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CUSTOMER STORIES

PRODUCT NEWS

The journal for agricultural professionals

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Contents

CLAAS News

Investing for the future.....	4
World's largest XERION 12 order.....	5
Apprentice highlights.....	6
What makes a model?	7
CLAAS becomes a member of the Innovation Park AI (IPA).....	7
Recognition for CLAAS dealer excellence	8
Agritechnica 2025.....	14
CLAAS take Gold at Agritechnica.....	15

Product News

JAGUAR updates.....	9
New 1000 Series big cat.....	10-12
ISOBUS control for the DISCO 1100	13
DISCO CONTOUR updates	13
Efficiency redefined: the CEREX 700 RC	16
ROLLANT 630 RC goes solo	17
The new AXION 9 CMATIC.....	18-19
New 549hp LEXION 8500.....	24
New top-of-the-range TRION	25
New 8.0m SCORPION 848.....	32-33

Customer Stories

Combines

CLAAS fleet, Joe Foot, Dorset	22-23
LEXION 8900, Giles Porter, Hampshire	26-27
LEXION 8700, Ken & Alan Petch, Yorkshire.....	28-29
TRION, Tom Monk, Hampshire	30-31

Balers

QUADRANT 5300, Tom Lougher, Glamorgan.....	34
--	----

Tractors & Telehandlers

AXOS 3, Robert Ridley, Northumberland.....	20
ARION 660 Night Edition, David Foster, Kent.....	21
SCORPION 742, G Baxter & Sons, Yorkshire.....	35



Front cover:
The new JAGUAR 1000.
Read more on pages 10-12



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Investing for the future

Recent months have seen two major infrastructure projects at Harsewinkel and Bad Saulgau reach completion, while investment in new production facilities at Le Mans has been given the go-ahead.

HARSEWINKEL

With a total investment of around 30 million Euros, the recently completed new prefabrication centre at Harsewinkel represents a significant milestone in the modernisation of the production infrastructure. A core element is the expansion of automation including new welding robots for manufacturing components for harvesters and system tractors. In addition, a comprehensive digitalisation of processes is planned in order to further optimise production and increase efficiency.

A particular focus in the planning of the new prefabrication centre was not least the integration of the latest energy standards: The production hall has modern insulation, heat exchangers and an intelligent lighting control system - a further contribution to sustainability and energy efficiency at the site.



BAD SAULGAU

Meanwhile at the Green Harvest machinery centre at Bad Saulgau, the 50 million Euro 'Forage Go' project is nearing completion. In just under a year since construction started, the new logistics centre, which involved moving 90,000 m³ of soil to prepare for its construction right next to the existing assembly hall, will go into operation in time for the new season. It incorporates a fully automated system for small load carriers and Euro pallets, a picking area, storage areas for large, painted components and an incoming goods area where up to three lorries can be unloaded at the same time.

The new logistics area was built in accordance with building energy efficiency class KfW 40 and the entire roof area is equipped with a photovoltaic system with an output of 990 kWp.

At the same time, the machinery assembly layout has also had to be replanned to accommodate the increased production volume

created by the assembly of the innovative high-performance crop flow and the large-sized front attachments for the new JAGUAR 1000 series forage harvesters, in addition to production of other recently introduced high capacity machines.

Planning ahead, the foundry at the site, which is no longer in operation, is currently being demolished. This will create an additional 10,700 m² of space in the centre of the plant site, which can be built over in the coming years. The construction of a new 1,700 m² configuration centre is already planned for 2026 in order to carry out customer-specific conversions, product audits and reworking.

Alongside this investment by CLAAS, Spedition Grieshaber, who handle all post-production shipping-related activities, have completed a new 70,000 m² handling facility near the CLAAS plant. Here completed machines will be initially stored, then picked and finally dispatched to customers all over the world, both by road and in containers by sea.



LE MANS

At the Le Mans tractor plant, work on the construction of a new multifunctional production facility is due to get under way. The 3,800 m² building, which is scheduled for completion by the end of 2026, will help prepare the site for the expected growth in production over the new 10 years. It will further optimise site logistics and increase vertical integration, so reducing the need for transportation, improve quality and reduce overall costs for the benefit of customers.



World's largest XERION 12 order

Since its launch in 2023, the XERION 12 has received widespread acclaim, not only winning almost every major award, including Tractor of the Year for 2024 and also the AE50 award, but also from customers across the world who have recognised its widespread power and performance benefits.

One large farming company to appreciate these benefits is RHEA Holding in the Czech Republic, who in June took delivery of 17 XERION 12 TERRA TRAC tractors. The order comprised of 6 XERION 12.650 and 11 XERION 12.590, making this the world's largest fleet of the most powerful stepless all-wheel drive tractor on the market. Bought through the Czech importer AGRALL, the tractors were handed over to the Kolář family, who farm more than 25,000ha, in a ceremony attended by Cathrina Claas-Mühlhäuser, Chairwoman of the CLAAS Shareholders Committee, Dr Martin von Hoyningen-Huene and Christian Radons from the CLAAS Group Executive Board.

The 17 XERION 12 TERRA TRAC will be mainly used for tillage, and 18 new tillage implements and seed drills from Väderstad have also been purchased to match the performance of the XERION 12. The soils vary from sand to heavy clay, some with a high stone content. On the heavier soils especially, the tillage windows must be optimally utilised for uncompromising work quality, which requires a high area output and this is what prompted RHEA owner Josef Kolář to invest in these new higher powered tractors. In addition, the freed-up labour can now be used in labour-intensive areas such as slurry spreading and feed production.



MINIMAL SLIP, REDUCED FUEL CONSUMPTION

The first XERION 12 TERRA TRAC were delivered in Spring 2025 and have already completed several hundred operating hours. "In addition to the performance, the operators particularly appreciate the large cab and the driving comfort," summarises RHEA owner Josef Kolář. "Thanks to the low slip of just 0 to a maximum of 1 percent, it has also been possible to increase the output and reduce fuel consumption per hectare at the same time. The crawler track units and the resulting lower soil compaction also reduce wear on the wearing parts of the implements."

RHEA Holding has been using CLAAS technology since it was founded in 2009. Today, the company employs around 500 people in various business areas. In addition to crop production, agricultural services and a wide range of animal production from dairy farming to fishing and fish farming, the company's activities also include forestry and hunting activities as well as a winery and a company for the construction of agricultural buildings. The company's own animal feed plant, which opened two years ago, produces around 90,000 tonnes of animal feed annually for its own needs.

While not quite on the same scale, Kempston Agri, the CLAAS importer for South Africa, has also seen considerable sales success with the XERION 12, including one order for 7 tractors from one farming company to replace large US-made articulated machines.

Apprentice highlights

This Autumn has seen 17 CLAAS Apprentices complete their CLAAS UK Apprenticeship and start their careers as fully qualified CLAAS Service Engineers. The graduation ceremony on the 10th October was notable in that the students from dealerships in England and Ireland were the first to join the in-house apprenticeship programme when it was launched in 2022 and based in the CLAAS Academy at Saxham.



CLAAS UK welcomed 13 of the 17 graduates along with their family members and dealership representatives to Saxham for their Graduation Ceremony. Of those receiving their Certificates, 10 from dealerships in Scotland and Ireland were studying at SRUC Barony and awarded a IMI Level 3 Diploma. The remaining 7 graduates from the in-house CLAAS Academy Apprenticeship Programme were awarded a Level 3 Apprenticeship Standard.

