

# THE TRUE PROFESSIONAL

For fast, easy, accurate, economical spraying of fertilisers, fungicides and weedkillers over fine turf areas, there's only one answer. The Walkover Sprayer, the true professional from Allen, designed and built in the UK. The Allen Walkover Sprayer is right out in front for maintenance-free efficiency. Its unique pump, powered by the forward movement of the wheels, delivers a full tank at walking pace up to 1,000 square yards, with no servicing, no running costs, and no problem. The model shown is the 24" Groundsman at £299.95 inc. VAT. Other models available from £149.95 inc. VAT.

PHONE THE 24 HOUR BROCHURE LINE OR COMPLETE COUPON

**0845 60 10 815**

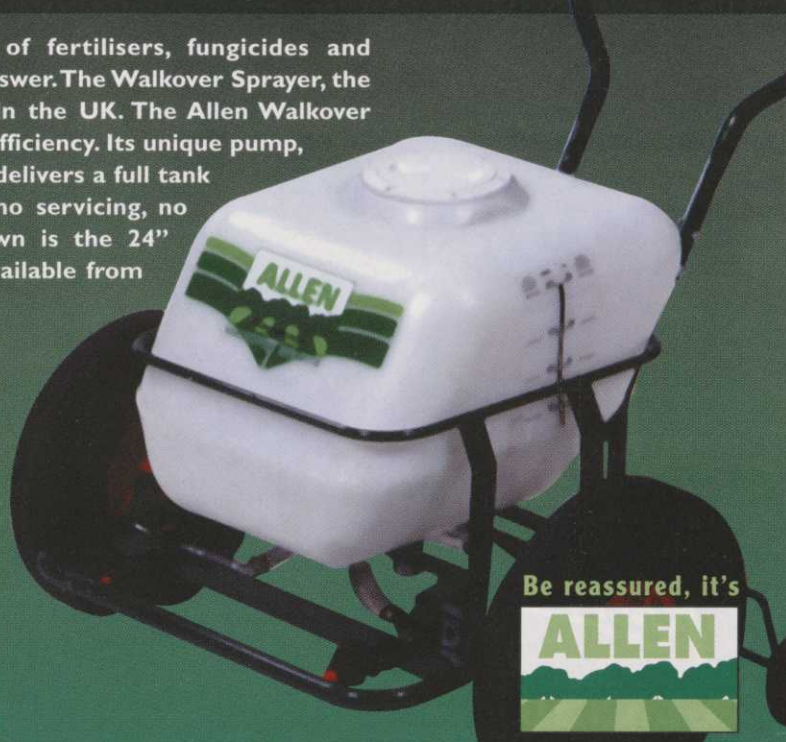
To: Allen Power Equipment, The Broadway, Didcot, Oxon OX11 8ES.  
Please send my FREE Walkover brochure.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_

GI4.98



Allen Power Equipment Ltd., The Broadway, Didcot, Oxon OX11 8ES  
For Sales & Service Tel: (01235) 515400 Fax: (01235) 515401

AD REF 126

# SATISFACTION\*



All right, so what's wrong with being just a little smug? When you think of the glorious effect of a TIS irrigation and maintenance system on your pitch or green, it's only to be expected! Make the others green - with envy. Call **01477 500255** today.

**\*Satisfaction.**  
Understandable glow of self congratulation from choosing a better kind of turf irrigation and maintenance system.

**TIS TORO**

*Focus on Quality*

Turf Irrigation Services (Sandbach) Limited.  
Brookvale, Love Lane, Betchton, Sandbach, CW11 0TS.

AD REF 475

## Paul's new appointment is a real Driving Force

Driving Force Leisure has appointed Paul Buxton as Area Sales Manager for Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex and Middlesex. Paul joins Driving Force Leisure from Parker Hart where he had been employed for the past 16 years.

Also joining the company's new Van Sales Division is Richard Lewis who has two years experience in selling golf Course Equipment in the South East.



The Northern Ireland venue for this year's RiteFeed Classic Regional Qualifier has been confirmed for July 1 at Malone GC. The qualifier is open to any BIGGA member resident throughout Ireland. Anyone who has not already received an entry form should contact BIGGA Headquarters.

