

GREEN INDUSTRY NEWS

ALCA growth evident at annual meeting

The growth in membership and market diversity of the Associated Landscape Contractors of America was clearly evident during ALCA's annual meeting in San Diego in February.

More than 750 contractors attended, a dramatic increase in attendance from the 1979 show. More than 40 exhibitors had booths. An equipment demonstration in a field next to the Town and Country Hotel provided an effective and dramatic display of tractors, trenchers, trimming equipment and hydraulic mulching and seeding machinery.

Perhaps the most noticeable difference in educational sessions was the presence of many interiorscape contractors and designers which also meant a greater percentage of women delegates. This group of specialized contractors listened intently to all business sessions.



Design/Build received the greatest attendance of all the educational sessions. Interiorscaping was next in popularity.

The location of the show attracted a large number of family members. It may have also provided competition for some of the sessions which had surprisingly low attendance

even though the subjects were recommended by ALCA members themselves.

Concurrent sessions, as many as four at once, gave delegates a wide choice of topics. To show the diversity of topics covered, these are some of the specific market areas covered: design/build, interiorscaping, erosion control, irrigation, maintenance, lawn care, and basic contracting.

In addition to these there were sessions on communications, and bidding and costing. The sessions began with the keynote presentation by Mike Vance on Creative Thinking.

Sixty-four landscape projects, including three outside the United States, were honored during the Environmental Improvement Award ceremonies at the meeting. There were 11 grand awards, 17 merit awards and 33 awards of distinction. Included in the awards were two from the United Kingdom, one from Saudi Arabia, and nine for interiorscape projects.

Grand Award winners included:
Residential - Parson and Wewerka

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An early morning fog burned off in time for a whole morning of equipment demonstrations next to the convention center.

LANDSCAPE

CONTRACTOR NEWS

LAF terminates management by consultants

The Executive Board of the Landscape Architecture Foundation decided in December to terminate the foundation's management contract with Executive Consultants of McLean, VA. Executive Consultants at one time managed the Associated Landscape Contractors of America, the American Society of Landscape Architects, and the Landscape Architect Foundation. LAF is the last to break away from the management consultant group in an effort to increase productivity and service.

Nursery promotion expected to boost sales by five percent

Nursery related industries can expect to experience a five percent increase in sales in areas where advertising by the Nursery Marketing Council runs. NMC made this prediction based upon consumer research tests using radio advertising to promote beauty and value enhancement of living plants.

A scatter plan will be used to place advertising until NMC can generate the \$2.75 million estimated for a national program. NMC has a goal to advertise nationally, seven days per week a solid three months in the spring.

Funds for the advertising come from nursery suppliers who contribute 1/4 percent of invoice totals. Interested persons should contact NMC, 230 Southern Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20005.

Inc., of Woodbridge, VA and Schlick Landscaping Inc, Huntington, NY.

Commercial - Century Landscape Contractors, Agoura, CA with two project awards.

Design-build - Landscape Associates Inc., Little Rock, AR and Theodore Brickman Co., Long Grove, IL

Maintenance - Ladybug Industries Inc., Jacksonville, FL, Ray's Landscape and Nursery Inc., Walled Lake, MI, and Clearwater Landscaping Co., Sun Valley, ID

Interiorscape Installation - North Haven Gardens Inc., Dallas, TX

Interiorscape Maintenance - Cohl-mia's, Tulsa, OK

Some of the winners will be featured in Weeds Trees & Turf later in the year in a roundup of the best landscape designs for 1980.

New officers were installed during the meeting. They include President Wallace SaBell of Denver, President-Elect Allen Keesen of Denver, Vice-President Ritchie Skelton of Vienna, OH, Vice-President Ray Gustin III of Gaithersburg, MD, Treasurer David Pinkus of Dallas, and Secretary Landon Reeve of Woodbine, MD.

ALCA also presented safety awards to 12 landscape contracting firms at the show, during a special breakfast meeting. The awards were made according to the number and time lost as reported for the period September 1978 through August 1979. Three firms reported no accidents or time lost.

If San Diego wasn't nice enough, a group of ALCA members continued the meeting on a three-island tour of Hawaii.