The Graduation ceremony is just the start of their careers. Working with their respective dealerships, the newly qualified engineers will have access to ongoing training and development to further enhance their skills, and the opportunity to move into more specialised or higher level Master Technician roles, or move into management positions within their dealerships or within CLAAS UK.

This year's Graduates are from:

- CLAAS EASTERN
- CLAAS WESTERN
- MANNS
- MORRIS CORFIELD
- HAMBLYS
- RICKERBY
- SELLARS
- GORDONS
- KELLYS
- BREENS
- ALAN DOUGLAS

18 NEW APPRENTICES START THEIR TRAINING

On 29th September, CLAAS UK welcomed this year's new apprentice cohort of 18 students to the CLAAS Academy at Saxham for their Apprentice induction and the start of their first training block on the Ofsted highly rated CLAAS Apprentice Programme. CLAAS is the only UK machinery manufacturer as a registered apprenticeship training provider to deliver a specific in-house apprenticeship under one roof. This year's cohort is made up of students from eight CLAAS dealerships in the UK - CLAAS EASTERN, MANNS, CLAAS WESTERN, MORRIS CORFIELD, RICKERBY, SELLARS, GORDONS, RIVERLEA, and three from Ireland; BREENS, KELLYS and LEINSTER FARM MACHINERY.

Over the next four years, the students will initially study for a Level 2 Apprenticeship Standard in Land-Based Service Engineering and upon completion of that will progress to the Land-Based Service Engineering Technician, Level 3

Thirteen of the 17 Apprentices graduating this year from the CLAAS UK Apprenticeship Programme recently attended the Graduation ceremony held at CLAAS UK's headquarters at Saxham. Those graduating included the first cohort from dealerships in England to study at the CLAAS UK in-house Apprenticeship Programme based at the CLAAS Academy at Saxham.

Apprenticeship Standard. During that time they will receive training at the CLAAS Academy's purpose-built facilities that include specialist fabrication, hydraulic and electrical workshops, delivered by dedicated CLAAS trainers, alongside specialist product trainers from the main CLAAS Academy.

Established in 2022, the CLAAS Apprentice Programme was curated to provide CLAAS Apprentices with the highest level of training, knowledge and skills to better meet the demands and expectations of both CLAAS dealers and their customers. At the same time, the course provides the cohort with access and specialist training on all the latest CLAAS products and enables the students to be fully integrated into the culture of CLAAS, its extensive product range and its ethos.

In its first full inspection by Ofsted last year, the CLAAS Academy and its team of Apprentice trainers and Coordinators were recognised for the commendable progress and development of the CLAAS in-house Apprenticeship Programme.



This autumn has seen 18 apprentices from 11 CLAAS UK dealerships throughout the UK and Ireland commence their training as part of the CLAAS UK Apprentice Programme.

What makes a model?



“The higher the number produced, the lower the viable sales price, depending on the level of detail,” explains Lars Kaumanns from CLAAS Merchandising. “We also need to factor in the margin for both us and the manufacturer and transport costs; but gut instinct also plays a part.”

Walk into any farm office and somewhere there is more than likely to be a collection of farm machinery models. The detail that goes into these is impressive, but what is involved in order to achieve this?



While it may not take the four to six years that it often takes to develop a new tractor, creating its 1:32 scale replica, while less complex, is still a time consuming job. That’s especially true if it’s a replica of an older machine, such as the collectors model of the original XERION PROJECT 207 launched this year by CLAAS and Weise-Toys which took nearly two years.

Before anything else, the first stage in the process is to sit down and assess if there is even a market for the proposed model; what level of detail is required, the price point, can parts from it be used in other variants and how many will need to be manufactured to make it commercially viable, plus which manufacturer is the best fit.

While with a more modern machine the model manufacturers can work with the original CAD development data, for an older machine, such as the XERION PROJECT 207, this is not possible. In this instance it’s therefore necessary to digitally scan the machine, plus hundreds of detail photos are also taken, while more approximate drawings are done of the more intricate details that cannot be accurately reproduced such as the cab details, headlight brackets or wipers. Once the digital version has been created, a plastic prototype is created using a 3D printer to check the detail, with further modified models often needing to be created. At the same time, the final packaging for the model is also created.

Once finally approved, the actual model was produced in China. The manufacturing process required five dies, or moulds, to be made for the over 300 parts involved, which for some models can cost over €100,000. Finally a team of up to 100 were needed to assemble the 2,000 XERION models by hand, taking nearly three weeks prior to shipping by sea back to Rotterdam.

CLAAS becomes a member of the Innovation Park AI (IPAI)



Artificial intelligence offers enormous potential for increasing productivity, efficiency, work quality and work assistance, especially in the complex processes of agriculture. CLAAS is now joining the Innovation Park AI (IPAI) to enable far-reaching technical advances in the development of agricultural machinery through the sustainable and responsible use of AI.

Artificial intelligence (AI) as the strongest driver of innovation will also be part of everyday life in agriculture in just a few years. Highly complex processes with a large number of influencing factors, some of which interact with each other, make the industry a challenging field of application on the one hand - but this is precisely why it holds enormous potential for optimisation.

“CLAAS is already using the benefits of artificial intelligence within the company as well as in products,” explain Torben Töniges (Head of AI/Analytics Products within CLAAS Engineering) and Johannes Storck (Head of AI & Data at CLAAS Global IT), whose two AI teams are responsible for the development of artificial intelligence on the machine as well as within the company and in CLAAS digital products. “For example, the forage quality analysis for the JAGUAR forage harvester in CLAAS connect works with AI, and in addition to quality control in our plants, we are also optimising the analysis of customer feedback and the analysis of error clusters on machines with AI support.”

ACTIVELY SHAPING TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

By joining the Innovation Park AI (IPAI), CLAAS gains access to a valuable network from science and industry. By sharing experiences with a wide range of innovative partners, CLAAS can drive forward its own developments even faster and in a more targeted manner and evaluate new development approaches, while making its own experiences available to other companies and the scientific community. In the fast-moving AI environment, cross-industry and cross-manufacturer collaboration in networks and associations is essential. Agricultural technology can benefit enormously from the experience and technological development of other industrial and economic sectors.



Recognition for CLAAS dealer excellence

The high level of service, support and overall excellence of performance achieved by CLAAS dealerships throughout the UK and Ireland was recognised at the recent CLAAS Dealer Council Meeting held at Saxham.

A total of eight dealerships received recognition, with the overall CLAAS UK 'Dealer of the Year' Award being presented to **LEINSTER FARM MACHINES**, based in Duleek, Co Meath in Ireland. Three family dealerships, **RICKERBY**, **GORDONS** and **OLIVERS**, were awarded CLAAS UK Platinum 'Dealer Excellence' awards, with **MANN'S**, **CLAAS WESTERN**, **ERWIN**, **KELLYS** and **LEINSTER FARM MACHINES** all awarded Gold 'Dealer Excellence' awards.



CLAAS UK 'Dealer of the Year' Award being presented to LEINSTER FARM MACHINES

The award of the overall 'Dealer of the Year' award to LEINSTER FARM MACHINES reflects their overall performance and assessment by CLAAS UK in terms of their overall market share, financial benchmarking, ProfitBuilder financial performance and most importantly the assessments from customer surveys.

