The TRUPLAY Diamond Groomer



The Bannerman TRUPLAY has been improving ball diamonds in the United States and Canada for seven or eight years now and it's still growing in popularity as more and more groundskeepers see what an outstanding job it can do in a very short time. It can help you totally renovate your diamond if need be, or mix in a soil conditioner if you like. Then, just 30 or 40 minutes before any game, a few finishing touches and you'll see what the "Home team advantage" really is.

Gordon Bannerman Limited

41 Kelfield St., Rexdale, Ontario, Canada M9W 5A3 (416) 247-7875, Fax (416) 247-6540 Circle 111 on Postage Free Card

The Diamond-Master Groomer



This new diamond groomer is really just a deluxe model of the TRUPLAY. It has all the same tools working for you - the Ripper Blade, Spring-Tooth Rake, Levelling Mechanism, Roller and the Brush. When you're finished no one will know whether it's done by a TRUPLAY or a Diamond-Master. Why do people insist on buying the Diamond-Master? It's better looking. It costs a little more. It's easier to set up and adjust. Maybe they just want the very best. Why not talk to us about it?

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Bannerman line markers are simple, practical, easy to maintain and affordable. The Wet Liner uses low-cost latex paint and marks on grass, asphalt or other solid surfaces. A well-balanced, professional machine rolling on pneumatic tires. Available with interchangeable belts in widths of 2, 3 and 4-inches. The Dri Liner handles virtually any powdered marking material on non-turf areas and is adjustable from 1 to 4-inch lines. Runs on 4 pneumatic tires for maximum stability. Phone, fax or write for more information.

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Bannerman Multi-Ject Aerifier



A new multi-purpose aerifier manufactured by Aerway features replaceable bolt-on tines. The well-known Shattertine and the new Finetine are also interchangeable. In the spring or fall, when you want maximum cultivation to over-come compaction, you bolt-on the Shattertines. During the playing season you switch to the Finetines so you can continue aeration in fine turf areas without restricting play. Yes, even on golf courses.

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Oly-Ola Recreational Edgings Inc.



"Thanks to Fence Guard, the ballplayer walked away with only minor bruises. Ron Tola. President Nottingham Little

Team Fence Guard Invaluable for Safety

Olv-Ola supplied Fence Guard to the Nottingham Little League in Hamilton Square, NJ for its baseball field, with immediate results. No sooner was Fence Guard in place than one of the young ballplayers slipped going for a fly ball, hitting his face flush on the top of what would have been fencing and a steel top rail.

"I don't like to think how badly the young man would have been injured but for Oly-Ola's timely new product," says Ron Tola, president of the Nottingham Little League. "Thanks to fence Guard, he walked away with only minor bruises.

Tola calls it "an invaluable addition" to safety products for Little League ballfields. "You can be assured that when the 60 to 70 leagues that visit our complex every season ask about Fence Guard," says Tola, "they'll be referred to Oly-Ola with the highest recommendations.

Oly-Ola Recreational Edgings Inc.

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Partac Peat Corporation (Beam Clay®)

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The Cygnet System



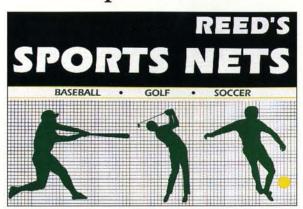
Only the Cygnet 48" actually installs large rolls. Installing with the electronically controlled downslide seals the seams tight. Perfect for athletic fields or golf courses.

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AFM stripes, sprays, and grooms, saving on maintenance time and materials. AFM can stripe several football fields without the need to refill; level and groom athletic fields with a heavy-duty harrow and broom or dragmat; and spray chemicals for weed and insect control. It can also pull a utility trailer or other accessories.

KROMER CO.

