

## **Machinery Dealer Village Signs Big Brands For IOG Saltext Displays**

Claas, Club Car, Gyrax, JCB and Toro are just some of the market-leading brands that will be on show or demonstrated in the Machinery Dealer Village at IOG SALTEX (Windsor, 5-7 September 2006), Europe's annual flagship event for the open space management industry.

Among the dealers and distributors of turfcare machinery and equipment taking stand space in this special feature area of the show are A F Wiltshire, A T Oliver & Son, D W Tomlin, Lister Wilder, Mark Weatherhead Ltd and Southern Harvesters.

While A F Wiltshire will be showcasing its parts delivery service, the new Gyrax Vario Coupe toppler (cutting capacity from 2.8 to 4.7 metres) will head the Southern Harvesters' stand as part of the company's display of Claas tractors, Gyrax topplers and verge mowers, as well as a flail verge cutter.

Meanwhile, A T Oliver will be showing representatives from the JCB Groundcare portfolio along with the Club Car 232 utility vehicle and Villager 6-person carrier, in addition to a Procore 648 aerator from Toro.

Designed to enable visitors to inspect and compare a wide range of grounds care machinery and equipment in one special, dedicated area on the Windsor showground, the Machinery Dealer Village is sponsored and supported by BAGMA (the British Agricultural & Garden Machinery Association).

The Machinery Dealer Village will embrace a networking and hospitality area where visitors can also gain details of BAGMA services, including training courses. BAGMA has as members 850 dealers, plus 75 suppliers and allied industry companies.

A key aspect of BAGMA's support for IOG SALTEX will be the BAGMA-organised 'Machine Safety for Local Authorities & Green Spaces' seminar on Wednesday 6 September where local authority managers/officers, health & safety advisors, Lantra Awards instructors and NPTC (National Proficiency Tests Council) assessors will be able to learn about fleet management, operator training/assessment and what they should expect from their dealer in terms of operator installation and training.

Four key aspects will be covered:

- Increased knowledge of machinery

- Improved understanding of machine maintenance
- The correct Installation of machinery
- Training and assessment of candidates to industry standards.

Being staged in the Central Pavilion, the programme is:

- 8am - Arrival, registration, tea/coffee
- 8.30 - 9.45 - Introduction by Alan Plom, Head of Safety, Health & Safety Executive: Duty to manage, managing your fleet (Installation, Training, and Maintenance)
- What is happening in Councils? – John Price: Importance of good records and decent systems of installation, training and maintenance
- Requirements of Greenkeepers – Paul Woodham, BIGGA
- Cost implications - local authority insurer
- What to expect from your dealer? – Ian Jones, Director General, BAGMA
- Groups of instructors and assessors will then tour the showground.

In addition, BAGMA has been working closely with Lantra and the NPTC to invite a group of instructors, trainers and assessors to the show, to gain an update on the latest product technology and to improve overall product knowledge.

The Machinery Dealer Village complements a number of major attractions planned for this year's event:

- Expanded educational/seminar programme – including the ever-popular Groundsman Live discussions
- Technical Advice Clinic
- Finals of the UK Landscape Skills competition
- Tree climbing demonstrations/best practice area, including the special 'World of Arb' feature.

Visitors to IOG SALTEX (5-7 September, Windsor Racecourse) can register now for their free entry badge at [www.iogsaltex.co.uk](http://www.iogsaltex.co.uk) or can call the Visitor Hotline on 0870 429 4524 to order free visitor tickets.

Following its 67-year tradition, IOG SALTEX is Europe's flagship event for the open space management industry, and this year will again embrace fine turf and sports surfaces, turf maintenance equipment, children's outdoor play and safety surfacing, landscaping, contractors, commercial vehicles, outdoor leisure and facilities management, as well as software and security equipment. The show is attended by open space management professionals and contractors – from groundsman and greenkeepers through to play officers, architects, designers and surveyors as well as local authority and outdoor leisure facility managers.