The Platinum 'Dealer Excellence' award recognises the high overall level of performance by a CLAAS dealer in the UK and Ireland in four key areas: market share, customer satisfaction, dealer standards and financial benchmarking. The award was a major recognition for both GORDONS, who have been named 'Dealer of the Year' for the past two years, and RICKERBY who were the joint 'Dealer of the Year' last year. In addition, RICKERBY maintained the excellent standards that have seen them being awarded Gold 'Dealer Excellence' awards in the last two years and Platinum in 2022.

With nine branches serving an area from Lancashire and Northumberland up to the Firth of Forth in Scotland, RICKERBY is UK's largest CLAAS dealership. Established in 1865, GORDONS is one of the UK's oldest dealerships and are based at Castle Douglas in Dumfries & Galloway, with five branches covering the South West of Scotland. Likewise, OLIVERS also recently celebrated 200 years of business and recent years have seen the company expand to five branches having taken on the CLAAS locations at Petworth and Winchester.

For all three dealerships, maintaining and achieving this highest level of recognition is a considerable achievement as the Platinum Award assesses not only the dealership's overall performance, but the performance of each of their individual branches.

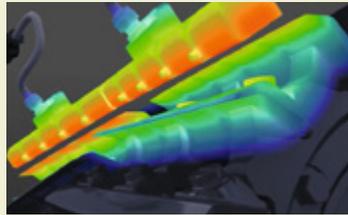
In addition to the Platinum level awards, CLAAS also recognised the high level of service and support that two UK dealerships, MANN'S and CLAAS WESTERN, and three dealerships from Ireland, ERWIN, KELLYS and LEINSTER FARM MACHINES, provide their customers, presenting them with Gold 'Dealer Excellence' Awards. As with the Platinum Awards, the Gold Awards recognise the overall level of service and support across all branches, and is testimony to these businesses, all of which operate multiple branches.

JAGUAR updates

REAL TIME MONITORING OF KNIFE SHARPNESS

In a world first, CLAAS has introduced CEMOS AUTO KNIFE CONDITION - the first production-ready operator assistance system for monitoring the wear condition of the knives on the chopping cylinder, so enabling on-demand grinding for maximum cutting quality at all times with optimised wear and fuel consumption.

The system works with two reluctance sensors that detect the knife geometry across the entire knife width using a static magnetic field. The sensors are located above the crop channel and therefore outside the crop flow. In the field, the operator uses the CEBIS terminal in the cab to set the desired degree of sharpening and the grinding strategy. The system then informs the operator via CEBIS as soon as the knives should be ground. In this way, grinding is no longer carried out at fixed intervals, but when it is actually necessary - i.e. earlier in abrasive harvesting conditions and later in normal harvesting conditions with low wear. Cutting and forage quality as well as efficiency remain permanently high, while the service life of the knives is significantly improved. The system also enables area-specific documentation of knife wear in CLAAS connect. This allows contractors to document wear costs to their customers and improve the upstream process chain in a targeted manner.



CEMOS AUTO KNIFE CONDITION works with a static magnetic field generated by two reluctance sensors mounted outside the crop flow. Knife wear can be geo-referenced and documented via CLAAS connect.



NEW GREEN EYE PACKAGES

For 2026, CLAAS is offering model series-specific GREEN EYE equipment packages offering considerable cost savings for the JAGUAR 900 and JAGUAR 800 model series. GREEN EYE includes full cab equipment in both model series as well as a crop flow equipped with PREMIUM LINE wear parts with optimised service life - with a 5-year and 3,000-hour warranty.

Exclusively for the JAGUAR 900, the GREEN EYE package also includes the innovative V-FLEX chopping cylinder for maximum cutting length variability and a longer service life, as well as the variable, hydrostat front attachment drive. In addition, the two-stage front attachment drive can be ordered as an option to further increase performance in grass applications in conjunction with the PICK UP.

NUTRIMETER ALSO AVAILABLE FOR JAGUAR 900 AND 800

The latest generation of the NIR sensor NUTRIMETER is now also available for the JAGUAR 900 and 800. The precise real-time determination of the dry matter content allows for part-area accurate yield recording and yield mapping, as well as automatic chop length adjustment.

In addition to dry matter content, the NUTRIMETER also records starch, crude protein, crude fibre and sugar. Its mobile NIR ISOBUS sensor allows machine-to-machine use. All data is stored, analysed and documented with JAGUAR machine data in CLAAS connect, enabling live yield mapping on the CEMIS 1200 from 2026.

The new NUTRIMETER is ISOBUS-compatible and can be swapped between machines. The dry matter and ingredients are displayed in the CEMIS 1200.



CLAAS CONNECT PACKAGES

In order to offer digital solutions in CLAAS connect in an even more customer-centred way, they are now bundled into three packages. The basic CLAAS connect package includes a Machine connect licence for the documentation, evaluation and comparison of machine data and the exchange of work orders between the farm and the machine. There are two CLAAS connect Professional packages available. The first includes a steering system and the GPS PILOT CEMIS 1200 terminal for Precision Farming applications. The second more comprehensive CLAAS connect Professional package also includes the NUTRIMETER NIR sensor for the JAGUAR 900.

NEW TYRE PRESSURE CONTROL SYSTEM FOR JAGUAR 900 STEERING AXLE

A new tyre pressure control system for the steering axle is also now available for the JAGUAR 900. This works with a three-line system and thus enables fast inflation times with maximum reliability. As previously, the setting of the tyre pressure from road to field use and vice versa is automatic for the front and steering axle and the desired pressures can be individually set and saved in advance in CEBIS.

New 1000 Series big cat

The arrival of the new JAGUAR 1000 series sees CLAAS adding a new chapter to its more than 50 years of self-propelled forager experience and 25 years of world market leadership. The CLAAS JAGUAR has always been synonymous with high performance, efficiency and reliability, the new JAGUAR 1000 is no exception. It brings with it four models, ranging in power from 850 to a mighty 1,110hp; the widest crop flow channel on the market; CEMOS automation and a new MULTI CROP CRACKER XL along with a new design of accelerator and discharge spout, all combining to give the JAGUAR 1000 a potential throughput of up to 480 tonnes/hour.



NEW DRIVE CONCEPT

Under the bonnet of the JAGUAR 1000 sits a transversely mounted 24-litre, V12 MAN engine, developing up to 1,110hp. The powerband drive to the chopping cylinder, accelerator and corncracker comes directly off the crankshaft. However, for the ground drive, the pre-compression rollers and variable attachment drives, the hydraulic drives are powered by a pump transfer case located behind the engine.

For road transport, the drive to the chopping unit, intake and attachment is decoupled, leaving only the ground drive active. The JAGUAR 1000 comes with 4-wheel drive and intelligent all-wheel management as standard plus, in addition to front differential locks there is also, exclusively for forager harvesters, the option of rear 'diff' locks, as is variable tyre inflation for both axles.

The JAGUAR 1000 comes with 800/70 R42 tyres on the front, giving an overall width of 3.30m, with the largest possible being 900/60 R42 with an outer diameter of 2.15m. On the rear, tyres up to 710/60 R32 can be fitted.