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PDS/LunDrain System reduces the cost, time and labor to install a drainage system. This high-tech system is a longer lasting and more effective alternative to conventional, french drain, and trench drain systems. PDS/LunDrain prefabricated drain systems create a "void space" beneath the surface by provid-

ing a cuspated plastic core wrapped with a tough geotextile. The geotextile prevents soils from entering the core while allowing water to enter freely. Water inside the core moves laterally to an outlet, sump, or auxiliary drainage system.

PDS/LunDrain Co., Commercial/Turf Division P.O. Box 411007, Charlotte, NC 28241 (800) 277-5343, Fax (704) 588-7688 Circle **121** on Postage Free Card

Non-Clogging Pump



The Diamond Pump is a durable, nonclogging hand pump which easily removes 18-20 gallons of water minute from dirt infields, sand traps, ditches. Made of tough ABS and PVC, a six-inch aluminum disc prevents mud from being drawn directly into the p u m p Absolutely will not clog.

Kuranda USA

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Speed Wrenches



Stamos Tool has introduced a new full line of cast aluminum speed wrenches designed to fit all nub-style PVC fittings and most adapters. These wrenches outperform chain, strap and pipe wrenches by far and are designed to fit different sizes of coupling caps, bodies, unions, female and male adapters. Only minimal ground clearance is required and they work on all manufacturers fittings. Many of our customers have been extremely satisfied with the STAMOS PVC NUB WRENCH. Here are some of their comments: "Performed

admirably, exceeded my expectations by far." - John Gallager, Orange, CT; "Best irrigation tool improvement and innovation developed in quite some time." - Jim Hengel, NY. For further information call our toll-free number. Distribution Welcome.

Stamos Tool Inc.

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Flowmeter

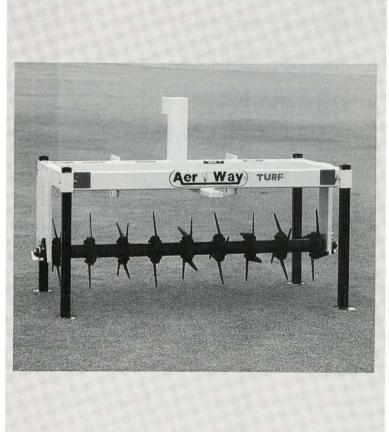


Data Industrial 1400 series flowmeter is a battery-powered insert-style flowmeter that displays rate and total. Display is housed in a rugged aluminum enclosure built to Nema 6P submersion specifications, allowing the unit to operate fully submerged in a flooded meter pit for extended periods of time. The 1400 can be cal-

ibrated in the field for any size or type of pipe.

Data Industrial Corporation 53 Portside Drive, Pocasset, MA 02559 (508) 563-7196

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EXPLORING EQUIPMENT

Maintaining Hydraulic Systems

By Tom Brink

ydraulic systems make mower operation quicker and easier. To keep these systems in good operating order, it's necessary to use good operating procedures, follow recommended service schedules, and keep complete, accurate records of all service and repairs. Proper maintenance eliminates many common problems and makes other problems easier to diagnose.

Safety First

This first step with any equipment is to think safety. Follow all standard safety practices.

An added area of concern with hydraulic systems is high-pressure fluids. Escaping fluid under pressure can penetrate the skin and cause serious injury. Relieve pressure before disconnecting hydraulic or other lines. Tighten all connections before applying pressure. Keep hands and body away from pinhole leaks or leaks at connectors, which eject fluids under high pressure. Use a piece of cardboard or paper to search for leaks. Do not use your hands.

If any fluid is injected into the skin, it must be surgically removed within a few hours by a doctor familiar with this type of injury, or gangrene may result.

Check the System

All crew members who operate the equipment should be familiar with the hydraulic functions. Establish regular preoperational checklists to ensure that the equipment is functioning properly and to catch any problems in the early stages of development.

Cleanliness Vital

The most important rule in hydraulic maintenance is to keep everything absolutely clean. Keep everything except hydraulic fluid out of the system. Even small, soft items can score valves, clog orifices, guy up controls and seize pumps. These contaminants may keep equipment from operating and cause expensive damage.

