

## Landscape and play

Sally Drury says there will be plenty of good advice and new products to try out

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Despite a recent spate of scare stories in the media about the problems caused by Japanese knotweed, organisations and homeowners should have nothing to fear providing they chose a competent and professional treatment specialist. With early identification, plus protection of the affected site, knotweed can still be relatively easy and cost effective to manage, according to **Japanese Knotweed Control (JKC)**, as it seeks to redress several alarming press reports.

"We have seen this summer that not all headlines are helpful, and again we will use IOG Saltex to reassure customers that providing they seek out reliable treatment specialists, much of the fear factor that goes with Japanese knotweed can be eliminated," says Joint Managing Director David Layland.

Amongst JKC's recommendations is the need to check companies are Amenity Assured and BACCS registered as the minimum requirement. At IOG Saltex, the company will also promote its support for the Invasive Non-Native Specialists Association.

Elsewhere on the showground, artificial grass company Trulawn will launch its trade partnership scheme offering installation training, a dedicated account manager, next-day delivery, technical support and a range of products. "Our trade business has seen phenomenal growth in the past year, since the launch of our number-one grass for landscapers, Regal, and we want to continue to support the trade," says trade manager Mike Burton. "Our trade partnership scheme gives landscapers, designers and architects a guarantee that we will work alongside them to provide the highest-quality grass at the right price, in the volume they need and when they need it."



IOG Saltex promises plenty of machinery and equipment for landscapers. Avant Tecno will be launching the R-Series of compact loaders, which places the operator on the rear portion of the articulated chassis, making it easier to negotiate tight turns and to reverse with accuracy and safety.

For working soils, BLEC Global is showing its Box Rake. Available for pedestrian, two-wheel tractors and also in tractor-mounting versions, the Box Rake is equipped with a carbide-toothed rotor that pulverises the soil and separates out the debris, while fold-down end plates allow the power box rake to bulk move material. The hydraulic angling rotor then rakes and windrows soil and debris. Rear castor wheels give depth control.