NEW PICK-UP

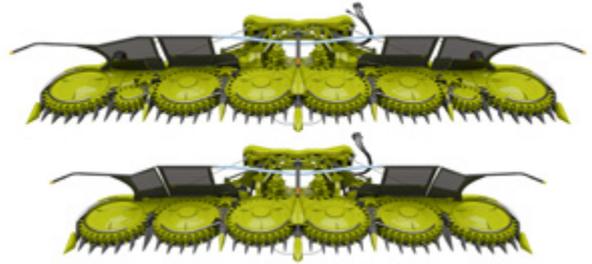
Three widths of 5-row PICK-UP are available – the 3000 (3.0m), the 3800 (3.8m) and the new 4500 (4.5m). These are mechanically driven via PTOs and gearboxes, with constant hydraulic pre-compression on the intake auger for an even crop flow and feature easily removable robust plastic strippers.

When using CEMOS AUTO HEADER, the auger and pick-up speeds are automatically adjusted relative to the chop length and forward speed. In addition, the ACTIVE CONTOUR control in combination with the swingarm-mounted pick-up ensures accurate ground contour following and loss-free harvesting, even at high speeds.



WIDER ORBIS

Two new ORBIS maize headers are available for the JAGUAR 1000 with working widths of 9.00m (12 rows) and 10.50m (14 rows). These feature independent variable drive to the knife and transport discs, as well as the feed rollers. As with the PICK-UP, three AUTO CONTOUR sensors ensure that the pre-set working height is accurately maintained, and this is enhanced on the widest ORBIS 10500 by actively controlled stabiliser wheels. CEMOS AUTO HEADER also ensures that the speed of the crop flow elements are adjusted to the length of cut and forward speed.



New 1000 Series big cat continued

POWERFUL PROCESSING

At 910mm wide, operators of the new JAGUAR 1000 benefit from the widest crop flow channel on the market. Allied to this is a new fully hydraulic pre-compression system comprising of four rollers that ensure a uniform crop flow into the V-FLEX chopping cylinder, regardless of swath thickness, for maximum throughput and optimum efficiency. For maintenance, the rollers can be raised hydraulically and the whole unit swings out by up to 180 degrees.

The blades on the new 910mm wide version of the V-FLEX chopping cylinder are angled at 10 degrees. This not only ensures excellent and consistent chop quality, but also

helps reduce noise, while the greater width offers more space and inertia for maximum throughputs. The V-FLEX can be fitted with either full or half knife sets, as well as half knives. All of which are fastened from above and automatically aligned.

To handle the JAGUAR 1000 potential high throughput in maize, two new versions of the MULTI CROP CRACKER XL are available, both with 310mm diameter rollers.

The MCC CLASSIC has a sawtooth profile with various teeth and a 40% speed difference between the rollers, while there is a 50% difference in speed between the MCC SHREDLAGE rollers.



GREATER THROW

In line with the increase in throughput, the accelerator on the JAGUAR 1000 has also been adapted. The gap between the accelerator and the back panel can be hydraulically adjusted by up to 60mm for increased throw.

The discharge chute can also be optimised for all ORBIS and PICK-UP widths by simply swapping the end-piece of the chute. This can also be folded hydraulically for safe road transport.

CEMOS ASSISTANCE

To enable operators to get the most out of their machine, the JAGUAR 1000 is fitted with CEMOS AUTO CROP FLOW and CEMOS AUTO PERFORMANCE. By automatically adjusting the forward speed and engine power to the engine load, for example in light crops, CEMOS AUTO PERFORMANCE ensures that the JAGUAR is always operating in the optimum power range to help reduce fuel consumption. CEMOS AUTO CROP FLOW constantly monitors the engine speed and will stop the crop flow should the speed drop below a set minimum level. To further reduce operator stress, the JAGUAR 1000 is also fitted with AUTO FILL for automatic control of the chute and end-flap when filling trailers.



CROP ANALYSIS

The JAGUAR 1000 also features a new version of the CLAAS NUTRIMETER NIR sensor. By providing real-time data on dry matter content, this allows for precise yield mapping but also automatic chop length adjustment. Also, in addition to dry matter, the NUTRIMETER also records ingredients such as starch, crude protein and sugar content, all of which can be uploaded and stored in CLAAS connect.

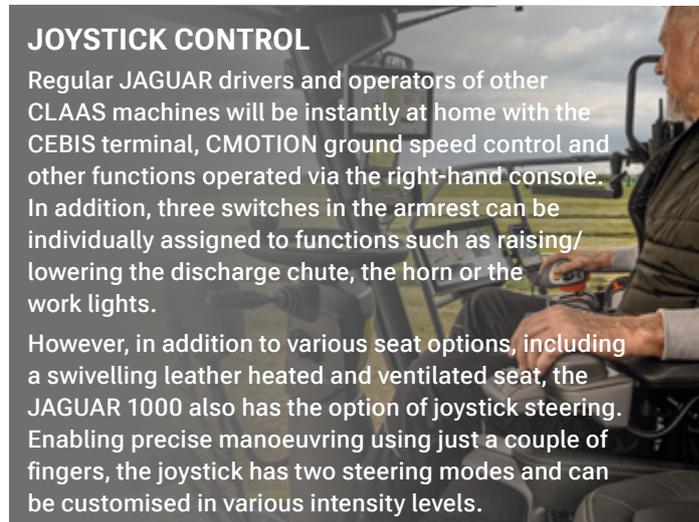
The NIR unit is also now mobile and ISOBUS compatible, so can be used on different machines.



JOYSTICK CONTROL

Regular JAGUAR drivers and operators of other CLAAS machines will be instantly at home with the CEBIS terminal, CMOTION ground speed control and other functions operated via the right-hand console. In addition, three switches in the armrest can be individually assigned to functions such as raising/lowering the discharge chute, the horn or the work lights.

However, in addition to various seat options, including a swivelling leather heated and ventilated seat, the JAGUAR 1000 also has the option of joystick steering. Enabling precise manoeuvring using just a couple of fingers, the joystick has two steering modes and can be customised in various intensity levels.



ISOBUS control for the DISCO 1100

Following the introduction of the DISCO 1100 COMFORT last year, this has now been joined by a new ISOBUS controlled BUSINESS version.

As with the COMFORT, the working width of the DISCO 1100 BUSINESS is infinitely adjustable from 9.60m up to 10.70m, and both arms can be adjusted independently of each other or synchronised to ensure optimum overlap in tight corners or when working on hillsides.

Unlike the COMFORT which can be operated without a separate terminal, the DISCO 1100 BUSINESS is load-sensing and controlled via ISOBUS, enabling convenient and semi-automated interaction with modern tractors and optimum utilisation of all machine functions. Setting and operation, for example of the programmable headland management, is largely carried out via the ISOBUS terminal - regardless of whether the mower's being controlled using CEBIS, CEMIS 700 or CEMIS 1200. In addition, freely assignable F keys allow individual customisation of the controls - for example for the telescopic arms, individual lifting of the arms or regulation of the ACTIVE FLOAT ground pressure during travel.

As with all DISCO mowers, the 1100 BUSINESS is fitted with the bolted MAX CUT mower bar, which features a wave-shape



leading edge for optimum overlap, the SAFETY LINK safety module and the ability to be operated at a PTO speed of just 850rpm. An optional slope control system with incline sensor conveniently adjusts and mirrors the ACTIVE FLOAT support pressure control and arm positions to counteract slope drift and striping at the touch of a button.