SALES

Echo ups sales for seventh year in a row

Echo, Inc. of Northbrook, IL, expects to report increases of 45 percent for the fiscal year just ended, an increase that represents a seventh consecutive record sales year for the company.

Echo markets a variety of two-cycle engines but has become well-known for its outdoor power equipment, including chain saws, power

blowers, hedge trimmers, and weed and grass trimmers. Its chain saw line was up in volume more than 30 percent last year.

HORTICULTURE

Lower temperatures save greenhouse heat

Researchers at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven have shown that plants can tolerate lowered temperatures in a greenhouse for part of the night, thereby saving fuel.

They indicate that fuel consumption in a greenhouse can be reduced by about 20 percent from January to April. The savings in dollars for growers can be significant because fuel accounts for half the cost of growing plants in greenhouses in the Northeast.

The fuel savings occur if the temperature in the greenhouse is maintained at 60 degrees F for the first part of the night, which is the standard practice, and then allowed to drop to 45 degrees for eight hours.

GRANTS

HRI expands its research grant program

The Horticultural Research Institute has announced the funding of five \$1,000 research grants in addition to 15 Richard P. White \$500 research grants for the coming year 1980. The grants will be awarded to help researchers conduct important projects of direct interest to the nursery and landscape industries.

Any organization conducting research which may benefit the nursery community—state and federal research laboratories, land grant universities, forest research stations, business firms, botanical gardens, and arboreta—is invited to make application for one of the grants.

An advisory committee of research scientists reviews applicants and selects them on the basis of information from a simple questionnaire.

Grants are available from the HRI, 230 Southern Building, Washington, DC 20005, and must be returned by May 1, 1980. The grants will be awarded in November.

GOVERNMENT

UPDATE

Revisions for Davis-Bacon

Major changes have been proposed in regulations issued under the Service Contract and Davis-Bacon Acts, in order to clarify and strengthen both laws, says Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall.

The Service Contract Act generally applies to any contract with the Federal government which is principally for the furnishing of services. Under the act, contractors and subcontractors are required to pay their employees, working on contracts in excess of \$2,500, monetary wages and fringe benefits determined by the Secretary of Labor in a locality and also observe safe, sanitary working conditions.

The proposed changes would revise, update, and clarify the Regulation 29 CFR Part 4 so that contracting agencies, contractors, and employees can be made fully aware of their responsibilities and rights.

The Davis-Bacon and related acts require the payment of prevailing wages and fringe benefits to employees of contractors and subcontractors performing on federally financed or assisted construction projects.

Proposed changes in 29 CFR Part 5 contain substantial revisions to the labor standards clauses which contracting agencies are required to include in their construction contracts. The major changes would affect procedures for:

- adding classifications and rates not listed in the wage determinations;
- the resolution of labor standards disputes;
- the withholding of contract funds for wage underpayments;
- and
- the debarment of contractors and subcontractors.

Certain changes have also been proposed to reduce the volume of enforcement reports exchanged between the contracting agencies and the department.

Act would provide water incentives

Congressman Norm Shumway, 14th District, California, has introduced the Irrigation Water Conservation Act of 1979 (H.R. 5965) which would provide incentives for conversion to efficient, water-conserving farm irrigation systems.

To provide the incentive for such conversions, Shumway's bill would permit an additional 10 percent investment tax credit for the use of such water conserving irrigation systems as drip irrigation, sprinkler systems, canal or ditch linings, pipeline equipment, or recovery systems. "Growers who use such equipment would also be able to depreciate that property over three years, thus receiving double encouragement to make the costly change," Shumway stated.

Pointing out that his legislation will benefit more than agriculture, Shumway said, "More water would be available for municipal use, groundwater recharge, and the enhancement of fisheries. Energy savings can be expected due to reduced irrigation pumping demands."

Interior approves reclamation plan

Assistant Secretary of the Interior Joan M. Davenport has approved a mining and land reclamation plan for CF&I Steel Corp.'s proposed underground coal operation on two Federal leases near Bokoshe, OK.

The mine plan was accepted with the stipulations that CF&I continuously evaluate the feasibility of recovering all or parts of the upper Harshorne coal seam and that the company protect the habitat of a chestnut-type tree that is being proposed for protection under the Endangered Species Act.