Use clean hydraulic fluid, poured from clean cans through clean filters.

Wipe dirt from the surrounding area before removing any cover, plug or part. Use safe solvent or steam-clean if necessary. This is as important when checking the fluid level, removing the filter cap or installing new filters, as it is when removing a line or component.

Cover breather caps, vents and dipstick holes before cleaning with steam or solvent so moisture, solvent and dirt can't enter the system. Cover the ends of disconnected lines with plugs and cover openings exposed when parts are removed.

Use extreme caution when cleaning precision parts. Prevent one part from nicking the finely machined surface of another. Use safe chemical solvents to clean metal parts. Don't allow these chemicals to contact seals, gaskets or other nonmetal parts.

Rinse off solvent before assembling. Dry all parts with compressed air. Then coat them with oil to prevent rust.

Fluid and Filter Maintenance

Hydraulic fluid holds contaminants in suspension so they are trapped in filters. Most hydraulic fluids also contain additives that help slow the formation of sludge and acids.

However, the additives in hydraulic fluid will lose their effectiveness after a certain time. It's then necessary to drain and refill the system. Hydraulic fluid filters also need maintenance. Filter elements collect contaminants until they're saturated. When saturated, they must be replaced or cleaned.

Change or Add Fluid Correctly

Clean around the dipstick and the filter cap first. Use lint-free cloths. Pull the dipstick and check the condition of the fluid. Adding oil will not remove contamination. If service records or contamination in fluid on the dipstick indicate that fluid should be changed, drain the system, service the filters and fill to the correct level with clean, new hydraulic fluid. Don't overfill. Overfilling causes foaming in some systems.

Fluid Maintenance

It's especially necessary to drain and change the hydraulic fluid in compact machines if a pump fails and dumps contamination in the system or the system is overheating. The only positive way to assure fluid is free of contaminants is to drain the system and refill with clean fluid.

If components are sticking, draining and flushing will often correct the problem. Flushing may wash out residual contamination that a simple fluid change would leave in the system. Flush a hydraulic system by changing the fluid twice.

First, run the engine and operate the hydraulic components to warm up fluid and get air out of the system. Open the drain plug and drain the fluid. Clean sediment off the drain plug. Clean or replace all the filters. Clean around the filler cap and wipe off the hydraulic fluid container. Fill the reservoir to the proper level with the recommended hydraulic fluid.

Chemical solvents and cleaners are not recommended for flushing systems. Even a trace of these cleaners left in the system can break down the lubrication ability of hydraulic oil.

Operate the machine to circulate the new oil through the system. It's important to operate all of the system valves to pump new oil through the entire system. Bleed cylinders to get air out of the

To flush, repeat the drain and fill procedures. Drain the flush oil, replace or clean the filter(s), and refill the reservoir with the recommended hydraulic oil.

Operate the system again until it is functioning properly or until it is obvious that the system will have to be disassembled and cleaned.

Filter Maintenance

Compact equipment hydraulic filters may be a screen that can be cleaned or replaced - or may be a spin-on filter that must be replaced. Hydraulic oil screens

continued on page 26

Exploring Equipment

continued from page 25

are detached by removing cap screws on a cover plate and sliding out the filter screen. The screen can then be washed in solvent and dried with compressed air.

Leaks

External leaks drain fluid from the system, reduce power, create a fire hazard and cause slippery footing. Internal leaks don't drain fluid from the system, but they reduce power and create heat.

A thin film of oil around moving parts is a form of internal leakage that is needed to lubricate control valves and pistons. However, excessive leakage is a malfunction. Leaking fluid will return to the reservoir and not show up as a drip or spot. However, internal leaks will erode tight-fitting parts and produce heat by friction that will break down hydraulic oil, hoses, seals and packing.