DISCO CONTOUR updates

Having concentrated on its large mower range last year, CLAAS has now turned its attention to the smaller CONTOUR range, with features such as a counterweight, the double roller drive on the RC models and a steel roller conditioner being introduced to the series, which ranges from 2.60 to 4.20 metres working width.

POWERFUL CONDITIONERS

A new option on all DISCO CONTOUR mowers and the larger DISCO 1100 BUSINESS is the choice of two conditioner systems to accelerate drying. For grass, CLAAS offers the proven spiral-arranged Y-steel tine conditioner, with flexibly adjustable intensity and elastic mounting that lets tines deflect around stones to prevent damage. For leafier crops like lucerne, there is a polyurethane roller conditioner with V-shaped interlocking rollers; roller spacing is easily adjusted with the supplied ratchet spanner. A standard double-drive scissor gearbox ensures smooth, even crop flow even at high volumes.

All conditioner versions feature robust steel swathing plates and a Hardox bonnet for maximum strength and durability in extreme use. Every DISCO mower comes with variably adjustable swathing plates for precise swath formation, and DISCO RC models with rollers can optionally be fitted with telescopic additional swath plates.

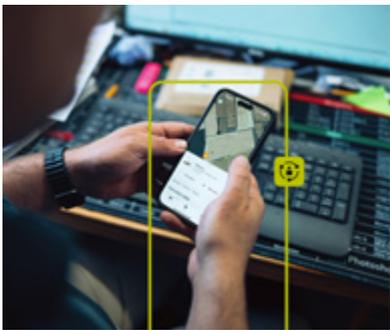
The most immediate new feature of the 12 new DISCO CONTOUR mowers, all of which have centre of gravity suspension, is the new design with grey protective covers. All feature the MAX CUT mower bar and ACTIVE FLOAT as standard. In addition, all are available with a counterweight to provide a more even load on the tractor's rear wheels, especially with larger working widths and lighter tractors. Particularly on slopes, headlands can be turned much faster and more safely. Depending on the equipment and working width, the right number of individual weights always ensures optimum balance.

Agritechnica 2025

CLAAS again had a major presence at this year's Agritechnica in Hanover, where on the 5,180 m² stand under the motto of 'Hard work. Smartly done' CLAAS showcased more than 50 new innovations. Some have already been announced, such as the JAGUAR 1000 series, CEREX 700 baler, SCORPION 848 and new additions to the CLAAS combine ranges. Others, however, such as the new AXION 9 range were unveiled at the show.

Alongside the latest mechanical additions to the CLAAS product range, the digital systems available were also a highlight, in addition to the 'Innovation Lab' display featuring the latest developments in autonomous machines and the future role of AI. It's a year since CLAAS connect was launched, during which time it has now been rolled out into 50 countries around the world. As part of the ongoing development and expansion of the cloud-based ecosystem, in addition to the expansion of the 'vehicle fleet' with newly introduced products, such as CEREX 700 and the JAGUAR 1000, the range of functionalities has also been expanded. CLAAS connect is thus continuing to develop as a future-oriented platform with mobile data access and a central link between machine and operation, and is continuously opening up new possibilities for process and operational optimisation as well as documentation.

NEW FIELD MAP FOR COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENTATION OF FIELD DATA



CLAAS connect can record all activities carried out by machines on the farm and combines them into a field map. Connected machines automatically send the activity data per field and in conjunction with the CEMIS 1200, CLAAS connect now also

offers automatic documentation for implements. Enriched with important information during subsequent processing, this results in a complete field map that replaces the written documentation of work. CLAAS connect also makes it much easier to fulfil the legally required documentation obligations.

LIVE YIELD MAPPING WITH CEMIS 1200 AND NUTRIMETER

New technologies embedded into machines and new data analysis options in CLAAS connect, particularly in the area of yield analysis mean that in future, yields can be displayed live from the CEMIS 1200 terminal. With the new ISOBUS-capable NUTRIMETER on the JAGUAR 1000, JAGUAR 900 and JAGUAR 800, customers will receive high-quality forage analysis information as a map display and in the field-specific documentation. With just one click, this data can be made available to customers and farmers as a pdf immediately after the field work has been completed.



GPS PILOT CEMIS 1200: AUTOMATIC SELECTOR SWITCH OF REFERENCE TRACKS

Auto RefLine is a new function in the GPS PILOT CEMIS 1200 that makes field work easier. It automatically recognises the appropriate or logical reference track based on the position and direction of travel of the vehicle and automatically switches between different



reference tracks. This means, for example, that the operator does not have to switch manually when changing to headland reference tracks or when working out wedges with a different reference track - making work much easier. All machines in a CLAAS connect vehicle fleet can share the reference lines directly from one of the machines with just a few clicks.

CROSS-MANUFACTURER DATA EXCHANGE

Trackers from exatrak, Lacos or Razor are still available for the documentation of mixed fleets. In future, fleet optimisation will also be possible via iBeacon from Apple. In addition, interfaces (APIs) to other software providers can be easily managed in the Connection Manager. Many regional and international Farm Management systems are already using the connections to CLAAS connect, and new ones are being added all the time. The continuous development of the software interfaces will make CLAAS connect even more open to third-party solutions in the future.

CLAAS take Gold at Agritechnica

The strength of innovation within CLAAS has been recognised by the DLG, who organise Agritechnica and, ahead of this year's show, awarded CLAAS a Gold Agritechnica Innovation Award and four Silver Medals for new products in the fields of balers, maize harvesters and tractors, along with a collaboration in mechanical weeding.

GOLD FOR THE NEXT-GENERATION OF SQUARE BALER

CLAAS received the Gold Agritechnica Innovation Award, one of only two awarded, for the next performance class of square balers, featuring a completely new, revolutionary overall concept. Producing a bale size of 120x90 cm and capable of achieving throughputs of up to 70 t/h when baling straw, this new concept maintains constant bale densities of 210 kg/m³, reaching even up to 235 kg/m³ at peak performance.

Among other features, these functions are enabled by the main gearbox integrated into the frame with a straight-line power flow. The innovative drive operates with two longitudinal flywheels, each running at 1,650 rpm, which store considerable energy to ensure uniform compaction. Power transfer is handled solely through efficient, low-loss, and wear-resistant enclosed gearboxes, in addition to two power belts. Sensors in the rotor or rake gear continuously monitor gear loads and automatically adjust assistance systems, such as AI-assisted density control and bale length regulation.

Additional innovations feature a new mechanically driven single-row packer for the pre-chamber and a newly designed double-loop knotter. The latter generates two loop knots per binding operation, merging the benefits of McCormick and Deering knotters while avoiding their individual drawbacks. It ensures strong knots with minimal yarn tension, without leaving yarn remnants in the field.



TWO SILVER MEDALS FOR JAGUAR INNOVATIONS

The global market for forage harvesters demands machines with ever higher throughput, greater comfort, and improved efficiency. The DLG Innovation Commission awarded a Silver Agritechnica Innovation Award to the JAGUAR 1000 due to its overall concept resulting in at least a 20 percent increase in throughput compared to the JAGUAR 990, achieving up to 480 t/h of fresh mass with engine outputs of up to 1,110 hp.