Under the mine plan, CF&I would use existing surface facilities to process the coal and would assume all land reclamation responsibilities when Garland Coal Mining Co. completes its surface operations in 1982, including a reclamation bond amounting to about \$18,000 per acre.

PUBLICATION

Text on aquatic toxicology released

Aquatic Toxicology (STP 667), a compilation of 25 papers presented during a symposium program of the American Society for Testing and Materials, has been released by ASTM of Philadelphia, PA.

The publication covers the assessment of effects of pesticides, contaminants, and other chemicals or factors in the aquatic environment.

MEETING

Pesticide association discusses safe uses

"Chemicals will be an essential part of life in the future," said Chester L. Foy, head of Virginia Tech's department of plant pathology and physiology. Foy spoke at the Virginia Pesticide Association annual meeting which was held along with the Mid-Atlantic Agricultural Chemical and Equipment Trade Show on Jan. 23-24 at the Richmond arena.

"We can't go back to life as it was before pesticides," Foy said. "The world and science will not allow it."

Foy noted that contrary to public opinion, life expectancy has not decreased from the use of herbicides. He encouraged his audience to take the responsibility to get technology out of test tubes and into use.

Cecil Howes, Washington liaison officer for Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, gave the keynote address at the group's annual banquet. More than 300 listened to the talks and viewed booths of chemical and equipment companies.

Outgoing president James Gallman of the Stauffer Chemical Co. challenged the organization to double the number of exhibits by 1983. The newly elected president is Dennis Ketcham, sales representative of Du Pont Co. Other new officers are Joseph Will, vice president, Southern States Cooperative; Phyllis McCabe, honorary secretary, Chevron Chemical Co.; and Nora Hall Pankey, secretary and treasurer, Southern States Cooperative.

Continues on page 85

GROUNDS

Applications available for manager's program

The Professional Grounds Management Society has announced that applications for its Grounds Manager's Certification Program are now available.

Contact Allan Shulder, Executive Director, PGMS, 19 Hawthorne Ave., Pikesville, MD 21208, 301/653-2742.

PLANTS

Plants may provide own water and heat

Experiments by British researchers with a new energy-conserving commercial glasshouse are attempting to show that much, if not all, of the heat and water requirements of plants grown in commercial glasshouses could be provided by the plants themselves.

Keith Morgan, lecturer in Agricultural Engineering at Reading University, has recaptured both the energy and water used in transpiration by dehumidifying the air in the glasshouse. Further research developed the possibility of feeding plants with salt water and recovering it as fresh water during transpiration. Up to 4 liters a day per square meter of space can be recovered from many green plants grown in a glasshouse.

The glasshouse contains a glazing with a specially formulated material, ultra violet inhibited melinex, developed by Imperial Chemical Industries, Plant Protection Div., Fernhurst, England.

NEW FACILITY

Conwed completes mulch fiber plant

Conwed Corp. of St. Paul, MN, has finished building a wood fiber manufacturing facility in Conover, NC, to produce mulch for hydraulic mulching.

The product, sold nationally under the Hydro Mulch trademark, aids in rapid turf establishment and erosion control in strip mines, on roadways, and at commercial and residential building sites.

The plant, which contains a 5,000-square-foot manufacturing area, cost more than \$2 million to build.



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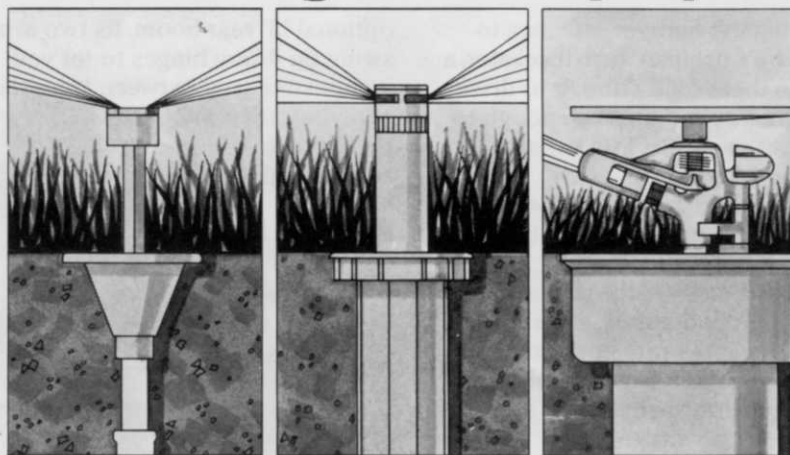
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COMPANY

International Harvester names three managers

International Harvester's Agricultural Equipment Group has appointed three people to its newly-restructured Outdoor Power organization, North American Operations.