Although internal leaks are difficult to detect, some symptoms are sluggish action, creeping or drifting, and localized hot spots. If these symptoms occur, find out why before they get worse. Components must be removed and disassembled and parts replaced to cor-

rect internal leaks. Follow the manufacturer's disassembly steps precisely.

Signs of external leaks include dirty, oil spots. A small leak may be the first indication that a hydraulic line is about to rupture. When a hydraulic line ruptures, it not only puts the equipment out of order but also can cause physical injury to the operator.

Proper maintenance eliminates many common problems.

Every joint and seal in a system is a potential leak point. Only constant attention and routine inspection can detect leaks before they cause major damage.

If fluid must be added repeatedly, look for leaks around seals, gaskets, bolts and piston bores. The rubber surface covering of flexible hoses may crack and split without leaking. It's the depth of a crack that determines whether the hose leaks. Replace hoses that have deep cracks if they show any sign of oil dampness.

Leaks in suction lines are very difficult to locate. They can quickly damage a system by sucking in air. Clean the suction line carefully when the equipment is stopped. Dry the cleaned hose completely. Then start the machine. Squirt a little oil over the hose. Then watch closely. If the oil is drawn into the hose through a hole, replace the hose. There may be a change in sound as the oil is drawn in.

Leaks in concealed lines are hard to find. One technique is to install a pressure gauge to see if the pressure equals the pressure specified in the technical manual. Install the pressure gauge exactly as recommended. Both mechanical damage and personal injury may result from an improper connection.

If connections in lines are leaking, tighten them only until the leak stops. Use two wrenches to tighten connections so they don't twist. If the connection will not stay tight or the leak persists, disconnect and check carefully for stripped threads or a cracked flare.

Recheck the system after correcting the leak. Fill the system to the correct level with the recommended fluid. Start the equipment and warm up the system fluid. Check all the connections to be sure one connection wasn't loosened while another was tightened.

Air in Oil

Air in the system will result in "spongy" action, chattering in the system, noisy pump operation or stopping of the pump. Air collects in the reservoir if the fluid level is too low. Air can also enter the system through a leak in a suction line.

Use the following methods to keep air out of the system. Be sure the fluid in the reservoir is maintained at the correct level. Repair or replace leaking suction lines. Tighten suction line connections that leak, making sure not to overtighten. Cycle the system after draining and refilling the reservoir. Recheck the fluid level in the reservoir after each cycling. Bleed air from remote cylinders after attaching them to the system.

Attention to detail pays. Monitoring hydraulic systems before and during operation and performing proper maintenance as or more frequently as recommended by the manufacturer minimizes equipment downtime.

Editor's note: Tom Brink is product service coordinator at the John Deere Lawn & Ground Care Division's Horricon Works in Horricon, WI.

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The Millcreek Topdresser helps crews get more spreading tasks done in shorter time with less manpower, and lets them do more kinds of jobs than ever before. One college reduced a four-man crew to one spreading infield dirt on baseball fields. A municipality now grows better athletic field turf by topdressing, something they couldn't previously afford.

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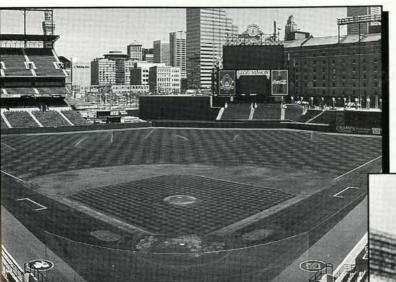


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Sports Turf Managers Association Fifth Annual Conference & Exhibition

November 6-9, 1993 Oriole Park at Camden Yards Baltimore, Maryland

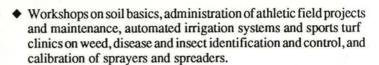
Oriole Park at Camden Yards

Jim Palmer Baltimore Orioles

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Highlights of the conference and exhibition include:

- Tours of Oriole Park and RFK Stadium, hosted by their respective groundskeeper's Paul Zwaska and Tony Burnett.
- Exhibits on the Club and Concourse levels of Camden Yards, featuring more than 100 booths with the latest in sports turf technology.
- Panel discussions on the past, present and future of sports turf, both natural and synthetic.
- An Evening on the Inner-Harbor Buffet Boat Cruise, organized by STMA's Chesapeake Chapter.
- NFL Turf Consultant and Kansas City Chiefs Head Groundskeeper George Toma will motivate and enlighten as our keynote speaker.