Qualifiers from the six Regional Finals will have the opportunity to compete in the National Final at the wonderful Monarch's Course at Gleneagles Hotel in October.

Regional Finals: July 11, Scottish Region - Royal Dornoch GC; July 29, Northern Region, Mere G&CC; June 24, Midland Region, Stoke Poges GC; June 29 South East Region, Wilderness GC; June 4, South West and South Wales Region, St Mellion G&CC; July 1 Ireland, Malone GC.

National Final: October 7, The Gleneagles Hotel.

I use **RiteFeed** because



The results were better than my expectations

Jim Smith, Ardeer GC

# Happy landings for Dug

Dug Gooch, Harvest Manager at Sovereign Turf, made a safe landing in a sand pit, following a 1,500 ft parachute jump in aid of Cancer Research. Taking off from Peterborough Parachute Centre, the intrepid parachutist was given an accuracy field of 17 acres within which to land. In one corner of this was a sand pit, forming a 20m circle, and this was Dug's chosen landing spot.

"This charity jump is something I have always wanted to do and I had planned to undertake on my stag night," reports Dug. "However family members did not like the thought that I could end up with my leg in plaster so I delayed the event for four years. It was well worth the wait and I found parachuting a truly exhilarating experience."

Dug paid thanks to colleagues at Sovereign Turf, who lent both moral and monetary support, and other sponsorship over £600 has been forwarded to Cancer Research.



## Pastures new for Janet and Amanda

Membership Services Officer, Janet Adamson, and Sales and Marketing Assistant Amanda Mayo, have left the Association to take up new posts with London-based charity, the Oasis Trust, and Cambridge-based software company, i2, respectively.

Janet, who has been with BIGGA for two and a half years, will be involved in fund raising for the charity, which assists homeless people both in the UK and abroad.

"I'm really looking forward to the challenge of my new role and feel that the experience I've gained from my time with BIGGA will stand me in good stead," explained Janet.

"Janet's contribution to the development of membership services has been greatly valued and I am sure that I speak for all of our membership, as well as the rest of the staff, when I wish her every success in the future," said Executive Director Neil Thomas.



Janet with Headquarter's staff and BIGGA Chairman Gordon Child at her leaving presentation.

Amanda, who did much to make BTME'98 such a success, will also be involved in the running of exhibitions in her new position.

"I have enjoyed my time at Aldwark Manor and will miss the many friends I've made in the industry," said Amanda, whose

husband, Dan, has also recently moved to a new job in the Cambridge area.

"Amanda has made a big impression since her time with the Association and we wish her and Dan all the very best in their new jobs and home," said Neil.

# Top accolade chimes sweetly for Peter

Peter Bell, Managing Director of Jacobsen E-Z-GO, has been named Jacobsen Branch Manager of the Year for 1997 at a presentation held during the GCSAA Conference and Show in Anaheim, California.

The Award recognises outstanding business development and sales performance by a Jacobsen branch.

David Withers, the National Accounts Manager received the Jacobsen European Sales Manager of the Year Award at the same presentation.

Pictures show Peter Bell (top) and David Withers receiving their Awards from Jacobsen President, Phil Trailies, (left) and the Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Harold Pinto.



# Rolawn to aid campaign

Rolawn has thrown its weight behind BIGGA's Buy a Brick Raffle to raise money of the Association's new Headquarters and training facility currently under construction at Aldwark Manor.

Each of Rolawn's 16 Depot Managers has been issued with five books of raffle tickets and each depot will have a poster on display publicising the raffle and the attractive prizes.

Many of Rolawn's landscaper customers are keen golfers and the company feels that they will be keen to win some of the prizes on offer.

"As Silver Key members of BIGGA and founder

exhibitors at BTME in Harrogate we are keen to play our part and do all that we can to help boost this important project," said Rolawn Sales and Marketing Director, Terry Ryan.



# Rene named as Kubota Deputy MD

Rene Orban has been appointed Deputy Managing Director of Kubota (UK) Ltd.

Retaining his existing position as Director of Agricultural and Grass Machinery Sales, Rene has now taken on the overall responsibility for the company's spare parts, assembly and warehouse departments. He will also deputise for Managing Director, Mr Masakazu Miyake, during his absence from Kubota (UK) Ltd's headquarters at Thame, Oxfordshire.