The company appointed Thomas H. Solomon manager, Outdoor Power manufacturing operations; Thomas Jaros, manager, product and financial planning; and Ronald F. Zitko, manager, engineering.

IH's lawn and garden tractor line consists of five Cub Cadet models ranging from 11 to 19.9 horsepower and three Cadet models from 8 to 11 horsepower.

Stripling to head Ortho Chemicals Div.

Earl L. Stripling, Jr., has been named vice president of Chevron Chemical Co., a subsidiary of Stan-

dard Oil Co., and general manager of its Ortho Agricultural Chemicals Div.

Stripling joined Ortho as a sales representative in 1949 and most recently was marketing manager, Agricultural Chemicals. He also served as president, Chevron Chemical International, Inc. and Chevron Chemical Pan America Co.

Jacobsen appoints new general manager

Philip A. Taylor has become general manager, service, for the Jacobsen Div. of Textron Inc.

In this capacity, he is responsible for administration of domestic and international service for consumer and turf products, including warranties, training, and manuals and other service publications. He was previously manager, turf services for Jacobsen.

Davis changes name to Case

The Davis Div. of J I Case Co. has changed its name to J I Case Light Equipment Div.

The division, which has manufactured trenchers, material handling equipment, and cable-laying equipment in Wichita and marketed them in North America under the Davis name, will now sell its product lines under the Case name.

Arnold Palmer to promote Lofts

Lofts Pedigreed Seed has chosen golf pro Arnold Palmer to promote its line of seed and turf care products in 1980 advertising.

Palmer was first considered as a possible promoter for the Lofts line when he began using Yorktown Ryegrass and Baron Kentucky Bluegrass on his courses in Orlando, FL, and LaTrobe, PA.

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Cushman's Sprayer attaches to the 18-hp Cushman Turf-Truckster, a vehicle that's light enough to drive onto greens, and mobile enough to take into most turf areas that require spraying.