Another Silver Agritechnica Innovation Award goes to CEMOS AUTO CHOPPING, a further development of the CLAAS AI-supported and cloud-based system for analysing the CSPS value (Corn Silage Processing Score) of maize.

The core of the innovation is a camera with a CMOS image sensor installed in the discharge chute, which uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to analyse the forage structure and determine kernel processing. If the measured value deviates from the target, the system automatically adjusts the cracker gap, driving speed, and engine output. The collected data can also be transferred to the cloud-based farm management system CLAAS connect, documented there, and used for quality assurance or billing purposes.

SILVER FOR PREDICTIVE, FULLY ADAPTIVE CVT DRIVELINE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

A Silver Agritechnica Innovation Award has also been awarded for the development of a fully adaptive driveline management system that continuously and proactively optimises engine

speed and transmission ratio based on a self-learning algorithm and efficiency maps for the engine, continuously variable transmission, hydraulics, and auxiliary systems.

The central innovation, "Auto Load Anticipation," detects load changes – for example, when lowering an implement into the soil in advance and proactively increases engine speed before the load change occurs. This ensures stable driving behaviour during dynamic transitions and prevents engine speed drops. Additional functions adjust engine speed and transmission ratio depending on load, travel speed and hydraulic demand, delivering the required power under all operating conditions with minimal fuel consumption.

SILVER FOR SMART-HILL SLOPE COMPENSATION WITH CULTI CAM

The fourth Silver medal awarded by the DLG Innovation Commission is for a cooperative project between Einböck and CLAAS for fully automatic slope compensation in hoeing equipment. The SMART-HILL system uses a high-resolution CLAAS CULTI CAM stereo camera to analyse colour information and 3D surface models to precisely detect slope inclination. The integrated job computer processes this data in real time and controls the additional rotating axis of the shift frame via a proportional valve. This ensures that the hoe always remains at a 90° angle to the row, even in slope situations or during sharp steering manoeuvres, ensuring unprecedented accuracy in mechanical hoeing.



Efficiency redefined: the CEREX 700 RC

The new CEREX 700 RC delivers up to 60 high-density bales per hour, sitting above the VARIANT 500 with maximum throughput and versatility in silage, straw and hay. Its heavy-duty frame, reinforced bearings and split HD drive handle up to 216 hp at 1000 rpm for exceptional torque, chain life and reliability, backed by central or optional PLUS lubrication.

HIGH DENSITY AND THROUGHPUT

A spiral rotor feeds crop from the HD MULTIFLOW pick-up to the PRO chopping unit with 25 selectable blades. The hydraulic cutting frame opens 30 mm to clear blockages, maintaining consistent compaction. The new chamber uses just two endless HD belts with continuous cleaning and hydraulic clamping to achieve class-leading bale densities over 135 kg/m³. Density and pressure are precisely controlled via ISOBUS, with belt sensors ensuring perfect bale shape at all speeds.

Bale diameters range from 0.90–1.60 m (760) or 0.90–1.83 m (780), with soft-core mode standard for hay and silage.

TIME-SAVING

A fast duckbill net system with hydraulic net brake saves up to 15% material and enables quick roll changes. Large 620/50-

22.5 tyres, CEMIS 700 or compatible ISOBUS terminals, work lights, integrated bale camera, moisture sensor and tailgate monitoring deliver efficient, uninterrupted operation – even at night.

BALERS IN THE CLOUD

In common with many other machines, all CLAAS round balers are networked via CLAAS connect using the cloud in the app or on the web. New machines are stored directly in the customer's CLAAS connect as part of the machine handover. This gives them continuous mobile access to digital operating instructions, the lubricant guide and the CLAAS Parts Shop for ordering original CLAAS lubricants, wear and spare parts, and no more searching for misplaced operating manuals or lubricant and spare parts information.

CLAAS connect also offers comprehensive machine and farm management functions. The integrated bale calculator makes it possible to calculate the required amount of net or twine so that you always have the right amount in stock. It is also possible to calculate the net or twine costs, which makes billing easier for contractors or inter-company use.

ROLLANT 630 RC goes solo

Following last year's launch of the ROLLANT 630 UNIWRAP, the new ROLLANT 630 RC now arrives as a solo baler. With a 1.25m chamber and 25-knife cutting rotor, it sits above the ROLLANT 520, offering more power, greater comfort, lower running costs and improved servicing in high-stress drive areas.

Like the UNIWRAP, it uses the latest MULTIFLOW HD pick-up feeding into the heavy-duty ROTO CUT rotor with 8 mm double-hardened boron tines. Four tine rows feed crop through the 25-blade cutting rotor (45mm cut). Knife groups (25/13/12/0) are selected electro-hydraulically and each knife is individually protected and hydraulically retractable via ISOBUS. The PRO cutting frame opens 30mm to handle crop lumps or lowers hydraulically to clear blockages.

A new knife cleaning system is standard: springs are released and knives swivel 180° downwards so debris falls away, making cleaning and knife changes much faster and cleaner.

POWERFUL DRIVES AND ROBUST CHASSIS

The 630 RC uses reinforced chain drives with longer, stronger links and 14% larger gears for reduced stress. Double-sided chain guides prevent slip or tilt, while the enlarged 7.2 litre oil tank provides lubrication for up to 14 working hours. Heavily stressed chassis areas use QUADRANT components with 20% stronger steel profiles for maximum durability, even in wet, high-weight crops.

NO COMPROMISES

The 1.25 x 1.20m chamber has 16 profiled rollers with 55mm shafts on high-load rotors, built for continuous high bale density. The tailgate uses a hardened steel suspension for long life. The MAXIMUM PRESSURE SYSTEM II (MPS II) with swivelling 3-roller segment and adjustable springs ensures rock-hard bales from core to outer layer. An automatic tailgate opens after tying, and can be deactivated on slopes. Large tyres up to 560/45 R 22.5 (1.10m diameter) are included in the specification.



MULTIFLOW HD FOR INCREASED PERFORMANCE.

For 2026, the new ROLLANT 630 RC and CEREX 700 RC, plus all VARIANT models, will be equipped as standard with the latest generation of CLAAS pick-up, the CLAAS MULTIFLOW HD. This has a working width of 2.10m and five controlled tine bars that run at 146rpm for even lower-loss crop feeding and a noticeably more constant material flow into the baler, but also allow for increased forward speeds of up to 20%.

It features reinforced shafts, bearings and couplings, plus a new design of cam track that requires 20 per cent less drive while also significantly reducing maintenance costs. Removable strippers made of robust, durable plastic guarantee quick and easy access for maintenance work, and the HD also features a particularly strong pick up reel shaft with a diameter of 70mm.



MULTIFLOW HD pick-up features easily removable plastic strippers, up to 25 knives for a theoretical length of cut of 45mm and the PRO cutting frame ensure uncompromising performance in a wide range of crops.

The new AXION 9 CMATIC

Agritechnica saw the launch of a complete new generation of CLAAS tractors - the AXION 9. Ranging in horsepower from 320-445hp, here are some of the extensive new features that set this tractor apart and establish complete new standards for high horsepower tractors.