Rene joined Kubota in March '96 having spent over 25 years working within the industry.

"Our aim is to provide customers with a comprehensive range of hard working, cost effective and reliable tractors, implements and mowers backed by the best possible parts and service support," said Rene.

"We will be working extremely hard to build on the company's undisputed strength within the amenity, horticultural, landscaping estate and grounds maintenance sectors," he added.



# Greencare from Twose

Twose Turf & Spray Limited (TTS) has acquired the UK & Ireland distributorship for the Greencare range of turf aerators.

The Coremaster ECO is the first Turf Aerator specially developed as an ecologically friendly machine offering low noise levels, reduced fuel consumption, controlled emissions and longer intervals between maintenance and servicing.

While environmental considerations have been in the forefront of the ECO's design, performance and productivity has not been compromised. At a steady 2 mph, operators will be able to aerate up to 2,000 square metres of turf per hour providing a hole pattern of 50mm x 100mm (2" x 4").

For further information Tel: Twose Turf and Spray Limited on 01536 511243 or contact the company head office, 6 Torridge Close, Henson Way, Telford Way Industrial Estate, Kettering, Northants., NN16 8PY Tel: 01536 511243 Fax: 01536 511675

# Royal Inverdivot GC...

by Tony Husband



I use

**RiteFeed**

because



It's the right feed for my course

Chris Yeaman, Swanston GC

# So trustworthy, you could call it Fido.

Now  
\*360g/L\*  
\*17 L per Ha\*  
rate for hard  
surfaces!

Now  
\*360g/L\*  
\*17 L per Ha\*  
rate for hard  
surfaces!

NEW &  
IMPROVED!

Over the last fifteen years,  
greenkeepers and groundsman have  
come to rely on good old Super  
Mosstox.

Always effective and reliable, Super  
Mosstox just gets straight on with  
the job of controlling moss - on fine  
turf or hard surface areas.

And it's just as good today as it's  
always been. So when moss makes  
an unwelcome comeback, just  
remember faithful old Fido. It won't  
let you down.



**RHÔNE-POULENC**  
**AMENITY**

Rhône-Poulenc Amenity, Fyfield Road, Ongar, Essex CM5 0HW. Telephone 01277 301115 Fax 01277 301119.  
SUPER MOSSTOX CONTAINS DICHLOROPHEN. MOSSTOX IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF RHÔNE-POULENC AGRICULTURE LTD.  
ALWAYS READ THE LABEL : USE PESTICIDES SAFELY. (MAFF 05339) © RHÔNE-POULENC AGRICULTURE LTD 1998.

Now  
\*360g/L\*  
\*17 L per Ha\*  
rate for hard  
surfaces!

Usually the spotlight falls on the Course Manager or Head Greenkeeper at a Club.

Now it is the turn of those whose work often goes unheralded to star.



**Name:** Paul Davies

**Club:** Tiara Rado, Colorado, USA

**Position:** Assistant

**Age:** 40

**1. How long have you been a greenkeeper?**  
Eight years.

**2. What education are you currently undertaking?**  
HNC Golf Course Management, Distance learning through Elmwood College in Cupar, Scotland

**3. Which one task do you most enjoy doing?**  
Walk mowing at sunrise and improvement projects

**4. Which one task do you most dislike doing?**

Cleaning ditches - we have miles of them!

**5. What job other than greenkeeping might you have ended up doing?**

Logistics - materials and financial resourcing

**6. Who has been the biggest influence on your career?**

Geoff Porter, former Head Greenkeeper of Golf Club Issum, Germany, now in India

**7. What would you do to improve the life of a greenkeeper?**

Give golfers a handout detailing what greenkeeping involves

**8. What are your hobbies?**

Golf, cross country skiing, white water rafting, travel photography, cooking and music

**9. What do you get out of BIGGA?**

Keep in touch with UK greenkeeping

**10. What do you hope to be doing in 10 years time?**

Remodeling golf courses or Superintendent

Address your letters to the Editor, Greenkeeper International, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. You can also fax them to 01347 838864, or e-mail them to [general@bigga.co.uk](mailto:general@bigga.co.uk)

## Letter from America

The reason I write is that I saw the announcement in the February issue of the current location of Geoff Porter and his e-mail address, which was great as I'd lost contact with him. Geoff is responsible for introducing me into the profession over in Germany. His great enthusiasm and knowledge got me hooked and resulted in me running my own course and progressing to owning my own greenkeeping business in the UK.