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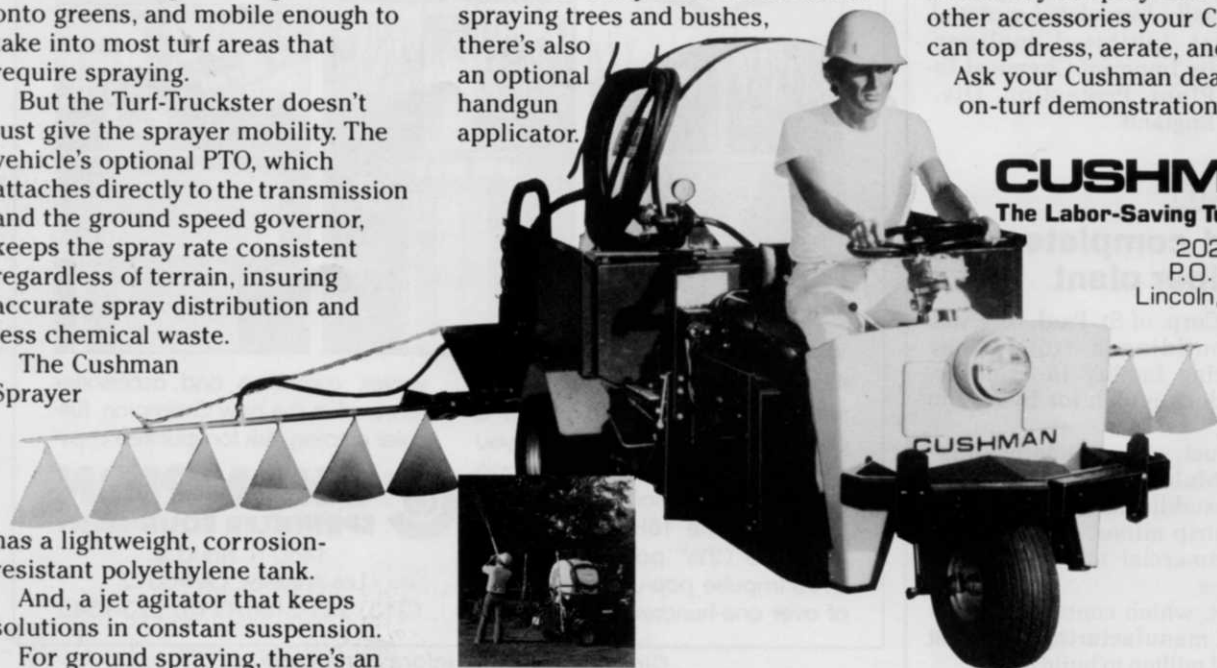
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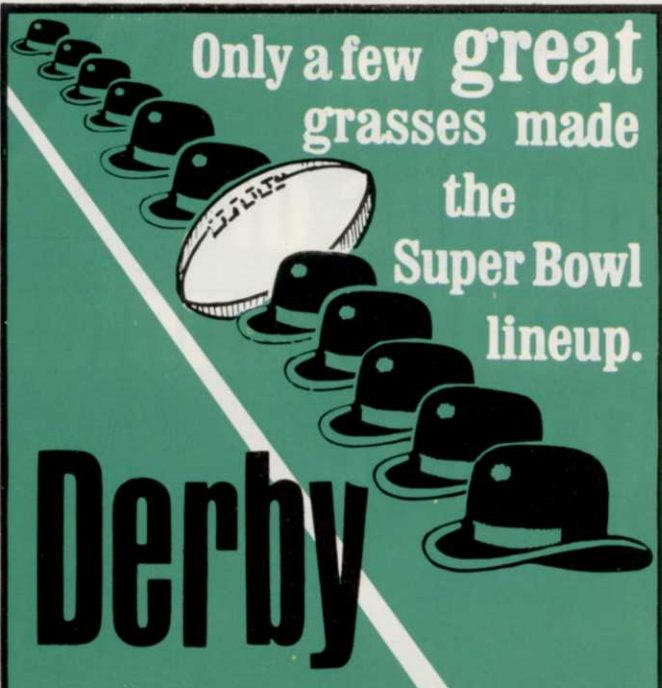
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GOLF

Hale named GCSAA communications director

Dick Hale, former editor of THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT, official publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, has returned to GCSAA as the director of communications.

Hale has been editor of PGA MAGAZINE and business manager of all publications of the Professional Golfers Association since the fall of 1976. He served as editor of THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT, forerunner of GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT, from 1974 to 1976.

As director of communications, Hale will serve as editor of GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT and coordinate other activities of the GCSAA communications department. He replaces John Schilling, who is now GCSAA director of marketing and sales.

In another announcement, the GCSAA gave three golf course superintendents Citation of Performance awards at the United States Golf Association Green Section educational conference held on Jan. 25 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Chicago.

The three — William L. Burdick, Canterbury Golf Club, Beechwood, OH; Frank Nichols, Brooklawn Country Club, Fairfield, CT; and Wilbert Waters, the Inverness Club, Sylvania, OH — were honored for their work in preparing their courses for major golf tournaments in 1979. Burdick's club hosted the U.S. Amateur Championship Aug. 28-Sept. 2; Nichols prepared the Brooklawn course for the U.S. Women's Open July 12-15; and Waters' club hosted the U.S. Open June 14-17.

PESTICIDES

Dipel insecticide labeled for 200 crops

The Environmental Protection Agency has granted the broadest pesticide registration in its history to Dipel insecticide for caterpillar control on more than 200 agricultural and horticultural crops.

Dipel is a biological insecticide containing the naturally occurring bacterium, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, which selectively kills lepidopterous (caterpillar) pests without harming bees or disrupting activities of beneficial insects or wildlife.

