

Show 1996

machines include – BLEC Multi-scraper, Laser Grader, Level Conditioner, Drag Scraper, Level Grader, Rotary Stoneraker, Stonepicker and Stoneburiers.

Seeding Machines – Cultipack, Dimpler, Brillion, Turfmaker and Aqua Seeders.

Overseeders – Seedmaster, Rotary Turfmaker, Uniseeder and Star Seeder and one new overseeder model.

Misc – Landscape rakes, Gandy spreaders, Top Dressers, Post Hole Digger and Turf Cutter will be shown.

As always BLEC anticipates another busy show this year and looks forward to seeing both established and new customers on its stand and demonstration area.

Inturf

A long winter combined with full match programmes has created wear problems at many football grounds this year. The only proven solution to keeping areas such as goal mouths in playable and grass covered condition is using Inturf's Lay 'n' Play Turf Tile System. Turf Tiles are available on a supply basis or supply and lay, using Inturf's own qualified ground staff who have undertaken turf renovation work at over 20 Premier and First Division football grounds in the last year.

For the first time Inturf will have a small demonstration goal mouth area set up at the outdoor exhibition area along with their usual indoor display of Big Roll and conventional turf.

Rolawn

Rolawn will be demonstrating its lightweight Turfmaster Laying Machine for the first time at Horticultural Industries.

The machine has a UK patent and is available exclusively from Rolawn at £395 plus VAT.

This simple machine is used to lay Rolawn's 13 square metre budget rolls of turf which are unique to the company.

The Turfmaster doesn't have an engine and weighs 60 kilos. It breaks down into five components (including the low ground pressure tyres) in two minutes. When built up the Turfmaster can easily be transported on any standard pick-up truck. When disassembled it can be transported in a hatch back car.

The 13 square metre budget roll can be laid in less than a minute, enabling landscapers to achieve cost savings in laying and production previously unavailable.

Eric Hunter

Eric Hunter and Co (Tools) will be showing a very large range of professional landscaping and horticultural hand tools by leading manufacturers. Hunters Tools has gained considerable recognition for value, service and attractive prices.

Appointed principal supplier to Glendale Industries in 1995, Hunters has also had the confidence of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for over 15 years.

Many large DSOs and significant contractors have found Hunters a good firm to deal with.

Eric Hunter Grinders Ltd (an associated company) will be showing its world beating JUNO mower reel and bedknife grinder. Already installed into a large number of premier golf course workshops, this machine combines accurate "Relief Angle" grinding of reels and also bedknives on one machine. It is water cooled for health and dust suppression and all machines are fully installed with full training provided.

Landscape tool users and greenkeepers are recommended to visit this most interesting stand at Stoneleigh 1996.

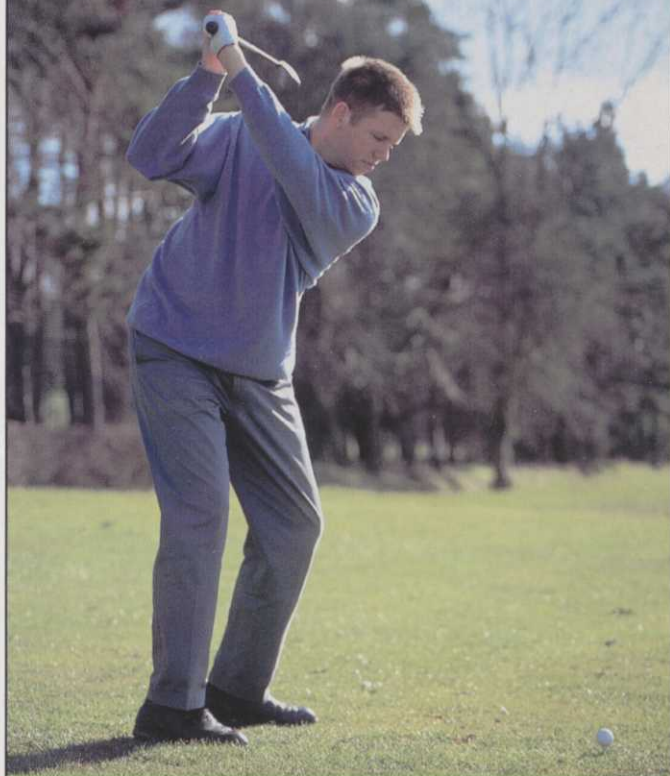
Rhône Poulenc

Rhône Poulenc will be featuring its extensive range of turf products and also its total herbicides range.

