| H | I | G | H | E | R | H | O | L | L | O | W |
| E |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| I | N | S | T | A | N | T |   |   |   |   |   |
| M | L | P | O | V | A | O | E |   |   |   |   |
| C | L | I | P | P | I | N |   |   |   |   |   |
| U | G | L | E | D | T | R |   |   |   |   |   |
| P | R | O | F | E | S | S | I | O | N | A | L |

...and the winner is Mr Ronald Bunting, course manager at Kilmacollm Golf Club.

Compiled by Mark G Smith



Solve the puzzle and you could win either a BIGGA blazer (worth £87.95) or £50 in cash! Send entries to Festive Puzzle, Greenkeeper International, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. Closing date: January 3, 1995. First correct entry drawn after the closing date will win the prize. Photocopy your entry if you don't want to cut up your magazine.

Name: .....

Address: .....

If I win, please send me  £50 cash or  BIGGA blazer, size.....

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Judges' decision is final. Not open to BIGGA staff.

★ An early Christmas present: the lucky winner from a bulging postbag last month was Mr N Beadle, course manager at Monmouth Golf Club. He scoops the £50 cash prize - very handy at this time of year! It could be your turn for success next month - get searching straight away!

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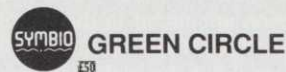
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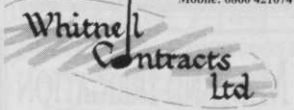
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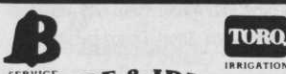
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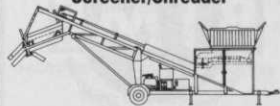
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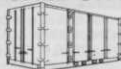


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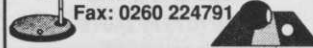
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