DRIVELINE

- New torque sensor for better power management
- CMATIC behaviour improvements
- Automatic stretch brake
- 12 blade reversing fan
- CTIC ready

REAR

- New tail light design
- Hydraulic top link assistant

NEW HYDRAULICS SYSTEM

- Twin pump offer
- 220 L/min or 370 L/min hydraulic flow
- 2 valves with 170 l/min for 2-pump configuration
- 2 hydraulic valve priority



TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP

- Increased service intervals to 750 hours
- Improved reliability

NEW CABIN K09 – NEW COMFORT

- New design
- Improved cabin access
- High quality materials
- More spacious feeling
- More storage space in cab
- Low noise level 66db
- New 360° working light concept

NEW DESIGN

- New CLAAS tractor design
- New numbering logic

NEW ELECTRONIC FEATURES

- New dashboard terminal
- New CEBIS connect
- GPS steering, A/C, multimedia, working lights integrated into CEBIS connect
- CEMOS automatic
- 3 integrated cameras and 2 plugs

FRONT

- Improved front axle components
- Front axle auto-lubrication system

Find out more.
AXION9.claas.com





The perfect hill farm tractor

One of the first AXOS 3 tractors to be sold following its launch in February was bought by Robert Ridley, who as soon as he was shown it in RICKERBY's yard, agreed to buy one there and then.

Farming high in the North Pennines at Allenhead, which is 1300ft above sea level and even boasts its own small ski centre, Robert says that for a typical hill farm the new AXOS 3 ticks all the boxes.

Farming 100ha and with additional grazing rights over 200ha of common land, recent years have seen Robert scale down his farming to where in addition to a few bought-in heifers, he now runs an enclosed flock of 250 sheep, crossing Swaledale ewes with Texel. Any male lambs are sold off with the females in turn crossed with a Suffolk with the lambs then sold at market, although he does have buyers who specifically look out for his lambs.

"The AXOS 3 has all that I want in a tractor. I don't need anything sophisticated, but I do need something that is on top of the job," says Robert. "The visibility is excellent and all the controls are where you want them to be. It's stable, has a very good gearbox (24/12 TWINSHIFT) and the engine has plenty of power and torque for working on hill sides."

Fitted with a loader, the AXOS 3.105 is one of two main tractors on the farm, plus he has a third older tractor that comes out at peak periods. The AXOS 3 replaced an older '15 plate AXOS which, he says, was starting to show its age so was looking to replace it with something 'like-for-like'.

Robert has dealt with RICKERBY at Hexham for years and the AXOS is the fifth CLAAS tractor he has had from them. Initially when Robert approached Liam Johnson about replacing the AXOS, he arranged for Robert to try an ATOS, but after having it on demo Robert felt that it was not the tractor for him.

"The AXOS 3 has all that I want in a tractor. I don't need anything sophisticated, but I do need something that is on top of the job."

"When I went back to Liam and told him, he said that he had been sworn to secrecy previously, but could now show me a new tractor that had just been announced and took me round the yard to show me the AXOS.

"I was very surprised by how completely different it was to the ATOS I had tried. It was a totally different machine and without even trying it I said I would have one. I was very happy with the cost to change when we eventually negotiated that, plus there is the benefit of 0% finance and good warranty, and as I farm by myself I also get tax concessions."

While the AXOS is used for the feeding round, handling bales and all the other wide range of everyday jobs, one of the hardest jobs in its annual workload is mowing for round bale silage using a 3.0m mower conditioner, plus its responsible for tedding and rowing up.

"I work together with my brother for silage and hay making. The mower's tough on the tractor, but the AXOS handled it very well. We take just one heavy cut, so the mower takes some driving, plus the ground in places is quite steep. But it was more than capable and in tougher conditions the engine has the torque to just dig in, plus it has the stability and weight to safely work on slopes.

"I don't need anything else in a tractor and I like the fact that compared to some other brands it is simple and straightforward. A fence post works perfectly well for steering and avoiding stones is more important than a straight line!"



Smooth operator

CLAAS tractors have been a feature on J&D Foster's farm outside Tonbridge in Kent for around 20 years. In this time David Foster reckons they have had nearly 20; the latest being an ARION 660 NIGHT EDITION delivered in May, that is fitted with an FL140.

Farming around 400ha, around 120ha of this is down to rotational leys cut for hay for the equestrian market, all delivered within a 20 mile radius. This was one of the main reasons why David opted for the new NIGHT EDITION specification.

"One of the main jobs for the ARION is delivering hay, so for the driver to be able to display satnav through the Apple CarPlay screen, rather than having to look at his phone is a great advantage," he explains. "Also the enhanced lighting package on the tractor is far better when handling or wrapping bales into the evening. It ticked all the boxes."

In addition to the new ARION 660, the Foster's run four other CLAAS tractors – a gun metal grey ARION 650, another '72 plate ARION 660, plus an AXION 870 and 920, all of which, bar the 650, have CMATIC CVT transmissions. In addition they also run a LEXION 740 plus all their green harvest machinery is also sourced through MANN'S Kent.

FANTASTIC TO DRIVE

"The CMATIC transmission in the new 660 is so smooth and that combined with the loader, front axle, cab and seat suspension make it a fantastic tractor to drive," states David.

"The smoothness, along with operator comfort, has to be the biggest change that we have seen over all the tractors we have had. Overall reliability, bar an 820 about 15 years ago, has also been excellent, but the dealership has always been extremely good and looked after us well.

"Over the years, the dealership name may have changed, but the core people are all still there and that's what's important. Whether its Gary (Jackson) on sales, to James (Whitbread) their demo specialist or the workshop team, it's the whole package and they are all there to help and will do all they can to keep you going and back you up. Farmers have long memories, and if someone goes out of their way to help get you out of a hole that's not something you forget!"

As the main 'run-around' general purpose tractors clocking up the most hours during the year, David aims to change the ARIONs once they are at the end of warranty and before they need new tyres. Main jobs for these tractors range from spraying and rowing up for the smaller 650, to hedgecutting, bale carting and general haulage for the larger 660s.

For the two AXION, there is no set replacement policy, with the oldest, the AXION 920, now about 10 years old. Of these, the AXION 870 is mainly responsible for baling, while the larger 920 becomes a virtual self-propelled mower during the spring and summer fitted with a set of DISCO triple mowers, before becoming the main cultivations tractor in the Autumn.

"All the tractors are on the MAXICARE service contract, mainly for the peace of mind should we have a problem, but this is also probably reflected in the trade in value. ISOBUS also makes operating the tractors easier and avoids having extra control boxes in the cab, and now with CLAAS connect its early days but it's certainly useful for planning being able to see where tractors are and how they are getting on," concludes David.



Investing for consistency

Joe Foot (second left) and operators Leigh West and Chris Hallett at the handover of the new LEXION 8900 and JAGUAR 990.

In March this year, Joe Foot and his operators Leigh West and Chris Hallett travelled to Harsewinkel for a 'Golden Key' handover ceremony and to see for themselves the investment that has been made by CLAAS in terms of manufacturing facilities.



The ceremony was the culmination of a deal that has seen David Foot Ltd invest in a new LEXION 8900 combine, a JAGUAR 990 forage harvester and two ARION 660 CMATIC tractors from CLAAS Western for the farming business based near Weymouth. In addition to the CLAAS headquarters at Harsewinkel, they also had the opportunity to visit the Worldwide Parts centre at Hamm and CLAAS Industrietechnik at Paderborne where, amongst other components, the TERRA TRAC units are manufactured.