New to the range is Spasor Biactive. The addition of this non-irritant, 360 g/L glyphosate based product enables Rhône Poulenc to provide customers with a complete range of options for total weed control.

The benefits of Spasor Biactive are: A new formulation system consisting of a new type of surfactant and an activator ensuring better product performance in a variety of situations; better rainfastness; less viscous and better tank-mixer; does not need wetters; more soluble in water; low foam formulation; can be tank-mixed with Freeway for combined knock-down and residual activity.

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Horticulture Industries Show 1996

SISIS

The new SISIS Cultiseeder is a pto driven disc seeder with a working width of 1.2m (4ft). The coulters vibrate using a new patented system to ensure a clean, deep cutting action without the weight required by other, conventional, disc seeders. Compaction problems are therefore greatly reduced. The discs can be preset to the required depth, at 50mm spacings. They are mounted on to two independently floating units to follow ground contours. Several different seeding rates can be obtained, including an ultra-low rate for bents. The seed hopper has a large (0.3 cubic metre) capacity and the seed is delivered, via tubes, directly into the slits cut by the discs. Rollers follow, to even out the surface, leaving minimal surface disturbance.

Ransomes

Professional grass and turf machinery suitable for maintaining a full range of sports, leisure

and amenity areas will be exhibited by Ransomes at the forthcoming Horticulture Industries show.

A total of five different cylinder mowers will be displayed encompassing the tournament quality walk-behind Greens Super, the productive Highway 213, the versatile T-Plex 285D, the high performance Fairway 305 and the formidable Commander 3500DX.

Complementing this impressive display of fine finish mowers will be the T-51D "bat-wing" rider rotary with 2.97m (117in) cut width and 1.55m (61in) transport width, a Cushman 4-Wheel Turf Truckster, now with power steering, a Ryan GA30 solid and hollow tine aerator and the Ryan Mataway combined overseeder and dethatcher.

Dixon & Holliday

In recent years Dixon & Holliday knapsack machines have become established with greenkeepers and local authorities as the easy and safe means of cutting steep



banks and tall hedges.

Their hover hood mower, pictured above, incorporates the air cushion principle, but with the motor on the operator's back he has better balance and complete control of the mower. The machines are also no mean performers with string trimmer heads or steel resharpenable blades. Ease of changing heads

gives D&H knapsack machines exceptional versatility in all its roles.

The long reach hedge trimmer enables the operator to cut hedges over 3m high without trestles or ladders. As well as its range of knapsack brushcutters Dixon & Holliday will be exhibiting a complete range of accessories for its machines.

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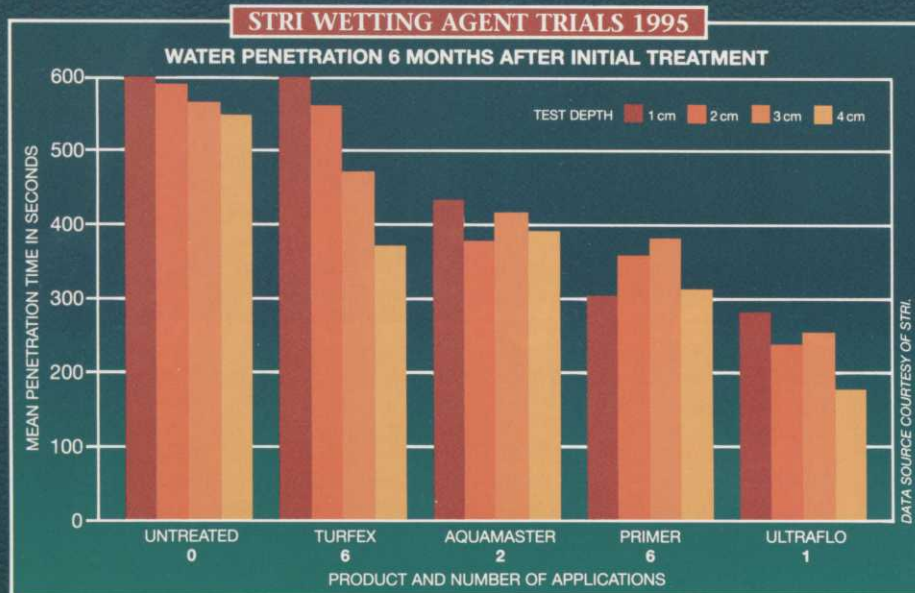
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NEW PRODUCTS



The Groundsman is targeted at Golf Course Maintenance, Golf Ball Recovery, Garden Centres, Small Estates, Large Gardens, Municipal Works, Holiday Parks, Caravan Parks, Riding Centres, Horticulture etc.