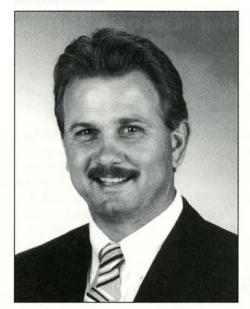
- Sessions on turfgrass selection, seeding and sodding in cool and warm seasons.
- Managing turfgrasses using less pesticides, with perspectives on weed, insect and disease control, along with environmental considerations.
- New technology in the sports turf industry: transportable turfing systems, with presentations by Dr. Henry Indyk, Arthur Milberger and Dr. John "Trey" Rodgers.
- ◆ STMA's Awards Banquet, raffle, silent auction and more!



Don't miss this exciting industry event. Look for our attendee registration on the reverse side of this page. For exhibitor or further registration and conference information, contact Susan Seibert, STMA Headquarters, 312/644-6610. Come grow with us!

STMA's Fifth Annual Conference & Exhibition — Come grow with us!

HUNTER NAMES KEARBY WESTERN SALES MANAGER



Hunter Industries has appointed Mike Kearby, formerly a Hunter regional golf sales manager in Dallas, western regional sales manager. Kearby will direct the sales and marketing of all Hunter irrigation equipment, including residential, commercial and golf products in the West.

NEW JERSEY TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION OPENS D.R.E.A.M. PROJECT

The New Jersey Turfgrass Association, in cooperation with the Rutgers Turfgrass Alumni Association and Friends of Rutgers gardens, has unveiled its D.R.E.A.M. (Demonstration of Research, Experimentation and Management) Project.

An area has been set aside so the public can view the products of turf-grass research "up close and personal." Presently, 18 plots are completed and growing, planted with various turf-grasses and subject to experimental programs. The site is located off of Ryders Lane in New Brunswick, NJ, at Rutgers University, Cook College, Horticulture Farm #2.

The project is supported by donations solicited through the "Adopt-A-Plot" program. For information on the project, contact Joseph Bianco, Project Coordinator, 1910 4th Street, North Brunswick, NJ 08902; phone (908) 297-3333.

ROOKIES

PRODUCT UPDATE

SPRINKLER NOZZLES

Super CU sprinkler nozzles by FCI maximize water distribution of existing impact sprinkler irrigation systems. The stainless-steel orifice plate of the nozzle mechanically draws a predetermined amount of water from the main stream without causing radius reducing turbulence, resulting in an optimum sprinkler profile for a wide range of spacings and operating pressures.

Super CU nozzles are most effective in older sprinkler systems which were installed with varying spacings and fluctuating pressures. Any sprinkler, however, may be enhanced when retrofitted with Super CU nozzles. The nozzles were developed and tested at the Center for Irrigation Technology in Fresno, CA.

FCI

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SPRINKLER

K-Rain's K2 5-inch pop-up gear drive pops up through the tallest turf, yet it's designed to retrofit any other system. Engineered to provide longer throw, the K2's patented Arc Set Indicator (adjustable from 30 degrees to full-circle — wet or dry) makes arc adjustment easy with K-Rain's multifunctional arc set and nozzle removal key.

