



PRESS RELEASE:
Monday 16th October 2017

WINNERS OF AMENITY SPRAYER AWARDS ANNOUNCED AT 2017 AMENITY FORUM CONFERENCE

The three category winners for the 2017 Amenity Sprayer Operator of the Year Awards were announced at the 2017 Amenity Forum conference held at the Pirelli Stadium at Burton on Trent on Thursday 12th October. It is the third year of the prestigious Awards, which aim to reward top sprayer operators across the amenity industry, and to share their best practice to enhance standards for all.

The main sponsors of the prestigious Amenity Sprayer Operator of the Year Awards are ICL and Syngenta. Each winner announced at the event received a framed certificate and a trophy from the sponsors, together with the offer of free training awarded by BASIS Registration.

The category winners and runners up were as follows:

Sportsturf category: an especially highly competitive category with just one point separating winner from runner up

- Winner - Chris Phillips who works for Complete Weed Control
- Runner Up – Andy Baker from Ely Golf Club

Landscape & Amenity Knapsack Operations category: a category that attracted a very good number of entries and some difficult judging decisions

- Winner – Nathan Hume who works for SH Goss Ltd.
- Runner Up – Tony Robinson from Southern Horticulture

Landscape & Amenity Mounted Sprayer operations: another category that attracted a very good number of entries and some difficult judging decisions

- Winner – Lee Harrison from Complete Weed Control
- Runner Up – Robert Alexander from JSD Rail

The three category winners have now been invited by ICL and Syngenta to attend as their guests the BTME Event in January when the overall winner will be announced at their evening awards event. The overall winner will receive the Amenity Forum Shield from Forum chairman Professor John Moverley OBE and will have a choice of prize options provided by the sponsors. These are a trip to the USA to attend either the Green Industry & Equipment Expo or the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America Conference or to receive instead £2000 of ICL and Syngenta products.

Speaking about the awards, John Moverley said: "We are extremely grateful to the sponsors of these awards who are members of the Forum and fully supportive of all our objectives. The

awards highlight the professionalism that exists in our sector and the high standards achieved. I congratulate all who entered and especially the winners.”

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Image attached for use, with caption: L – R: Awards supporter Stephen Jacob, CEO of BASIS Registration Limited, category winner Lee Harrison from Complete Weed Control, Category winner Nathan Hume from SH Goss Ltd, Mark Pyrah from sponsor ICL, category winner Chris Phillips from Complete Weed Control and category runner up Andy Baker from Ely Golf Club

Notes to Editors

The Amenity Forum is the non-profit making voluntary initiative and the independent body bringing together professional organisations with an involvement in the amenity horticulture sector. This is a very diverse industry responsible for the landscape management of urban areas, highways and rail network, sports grounds, parks, industrial and utility sites. To establish and maintain these areas to a high standard, the sector requires access to pesticides, efficient equipment and trained and qualified staff. The organisation was formed in October 2003 as a key action to support the Voluntary Initiative, an industry led project agreed with Government to reduce the environmental impact of pesticides.

The membership comprises of organisations from across this diverse industry, covering manufacturers, suppliers, trade associations, local authorities, major users, landscape, sport and leisure. Equally important are those members who represent training and qualification standards. The key Government agencies have an important observer role. The objectives of the Amenity Forum are:

- *To promote and encourage proper and responsible use of pesticides and integrated methods for the control of pests, weeds and diseases*
- *To lead, coordinate and encourage achievement of “Best Practice” objectives in weed, pest & disease management*
- *To ensure that all practices are sustainable and protect the environment with minimised risks to public health.*
- *To run a communication programme to support these aims and to promote the image of the sector among stakeholders and the public.*
- *To coordinate and encourage the establishment of sustainable qualifications, training and CPD activity, specifically for the Amenity sector*
- *To organise activities within the Amenity Forum membership and linked organisations, such that Amenity Forum objectives are developed in a coordinated way*

For further information on this press release or the work of the Forum, please contact the Secretary, Kate Hopkins, or the Chairman, Professor John Moverley OBE. Similarly if you wish to register for future press releases, please let us know.

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