The Groundsman, pictured above, is a vehicle to fit in under the market for the excellent, but more expensive machines, already available, and to offer a basic and economic light utility for general purposes at under £2,500. It will shortly be available with fittings for specialist applications such as line marking, ball recovery, small spray bar or lance operations, and a fitted mower is currently under factory development.

A video of the machine is in production as weather permits, and will be available for dealership promotion.



Spaldings has three new and differing launches which could help a greenkeeper measure up, rake it in and patch it up.

To cope with the ever increasing demand for accurate measurements around farms, golf courses, parts etc, Spaldings sell an exceptionally accurate, substantially built American land measuring wheel (pictured below left) which incorporates a fully extendible handle and, claim Spaldings, is ideal for tough terrain conditions.

The read-out on the calibrated gauge is to four digits and is in metres and decimetres.

Spaldings also sell a range of rakes to suit many uses. The spring lawn rake is a versatile rake used for leaves, cut grass and those more delicate raking jobs around borders and shrubs. The 12 tooth garden rake being the general purpose 'workhorse' used for numerous jobs in all conditions.

The 16 tooth wooden rake is the largest in the range and is used widely on golf courses.

Prices range between £13.50 to £24.00.

The first aid range consists of workshop size first aid kit to protect workers and profits, complies with statutory regulations for up to ten people. A smaller version of this is also available, which comes in its own pouch.

The range also has an assorted plaster pack for topping up your first aid kits, and sterile eye wash can also be mounted on tractor cabs or workshop walls.

The National 68 Triple Mower has been standard equipment for mower fleets with many contractors, public authorities and golf clubs, for over 20 years.

Many improvements over the years have taken place keeping up to date with market changes and customer demands.

The engine is now a Kawasaki, there are now six bladed cylinders, guarding and operator comfort has been improved but basically the unit has been the same in terms of performance since Allen Power Equipment first launched the 68 on the UK market as long ago as 1978.

However, for 1996, comes the National 68 De Luxe. Aimed primarily at the golf club market, the new introduction has a 7 mph transport speed and electric starting Kawasaki 7.5hp engine as standard, full width rollers are also fitted.

This new addition to the Allen National Triple range will be popular with golf clubs enabling much faster transportation of the mower around the course than the standard one speed model.

The 68 DL still retains all the performance features of the standard model, which is known for its bank mowing-go anywhere capabilities, 68" width of cut and

belt drive insuring contour hugging maintenance mowing

Also fitted with an ammeter and hour meter, the new National 68 D-L retails at £4995 + VAT.

As local authorities and members of the public become more aware of the damage and pollution chemicals can cause to the environment, there is an increasing demand to eliminate the use of these substances.

The new **Hoaf Weedmaster Infraplus** from Industrial Power Units provides effective and safe weed control without the use of chemicals. The Infraplus system has been developed and engineered to control vegetation on paths, paved and gravel areas. Through the use of infra-red heat the plant proteins congeal and cause cells to burst. The flow of sap to the root system is broken down; photosynthesis ceases; the roots rot and the weeds die. The Hoaf Weedmaster eliminates the need for chemicals. Its design incorporates a stainless steel housing beneath which is a high performance burner. A thick layer of ceramics prevents heat loss and acts as an insulation barrier for the outside of the housing. The specially formed infra-red gauze is corrugated to increase the effective surface



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NEW PRODUCTS

area by 40% and its shape directs heat on to the weeds from varying angles. A regulator is used to adjust the gas supply and, depending on the size of the unit, the machine can be operated from between two and seven hours on one bottle of propane gas.

There are four models available. The Hoaf Weedmaster 25 is ideal for small confined areas and is particularly suitable for paths, driveways and play areas. The unit is lightweight to push and is easily manoeuvred around obstructions such as street furniture. For larger spaces there is the 50cm wide Hoaf Weedmaster 50. This machine is supplied with height-adjustable handlebars and front shield which is shaped to direct heat to the side for treating weeds against walls. A brake is fitted as standard to prevent the machine from moving when parked on a slope. At a walking speed of 2km/hr, the Hoaf Weedmaster 75 has a work-rate of 1500 square metres an hour. Double wheels are fitted for easy manoeuvrability.

Little Aston Golf Club had until recently a serious problem with Canada Geese landing on the lake near to the green on the 17th hole. They were then walking over the surrounding area, fowling the greens and fairways. This was both unsightly and unpleasant to play through, not to mention the damage being caused to the greens.