I have recently moved to Colorado to settle down into "married life" and have been fortunate to secure a job here, albeit at assistant level. I think this could be a good way of telling all of the greenkeepers and other wonderful people I have met over the years know of my whereabouts and extend an



open invitation to contact me (or drop in!) and hear 'how it's done' here in the desert. Also, at some later date, I would like to attempt to write a short article about greenkeeping Colorado style and illustrate some of the vast differences due to our extremes of climatic conditions.

Paul Davies  
BIGGA Member. 4445.

“YOU CAN'T EXPECT PERFECT GREENS ALL THE YEAR ROUND”



However good the golfer, a less than perfect green is something of a handicap - which is why you should be talking to Oliver Turf Management.

We combine seven decades of specialisation in grass mixtures with all the experience and resources of the Cebeco Group, one of Europe's leading plant breeders.

We offer seed blends of unrivalled purity and

# Oliver

## Turf Management

performance, plus the Cebeco Nutri range of fertilisers.

And we provide expert advice on every aspect of turf management. So your greens need never look less than perfect - however many rabbits play on them.

For your free copy of this season's Oliver Turf Management catalogue, phone or fax today - or just ask us to come and see you, on your own turf.

Address your letters to the Editor, Greenkeeper International, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. You can also fax them to 01347 838864, or e-mail them to [general@bigga.co.uk](mailto:general@bigga.co.uk)

## An unfair dismissal?

Question - What's the difference between:- a) Head Greenkeeper, b) Course Manager, and c) Senior Greenkeeper?

Answer:- P45

This is a scenario which has occurred all too often. For some reason the committee has held a meeting and decided that you are, due to whatever reasons, made redundant, and a reshuffle of staff takes place. Soon afterwards, the position is advertised in our own magazine with a new job title but the same old job.

What can we do to stop this? How can we protect ourselves, and how is BIGGA supporting its members in such cases?

A.W. Peel  
 Bull Bay GC  
 Isle of Anglesey

Editor's Note: I can appreciate fully the sentiments contained in your letter, however, we can only take action if we know there has

been, or is, a problem at a particular golf club. A call to Headquarters will alert us to the possibility that an advert may be forthcoming.

Before it has reached that stage, however, members should remember to make full use of our Legal Helpline which can offer advice and, in some cases, legal representation can be arranged which can often prevent a situation reaching the stage that a job is lost. Additionally, it is always wise to have a written contract of employment and a job description which can act as evidence if it is suspected that someone has been employed to do exactly the same job as the one from which you were made redundant.

## A stinging letter...

I'm the Golf Course Superintendent at Saratoga Country Club in Saratoga, California. Terry Buchen, of Terry Buchen Golf Agronomy International, has referred BIGGA

as a potential source of remedies and/or advice for controlling a perennial yellowjacket (hornet) problem we face every summer. It is my understanding that the United Kingdom has a serious problem with these aggressors and I am hopeful that you might offer some suggestions for us to develop a plan of attack.

We are located in the eastern foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, just outside of San Jose. Typical of California, we have a rainy season from November through March and usually a very dry season from April through October. We are on a hilly terrain, bordered by an "Open Space Reserve" with very few homes and population surrounding us. Every summer there are great populations of yellowjackets that inundate the golf course. This past summer was very tough as we had numerous stings reported, including two rather serious allergic reactions.

To this point, the club has placed hundreds of yellowjacket traps around the property during the high season, mostly in low play/activity areas, with "bait" freshened regularly. They are rather successful in that

we are forced to empty the traps on a regular basis as well. Due to the expanse of land and severe terrain immediately surrounding us, not to mention a large amount of poison oak, it is unrealistic and unaffordable to attempt a nest specific eradication program. The only other item I have covered with the membership is to use caution and visit their physician for either an allergy kit or recommendations in the event that they are stung. For maintenance, we make our best attempt to retain cleanliness, including as few clippings, trash and standing water as possible.

