

Cambridge, UK, 21 January 2025

Carden Park's Peter Pattenden announced as Amenity Sprayer Operator of the Year

Peter Pattenden, spray tech at the Cheshire championship golf resort, **Carden Park**, has won the prestigious title of Amenity Sprayer Operator of the Year.

Peter's ASOOTY award presentation was made as part of the glittering BIGGA industry awards at BTME in Harrogate this week (21 January 2025), along with the competition's other finalists, **Sarah Phillips of Complete Weed Control (South & Central Wales)** and **Mark Sippitt of Top Grass UK**.

The ASOOTY awards highlight best practice and experience in the challenging role of ensuring accurate application on all amenity surfaces.

Sponsored by ICL and Syngenta and managed by the Amenity Forum, the awards seek to share top tips and advice that will raise the standards of spray application across the amenity industry.

The ASOOTY judges particularly praised Peter's commitment to complete a comprehensive checklist of mechanical and practical points before every application, including calibration of the sprayer and assessment of the specific requirements for any products being used.

"Although only a relatively young age, Peter ably demonstrated a deep understanding of the principles of sprayer mechanics and operation, along with the implication of how any changes could impact on application," reports **Syngenta Technical Manager, Sean Loakes**.

"He also showed an excellent awareness of the environmental aspects of good sprayer operation that will mitigate any impact of off-target spray drift or over application. His commitment and attention to achieving accurate application was exemplary and makes him a great role model for other sprayer operators to learn from."

The judges also highlighted how Peter had embraced new technologies in a move towards precision application to ensure more of the products hit the intended target, as well as adopting digital tools including sprayer set up advice, turf management Apps and application record keeping.

Other ASOOTY finalists at the Awards included Sarah Phillips of Complete Weed Control (South & Central Wales), who was commended for her pioneering work in developing a comprehensive and effective training programme for the company's spray technicians, which draws on her extensive experience and knowledge as a highly professional operator.

Mark Sippitt, of Warwickshire-based Top Grass UK, was also praised for the way he had successfully developed integrated turf management strategies for lawn treatments including herbicides, iron treatment, nutrition and mechanical controls - where accurate knapsack application was at the centre of the company's approach. Ongoing training and regular in-house assessment ensures Mark and other Top Grass operatives are always fully up to date with developments and techniques.

ICL Landscape & Industrial Business Development Manager, Lewis Blois, added: "We were once again hugely impressed with all the finalists' dedication to ensuring every application is made as effectively as possible. They all take exceptional care to achieve a good result, as well as immense pride that they have made a real difference with a job well done.

"This year the Awards have recognised the range of spray application techniques and the differing skills involved across the amenity sector. It will provide a unique and vitally important resource for all involved in spray application."

Presenting the award at BTME, **Ian Graham, Chairman of the Amenity Forum**, said: "The skills required to competently apply professional plant protection products are often overlooked. Along with the formal training and accreditation process, there is the experience that takes years to acquire.

"Winners of this award have elevated the application process to an art, be that with a knapsack or a boom sprayer, to help create great playing surfaces all year round, managing amenity areas efficiently and cost effectively, along with maintaining immaculate lawns for customers," he adds.

“The Amenity Forum is delighted to work with ICL and Syngenta as the sponsors of this award and would like to congratulate Peter for upholding the highest of professional standards.”

Look out on the [Amenity Forum website](#) for more details and entry form for the launch of next year's ASOOTY and your chance to win.

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About Syngenta

Syngenta is one of the world's leading agriculture companies, comprised of Syngenta Crop Protection and Syngenta Seeds. Our ambition is to help safely feed the world while taking care of the planet. We aim to improve the sustainability, quality and safety of agriculture with world class science and innovative crop solutions. Our technologies enable millions of farmers around the world to make better use of limited agricultural resources. Syngenta Crop Protection and Syngenta Seeds are part of Syngenta Group. In more than 100 countries we are working to transform how crops are grown. Through partnerships, collaboration and The Good Growth Plan we are committed to accelerating innovation for farmers and nature, striving for regenerative agriculture, helping people stay safe and healthy and partnering for impact.



About ICL Growing Solutions

ICL is a global leader in plant nutrition. Everything we do is focused on one aim: making plants, crops and grass grow better. 50 years ago, we pioneered with the first generation of coated fertilisers. Being the first of its kind, it was an innovation that would change the world of plant nutrition. Today we continue to innovate and leverage pioneering precision nutrition and efficient technologies to ensure sustainable, optimal growth. Continuous innovations help our industry to further minimize our environmental impact and create the lowest possible carbon footprint. Therefore, we offer a range of specialty products that includes sustainable technologies such as controlled and slow release fertilisers. Every day and around the world, our experts in the field work with end-users to optimize plant nutrition and provide advice, know-how and expertise on location. This combination of world-class technology and a down-to-earth personal touch are the seeds of ICL's success. We work hand in hand with customers to develop the best fertilisation practices and to use our products in the most optimum and environmentally friendly way. For more information, visit icl-growingsolutions.com

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