The club approached **Drivall**, the fencing specialist, to see if it could come up with any solution. Drivall suggested using an electric fence.

Drivall put together a portable fence kit, comprising PVC fence posts and white polywire to fence off 200 metres of the lake adjoining the 17th hole. To electrify the fence they used the Pel PE5 portable battery fence controller, which hangs directly on the electric polywire. It is powered by 2 x 1.5v torch batteries, and if the long life type are used, they will provide eight weeks continuous use before are charge. The kit takes less than 20 minutes to erect and can be removed easily for re-use. Also included are an earth stake and a warning sign.

The electric fence proved to be extremely effective and the Canada Geese are no longer a problem in this area of the course. The club has, as a precaution, subsequently extended the electric fence to cover that part of the lake within its boundary.

Drivall can now offer these kits, boxed with easy to read instructions to other golf courses with a similar problem.

The price of a kit is £126.90, including carriage and VAT.



A new lightweight pressurised water tank has been developed by the power tool manufacturer **Stihl**, to provide a mobile water source for the Stihl TS 400 cut-off saw.

The TS 400 is fitted with a water attachment as standard equipment. This takes the form of a clip-on hose connector which enables the operator to connect to a tap and supply water to the cutting disc to suppress dust created during the cutting of concrete, asphalt, stone, brick, ceramic or any other material which creates dust when cut.

With the availability of the new portable water pressure tank this dust control facility enables the user of Stihl cut-off saws to benefit from dust-free cutting even on the most remote sites such as motorways or high-rise developments where running water is unavailable.

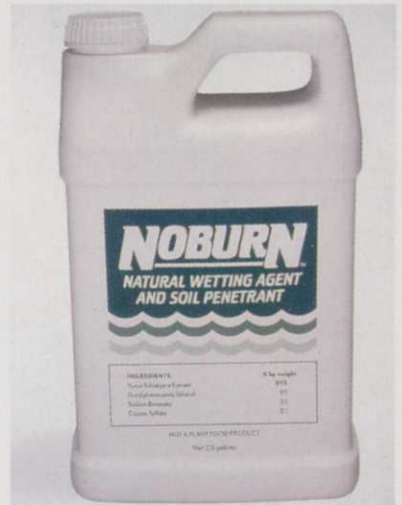
Weighing in at 2.2 kg, Stihl's new pressurised water tank is two ft high and can hold over two gallons (10 litres) of water. This can be pressurised to approximately 30 psi (2 bar) to supply the water, which can be flow-controlled by a valve, to the cutting head jet.

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NEW PRODUCTS

Stihl to be the first manufacturer of cut-off saws to meet COSHH regulations and the Health and Safety guidance notes on the inhalation of silica dust.

The new pressurised water tank costs £49.95 ex.VAT and is available from 1000 Stihl service centres nationwide.

A new way to treat problem dry spots on tees and greens comes in the shape of New Spot Doctors from **Standard Golf**. Attach to a hose and quick coupler to deliver penetrating, sub-surface moisture right to the heart of the problem. The tools are available in two configurations.

The Spot Doctor Tine Unit works like a combination pitch-fork and syringe. Just place the tines on the spot and squeeze the pistol grip. There's no need to push or force the tines into the ground. Water pressure helps them slide through the soil like a hot knife through butter—delivering water to a depth of up to 6". When one area is saturated, simply release the grip, slide the unit out of the ground and position it at the next spot.

The Spot Doctor Roller Unit can be wheeled back and forth over dry spots like a vacuum cleaner. Straight stream nozzles force the water from half an inch to two inches below the surface, with the depth of penetration and water volume controlled by the rolling speed.

Hardi has launched a series of new Greensirons onto the amenity sports turf industry.

The GreensIron 3000 is the one which will be of greatest interest to greenkeepers. Powered by a Honda 5.5hp engine the GreensIron 3000 includes tension and height adjustment and is ideally suited for variable top dressing application.

Operating side-to-side the turf broom and rollers quickly and evening knit in top dressing, creating a consistently smooth putting surface.

Reaching a speed of five mph it has a non-slip roller for wet and steep surfaces and weighs 690lbs.

Further information can be obtained from Hardi Tel: 01455 233811 Fax: 01455 233815.