As mentioned earlier, our consultant, Terry Buchen, suggested that you may have some recommendations for reducing the possibilities of stings to our players. I would greatly appreciate any "tricks of the trade" you may have heard or might be utilising to combat the problem.

Tracy Shanahan  
 Superintendent  
 Saratoga Country Club

Any suggestions should be sent to Ken Richardson at Headquarters and he will pass them on to Tracy.

### Innovative Transportation and Utility Vehicles...

It's important to have the right tools for the job. That's the whole idea behind our transportation and utility vehicles. They are the most durable, dependable vehicles on the market. With 30 distinctive models to choose from, you'll find exactly the right vehicle for the job.

Club Car UK Plc  
 Dunmore Court,  
 Wootton Road,  
 Abingdon Oxfordshire OX13 6BH  
 Tel: 01235 537575  
 Fax: 01235 537576

## AN OUTSTANDING NEW TURF VEHICLE, LOADED WITH STANDARD FEATURES.

CARRYALL **TURF II**



### Standard Features

- 11 hp engine with pedal start
- 2-wheel brakes
- 15 mph ground speed
- Green front body with grey seats
- Hour meter
- Two way radio/beverage holders
- Headlights
- Differential guard
- Torsion Bar: Anti-Sway
- Synchronesh Transmission
- Neutral lockout switch
- Reduced speed reverse

**CARRYALL**  
 DRIVE IT TO WORK. Club Car

# Goodbye weeds.



## 'Intrepid' will take care of your turf weeds

'Intrepid' is a new cost-effective selective weedkiller that can be applied throughout the growing season. It's powerful three-way mixture will control many broad-leaved weeds in turf. And unlike some turf herbicides, repeat applications *are* possible should new weeds germinate or deep-rooted weeds regrow during the season.

# Goodbye empties.



## Miracle will take care of your used containers

Empty pesticide containers are no longer a problem. In conjunction with a registered waste disposal contractor, Miracle Professional offer a *free* service on the UK mainland for all Miracle (ICI/Zeneca Professional Products) labelled containers. Envirogreen Ltd will collect and dispose of your empties in full compliance with legal requirements.

# Good buy, **Intrepid**

**MIRACLE**  
PROFESSIONAL

Salisbury House, Weyside Park, Catteshall Lane,  
Godalming, Surrey GU7 1XE. Tel: (0990) 301010  
Part of Miracle Garden Care Ltd.

This month, Tim Kirk takes a look at off-road driving

# Making tracks

Many people in the land base sector use 4 x 4 vehicles, indeed they are an invaluable mode of transport helping drivers get to their place of work on schedule with any load they may be carrying intact.

There are several regulations under the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1992 which place legal duties on employers, employees and the self employed. Employers have a duty of care to ensure that employees are properly trained to operate equipment they must use in the work place and that includes 4 x 4 vehicles.

Most drivers who attend an off-road driving course are amazed at how little they know about the principles of off-road driving. Usually they have been driving for years without understanding how their vehicle works. Most have a good tale to tell.

Recognised by various Government departments as a standard setting body, ATB-Landbase has developed off-road training courses which lead to the attainment of a national stan-

dard in off-road driving ability.

A good off-road driver knows the capabilities and limitations of his vehicle. He will reduce operating costs by sympathetic driving techniques, reducing wear and tear on the components of the vehicle. He will minimise the environmental damage by preventing unnecessary churning up of the land.

On a Professional off-road driving course a trainee will learn how to recognise a safe working environment, assess the suitability of ground, prepare and perform the necessary maintenance checks to ensure the safety of the vehicle, route plan and safely operate a vehicle in a variety of off-road conditions such as slopes, mud, obstacles, water and understand the dangers of vehicle recovery.

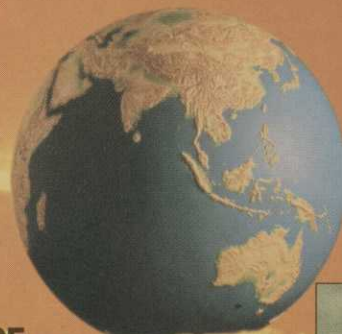
For further information on training courses and consultancy contact Jean John at Agenda Training Limited on 01282 831973 or Tim Kirk at Kirk Forestry on 01484 685114.