K-RAIN

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GRASS AND LEAF COLLECTOR

The JRCO Inc. Model 90 Bucket Bagger™ is a 9-bushel capacity grass and leaf collector for the John Deere Commercial Walk-Behind Mower equipped with the Deere Power Flow Blower on the 38-, 48- or 54-inch mower. Only 47 inches high, the Bucket Bagger offers visibility from side to side and over the top. The black polyethylene tub removes for dumping grass and leaf clippings into a truck bed. Two polyester bags inserts allow easier unloading for one person and can be interlined with plastic bags. When not collecting, the blower, flex hose and cover assembly are removed without tools and store in the

tub. The steel tray remains attached to the mower since it doesn't interfere with normal operation.

JRCO INC.

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Terracare's skid-mount topdresser will fit on most utility vehicles. It is fully hydraulic, with a variable speed on the feed auger and spinners, and powered by an 8-hp Briggs & Stratton engine.

TERRACARE PRODS. CO., INC.

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TURF GROWTH COVER

Covermaster Inc.'s Evergreen, a grass growth enhancement cover, creates a "greenhouse"-type of condition on the field. Its weave provides a degree of porosity and translucency that permits water and sunlight to pass through while excessive moisture evaporates. Evergreen traps the right amount of heat to promote accelerated growth of grass and rapid seed germination. The turf will still "breathe" naturally because air is allowed to circulate, even over extended periods.

The lightweight cover is highly resistant to degradation by sunlight and rot and mildew and can be used repeatedly, season after season. All Evergreen covers are custom-made to suit field requirements. Anchoring is done with ground pegs.

COVERMASTER INC.

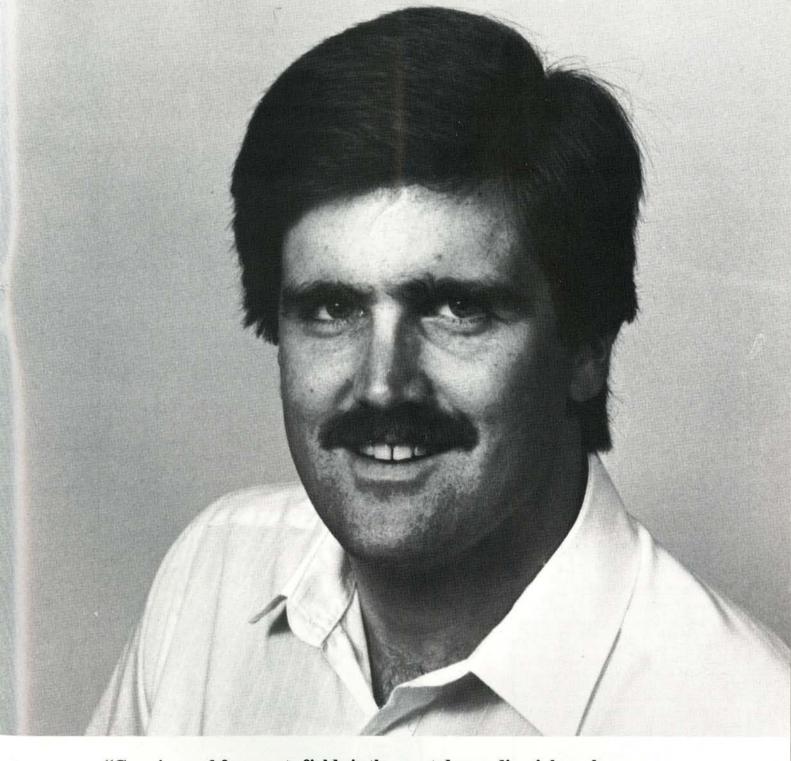
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The Le Meur Backflow Preventer Enclosure protects against vandalism and theft while allowing a full 360-degree view. A 3/8-inch U-bolt locks the enclosure down to the concrete pad. Features include a heavy-duty expanded metal panels, a clam-shell opening for larger sizes and a 180-degree "swing-open" for easy service. The enclosure comes in standard or custom sizes, stainless steel or a solid panel. Le Meur can produce any type of steel enclosure.

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