Tacit has launched a new Lawn Leveller (below) for the maintenance and repair of golf greens. The Lawn Leveller, being a well balanced tool of superior design, is ideal for spreading sand, seed, top dressing etc. and will produce a super flat surface. The major refinement of the Tacit Lawn Leveller is that it is manufactured from round bar which will not scar the greens. The traditional lutes are produced from an-angled bar that has a tendency to gouge the turf. The Lawn leveller is, also, ideal for use on bowling greens and cricket squares. For further details contact Tacit on 01788 568818.



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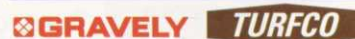
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Hugh Tilley examines the unwelcome phenomenon afflicting many golf clubs and looks at crime prevention.

Security and vandalism



Sign of the times: Golf clubs need to be vigilant against intruders

Levels of theft and vandalism vary greatly around the country, some greenkeepers on urban courses wake up each morning wondering what they will find when they go out. Others have to send someone round the course before play just to replace flags and rakes, but still the majority seldom if ever have any problem. Thus many clubs take minimal precautions against theft, however a growing number have elaborate electronic surveillance installed.

Vandalism is often more of a problem than theft, for while the loss of a strimmer or Flymo is annoying, the destruction of a green upon which you have lavished care is heartbreaking as well as disrupting play. For obvious reasons none of the greenkeepers to whom Greenkeeper Interna-

tional spoke nor their club are named. Both municipal and private courses were contacted, most were parkland courses but in both rural and urban locations, and they were selected more or less at random along a line from Liverpool to North London. Also several commercial security firms were contacted, few have specific experience of protecting greenkeepers facilities, although none saw this as a problem should be they be asked. Classified directories offer a list of local suppliers installers, but this does not vouch for their ability. NACOSS approval should offer some guarantee of standard but it does not cover all systems. Greenkeeper International also contacted some suppliers of secure buildings and containers.

More than one greenkeeper

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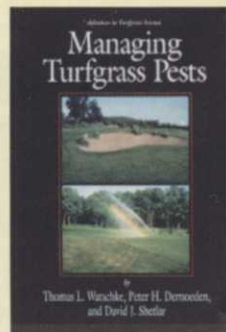
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Contents include:

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Security and vandalism

commented that the need for security, was a sad reflection on the society we live in today, however several also said that they felt that golf courses fared better than many other businesses. There is remarkable acceptance of theft and vandalism – finding flags used as javelins, buildings broken into and the odd strimmer or hover mower lost would seem to be par for many courses. If you are visited once by the light fingered brigade you can expect more visits, they know when they are onto a good thing, so if the horse bolts once lock the stable door before you lose more. Only one incident was reported where the police had apprehended the thieves and recovered the goods.

Increasing numbers of clubs are thinking seriously about security, perhaps spurred on by their insurers and escalating premiums, perhaps by the general heightened awareness of security in the com-

munity, or perhaps actually by their mounting losses.

Vandalism

No one offered a complete answer to this, most clubs experienced some incidents ranging from the occasional to the regular – where Monday was always commenced by a hunt the flag exercise. Bikers on the course would seem a problem for some, and there are incidents reported of cars running riot across fairways and greens. One private course has security patrols over the weekend, another, a municipal course, used to have a mounted policeman on regular patrol until town hall politics stopped this. Some success was claimed for both of these. Otherwise precautions may be possible such as fastening down seats, waste bins and other course furniture, some items are available in vandal resistant and heavyweight

designs with better resistance to destruction.

Public rights of way are often seen as a potential danger area giving ready access (and a fast exit) for the miscreant, however an alternative view was offered that they can be an advantage because it can put more eyes on the course. In fact one greenkeeper even suggested that encouraging the public to walk their dogs was one way of getting unpaid patrols, he did not go as far as suggesting putting in extra rights of way. Most clubs try to restrict access. One greenkeeper said he was lucky in that his course is ring fenced with just two access points – many others have this advantage. Once access is restricted it is easy to keep these locations under surveillance or even guard them.

Michael Webb, of Devizes based TH White Installations Ltd, said that options in these situations

include installing closed circuit TV, (CCTV) or even a dummy camera. TH White has a system called 'Vocalite' which, activated by a detector, switches on lights and announces that the alarm or CCTV has been activated. Crime-watch and other TV programmes has shown how effective the camera can be. However, Michael Webb said that it is vital to use the right camera with the right lens and position it correctly for the best picture.

Some clubs have the advantage of natural barriers, like the sea or a river, or man made barriers such as industrial estates or factories which have their own security fencing. Unfortunately the obvious intrusiveness of fencing detracts from the essence of a golf course, however physical barriers such as wood and shrub land can be equally effective, especially if species such as quickthorn, pyracantha and barberry are planted.



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