## SHARPES INTERNATIONAL



**A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE IN SEED FROM TEE TO GREEN**



**IMPROVE DISEASE RESISTANCE**

**IMPROVE SUMMER COLOUR**

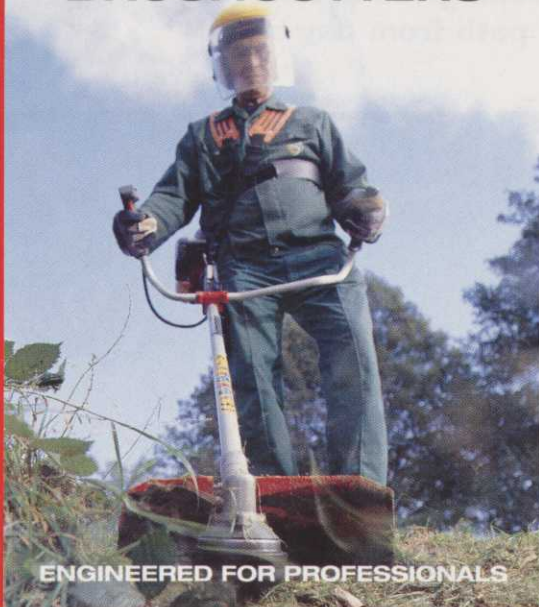
**REDUCE MOWING NEEDS**

Sharpes International Seeds Limited, Sleaford, Lincs. NG34 7HA. Tel: 01529 304511. Fax: 01529 303908. e-mail: sharpes@dial.pipex.com



# Kawasaki

## BRUSHCUTTERS



ENGINEERED FOR PROFESSIONALS

Brushcutters, new from Kawasaki. Building on the established success of our world-class engines, now comes the only range of brushcutters manufactured solely by us. And all engineered to deliver the work rate and reliability true professionals demand.

**POWER PRODUCTS**  
Kawasaki

Call free for a brochure  
0800 500245

AD  
REF  
544

**TRUE-SURFACE**<sup>®</sup>  
PATENTED



...makes true greens!<sup>™</sup>

**TRUE-SURFACE**<sup>®</sup>  
PATENTED



...makes fast greens!

**TRUE-SURFACE**<sup>®</sup>  
PATENTED



...makes consistent greens!

**TRUE-SURFACE**<sup>®</sup>  
PATENTED



...makes sense!

USED BY TOP COURSES THROUGHOUT  
EUROPE TO MAKE BETTER GREENS!



PHONE FOR A WEEKS FREE\* DEMO

(\* £60 carriage charge refunded against purchase)

Direct from the Exclusive European Distributor

**GREENSWARD DIRECT**

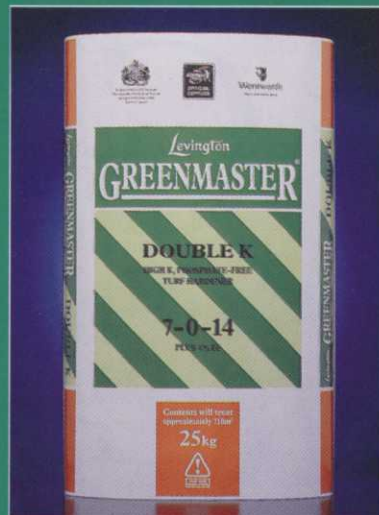
Manor Farm, Otley Road, Adel, Leeds LS16 7AL 0113 267 6000

AD  
REF  
312

NEW

## Greenmaster Double K

High potash, phosphate-free  
turf hardener



Greenmaster<sup>®</sup> Double K is a unique, phosphate-free, fine turf fertilizer with a novel two-to-one potash to nitrogen ratio for improved growth and enhanced disease and wear resistance on greens where potash is low but phosphate is not recommended.

