

## “A Quick Tour of Spraying Systems Company”

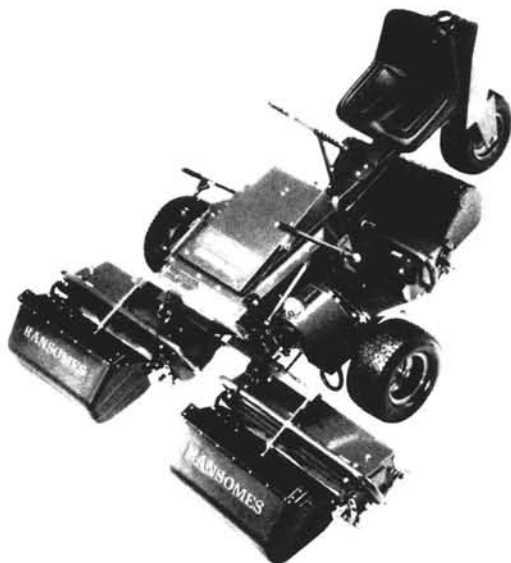
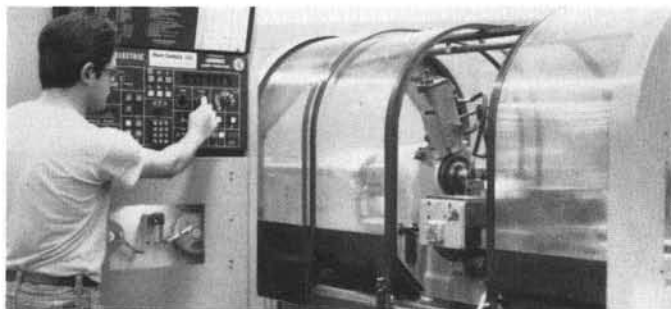
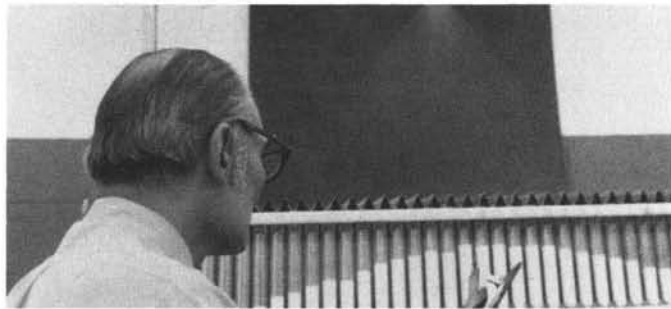
by Fred D. Opperman, CGCS & Editor

Recently I was given a tour of the Spraying Systems Co. Plant located in Carol Stream, Illinois. I was very impressed with what I saw. The plant is huge with hundreds of people all working at various tables, stations, and complicated machines.

For more than 50 years, Spraying Systems Company has been one of the leaders in the design and application of spray nozzles for agriculture and industry. Today, they make more than 18,000 different types of nozzles that are used in some 200 different markets. Some of those markets outside of the golf courses are spray drying and poultry cooling to printing plant humidification, or spraying a release agent in the manufacture of golf balls. Other diverse applications include cake decorating and the cooling of rocket launch pads.

The manufacturing techniques used call for specialized production equipment with extensive quality control checks throughout the entire production process. For example every TeeJet spray tip, is checked for spray pattern integrity and flow rate before it is shipped to us. During my tour I watched as some spray nozzles were rejected due to one thing or another. I can now understand the cost of a spray nozzle when you get to watch it develop from a bar of material (whether it be stainless steel, plastic, brass) to the finished product after going thru hundreds of different stages to reach the spray boom on your golf course.

If you are ever given a chance to tour this facility that happens to be in our back yard — do it, is my recommendation.



## RANSOMES

The Motor 180 is versatile enough to trim golf tees and surrounds, ideal for large private and public lawns, just the machine for maintaining smaller playing fields. Its low profile design hugs the ground giving outstanding stability and performance, even on steep slopes. Instant response from the single foot pedal control for forward or reverse drive gives the ultimate in handling ability. Choice of 5 knife fixed head and 7 knife floating head cutting units lets you choose the right finish for your turf. With cutter drive completely independent of ground speed the cutting efficiency is maintained even when manoeuvring at low speed. Units latch out of work manually. Mechanical lift to units from the operator's seat and grasscatchers are optional.

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