"The registration is a step forward in pesticide regulation," says Harry Mercado, product manager at Abbott Laboratories, manufacturer of Dipel. "Previously, pesticide registrations for specialty and minor crop uses were limited due to the expense inherent in seeking registration, and the limited sales potential of these markets. The new Dipel registration covers broad crop groupings rather than individual crops, and thus expands the worm control options for thousands of growers."

Some of the crop groupings covered in the label include nuts, ornamentals, shade trees, cane and bush berries, various kinds of fruit trees, and many vegetables.

TREES

Cities develop ways to manage Dutch elm

Nineteen communities in Wisconsin are participating in a program to control Dutch elm disease, proving what information and better funding can do to manage the problem.

University of Wisconsin-Extension education coordinator for Dutch elm disease Charles Kostichka says the program is changing attitudes about controlling the disease. "We're not offering any false hopes; we will continue to lose elms in our cities he says. "However, by stepping up control efforts, we can slow down the loss."

Proper management reduces elm removal cost and property value loss by 75 percent over a 15-year period. Without management, a city can lose all its elms in 10 to 15 years. Intensive control can keep trees alive for

50 years and longer. This allows time to replace the elms gradually and spreads out replanting costs.

The state control program is a U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service funded project. Most of the project's \$579,000 budget for 1979 went directly to participating cities, which used most of the funds to improve disease detection and to remove trees. "The key to Dutch elm disease control is complete sanitation through removal," says Kostichka.

Demonstration cities are evaluating a systemic control fungicide sold under the trade names Arbortect S and Arbortect 20S. Also under study are various methods of injecting the fungicide into trees and several types of equipment. Kostichka says that dead and diseased elms must be removed for the fungicide program to be of any value.

Continues on page 91



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Cabot's Tree Healing Paint is a carefully prepared bituminous paint for protecting

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MATERIALS

Thermoplastics favored over metals in report

In Europe, engineering thermoplastics can be expected to continue to take market share away from metals, despite oil price increases that would seem to hurt hydrocarbon-based plastics, according to a report by Frost & Sullivan, Inc.

The report says, "Steel, aluminum, zinc, copper, and most other metals are more energy expensive on a cost per unit volume basis than are plastics." The 286-page report, entitled "European Market for Engineering Thermoplastics," says, "The competition between engineering thermoplastics and zinc and aluminum diecastings has been won in almost all applications by plastics."

And it adds, "Pending legislation (to lessen automobile weight and improve safety) will also stimulate the use of more thermoplastics in automobiles."

Acid from fertilizers countered by lime

Almost everything man adds to and does to the soil, except applying lime, tends to make the soil acid. Any action that generates positive ions in the soil—tilling, growth of plants, and fertilizers—creates acidity.

The greatest cause of soil acidity is the use of ammonium-type fertilizers. Such fertilizers include animal manures, plant residues, organic nitrogen fertilizers, anhydrous ammonia, urea, ammonium sulfate, and half of the nitrogen in ammonium nitrate. This comes from both biological and chemical activity.

According to the National Limestone Institute, it requires about 3 pounds of limestone to neutralize the acidity formed by one pound of nitrogen. Because of the time required for lime to react and the difficulty of even spreading, the association suggests applying 5 pounds of limestone for each pound of ammonium nitrogen applied.



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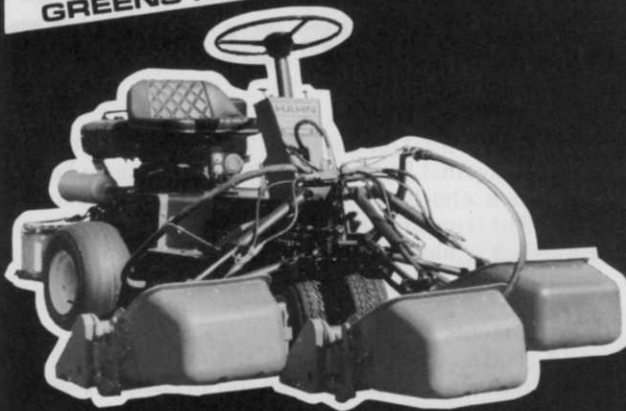
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