- Satisfies latest recommendations for high potash inputs.
- Provides 42kg/ha potash but only 21kg/ha nitrogen when applied at 30g/m<sup>2</sup>.
- Overcomes potash deficiency, controls soft growth and helps turf resist disease.
- Phosphate-free formulation limits P build-up and *Poa annua* establishment.
- Low nitrogen application allows use throughout the year.
- Ideal alternative autumn treatment where phosphate levels are adequate.

Greenmaster Double K  
7-0-14 + 4% Fe

ALTOGETHER AN UNBEATABLE COMBINATION



If you would like to know more please call our  
Technical Services Manager on 01473 203143  
or contact your local Area Sales Manager:

South - Chris Briggs

Tel: 0378 603103 (mobile) or 01273 675966

Midlands and Wales - Roger Moore

Tel: 0378 603052 (mobile) or 01832 710076

N. England, Scotland & N.I. - Richard Walton

Tel: 0378 603091 (mobile) or 01977 662187

GREENMASTER and THE LEVINGTON DIFFERENCE are registered Trade Marks  
of Levington Horticulture Ltd. © Levington Horticulture Ltd 1997

AD  
REF  
102

This month, Ken Richardson gives details on how to plan your career path from day one

# Grass routes

Following the publication of the 1998 recommendations of the Standing Committee on Greenkeepers Salaries and Conditions of Employment, several greenkeepers have contacted me about the Greenkeeper Career Pattern. The Standing Committee sits again in May, when the salary scale for 1999 will be discussed, along with any other changes that are considered necessary, however, I thought that it would be useful to use some of the common questions posed by concerned greenkeepers to clarify some of the reasons for, and theory behind the Career Pattern.

**Question. Why are National Certificate/Diploma and Higher Certificate/Diploma shown as the same qualification on the career plan?**

Answer. I agree that NC/ND and HNC/HND should, perhaps have been separate to show that they are different qualifications, however, some greenkeepers go straight on to HND courses whilst others move onto HND after ND and some greenkeepers move onto HNC courses after completing N/SVQ courses. It would have been impossible to show all of the routes that could be taken and the decision was made to keep the diagram as simple as possible. However, the Standing Committee may consider changes to the Career Pattern.

**Question. Why were N/SVQs selected as the qualifications for**

**greenkeeper, head greenkeeper and course manager.**

Answer. The Committee felt that all greenkeepers entering the profession should, eventually, be assessed as competent greenkeepers. ie. prove that they can meet National Standards in the role of greenkeeper. The National Standards that show competence in a job are National/Scottish Vocational Qualifications. Other qualifications such as Higher National Certificate, may contain similar underpinning knowledge and, sometimes, greater knowledge to N/SVQs, which coupled with suitable experience may indicate competence. The Committee recognised that few, if any greenkeepers held Levels 3 or Level 4 qualifications, that very few training providers offered training courses leading to Level 4 and that, currently, there were not any industry assessors at either Level. Therefore, it was decided that the Career Pattern should include the words 'competent at' rather than 'qualified to' at Levels 3 and 4. Although this may seem a play on words, those words do have significant different meanings. 'Competent at' means that the person is capable of performing the tasks described in the N/SVQ Standards Level 3 or Level 4 Sports Turf Management ie. capable of doing the job of a head greenkeeper or course manager. This competence could have been gained from experience, attending a number of college courses, including HNC and HND or even by adapting

knowledge and skills acquired in a different industry, coupled with other qualifications and/or experience in greenkeeping. What the Career Pattern does not say is that head greenkeepers should hold a Level 3 qualification or that Course Managers should hold a Level 4 qualification, although this may be the case in the future.

**Question. Why is Higher National Certificate/Diploma and BSc shown to be lower than N/SVQ Level 4?**

Answer. This was done to fit all of the qualifications onto one sheet of paper and did not imply any relative merit. Comparing vocational qualifications with academic qualifications is extremely difficult as they are two different things, but one type of qualification can lead to the other. However, whereas vocational qualifications indicate what the holder knows and can do, under working conditions, academic qualifications indicate only what the holder knows.

**Question. Why does the link from HNC/HND come below deputy head greenkeeper?**

Answer. This was done to show that the holder of an HNC or HND needed suitable experience before taking up post as a deputy head greenkeeper or even, as a head greenkeeper. Some people enter, and leave, HNC/HND courses with little or no experience of turf management whilst others enter, and