Central to the business, which is managed by Joe and his brother Sam, who are the fifth generation of the Foot family to run the farm, is a large dairy herd, milked three times a day through a robotic rotary GEA parlour. In addition to their own arable and grassland, the Foots also contract farm and do some contracting, mainly for neighbours.

MAXIMISING FORAGE QUALITY

"Everything we do is geared around supporting the dairy herd and maximising milk yield, quality and herd health from home grown forage," explains Joe. "Our business is all about timing, quality and consistency of forage, and in order to achieve stable crop quality in the clamp it's important that we maintain absolute consistency when harvesting. However, the weather windows are getting narrower and being close to the coast also doesn't help."

Replacing a 6-year old JAGUAR 970, the new JAGUAR 990 has been specified with a 36-blade V-FLEX chopping cylinder and is also fitted with an NIR sensor. Grass is harvested on a 35-day cycle and the Foots use mergers in order to achieve a consistent swath and reduce soil and, in particular, stones in the swath. In addition they also grow 850ha of maize.

"The JAGUAR 970 was absolutely brilliant, but by going for the 990 that gives us the power to process the maize better. By having the 36-blade cylinder, the aim is to maintain a short chop at 8mm and then with the MCC MAX corncracker, smash the maize to pieces, all of which takes power. Having the NIR sensor, not only does this give us a crop analysis breakdown, but enables us to alter the chop length relative to dry matter; if the crop is above 35% it will shorten the chop length and below 32% increase it; it takes all the guesswork out of altering it without proper data. By having that extra power, we have certainly been able to increase throughput without having to compromise on processing quality.

Joe goes on to explain that as with the JAGUAR, by going for the most powerful LEXION 8900 TERRA TRAC, again this is all about capacity and maintaining crop consistency.

"The LEXION replaced another 8900, and while we stayed with the CONVIO FLEX cutterbar, we actually went down in size to a 1230 CONVIO FLEX (12.34m) as our drivers felt that width would better handle the humps and hollows in our fields. On paper we are probably over capacity, but for the field sizes and weather windows it's ideal, and certainly this year we needed to finish cereal harvest to start maize!"

MIND BLOWING TECHNOLOGY

When invited by Mike Green at CLAAS Western to visit Harsewinkel for the 'Golden Key' handover of his new machines, Joe admits that having previously visited the factory 20 years ago he was a bit apathetic about visiting again, but is glad he did.

"The changes and the technology being used in the factory, such as the robotic AGVs used to carry the combines down the line, are mind-blowing," he states. "The investment and innovation that has gone into product manufacturing is impressive and it is great to see a family-run company that is prepared to make that investment. Also while they are increasingly using robots for some of the manufacturing process, this has not been at the expense of labour and it still has a family feel.

"It was great that I could take Chris and Leigh, who have been on the farm 25 and 35 years respectively, and for them to see what goes into creating the machines they are operating. The overall take home message for me was how CLAAS are consistently investing in their business, the quality of the parts that they use and the product quality protocols they have in place.

"We were extremely well looked after, we learnt an awful lot and it was really, really impressive."



PRIZE WINNING SHEPHERD

While the Foots have run CLAAS harvesting machinery for quite a few years, the two ARION 660 included in the deal are the first mainstream tractors and will be used for haulage and general work around the farm. However, they are not the first CLAAS tractor to be used on the farm.

The first was an ARION 420 which Joe’s shepherd won the use of for a year in a competition run by CLAAS UK in 2011! At the end of the year, Joe bought the tractor which was fitted with a front loader for use on the dairy unit which, 8,800 relatively trouble-free hours later, was finally traded in as part of the deal.

As with all new machines, the JAGUAR, LEXION and ARION are fully integrated within CLAAS connect, and while initially being uncertain about the change from Telematics, Joe has found it invaluable.

“CLAAS connect is very intuitive to use and works extremely well. During harvest I was living on CLAAS connect, monitoring progress and how the harvesters were doing, but also its easy for the operators. The machine management element is also good, in that CLAAS Western can also link into the machines if there is a problem, but also plan ahead routine maintenance.

“As with any machine we are very reliant on the back up and service, and CLAAS Western have a strong team, who are there when required to keep us going through out the year.”

“We were extremely well looked after, we learnt an awful lot and it was really, really impressive.”



New 549hp LEXION 8500

It's 30 years since the LEXION was first introduced at Agritechnica 1995 and 75,000 LEXION later, in recognition of this for 2026 the range has been given a makeover, focussing on operator comfort including greater grain tank capacities, an increase in power, updates to the cab and new engines in selected models. In addition, both the LEXION and TRION ranges have been extended with the addition of new models, to better meet customer requirements.

NEW 549hp LEXION 8500

For 2026 there will be the option of a new entry-level model in the LEXION 8000 range – the LEXION 8500, which will be available in both wheel and TERRA TRAC versions:

The new LEXION 8500 / 8500 TERRA TRAC rounds off the lower end of the series, resulting in a narrower power range and giving customers a wider choice of suitable configurations in terms of engine power and grain tank volume.

It's powered by the familiar MAN D26 six-cylinder engine with a displacement of 12.4 litres and developing 549hp as well as DYNAMIC POWER and DYNAMIC COOLING - which is now also used in the LEXION 7500 / 7500 TERRA TRAC with a rated output of 466hp. Under the bonnet of the 8700 and 8600 models, on the other hand, is the MAN D38 six-cylinder engine with a displacement of 15.2 litres, characterised by its strong and stable torque as well as fuel efficiency. The rated output is 646hp and 598hp respectively.

In terms of separation, as with the other LEXION 8000 series models, the LEXION 8500 features the APS SYNFLOW HYBRID system with a feed channel width of 1,700mm, three drums, a

755mm threshing drum and two axial rotors that are 445mm in diameter and 4,200mm long. It is equipped with five rotor concaves with a maximum rotor speed of 1,000 rpm, while the larger LEXION 8600 TERRA TRAC to LEXION 8900 TERRA TRAC models offer even more separation performance with six rotor concaves and a maximum rotor speed of 1,200 rpm.

LEXION 8700: LARGEST GRAIN TANK IN ITS CLASS.

In response to numerous customer requests, CLAAS is also increasing the grain tank sizes. The LEXION 8600 TERRA TRAC and 8500 / 8500 TERRA TRAC can now be supplied with either a 13,000 or 15,000 litre grain tank capacity. The LEXION 8700 TERRA TRAC is now even available with the largest grain tank with a volume of either 15,000 or 18,000 litres and an emptying capacity of 180l/s as standard, making it the largest grain tank in its class.

From the outside, all LEXION models from the 2026 model year are recognisable by new LED rotating lamps and new rear lamps with a modern look, which also ensure greater safety in the field and on the road.

CLAAS will also be offering new operator and visibility packages for the LEXION from the 2026 model year. Each of the three equipment packages enables customised configuration of driver comfort, headlight and camera equipment with a wide range of features, such as leather upholstery through to swivel leather seats, wireless charging for smartphones, three LED headlight packages, electrically adjustable and heated rear-view mirrors and various camera equipment. In addition, a compressed air connection is available in the cab access area for cleaning the connections on the intake duct.

Model	Feed channel (mm)	Engine	Grain tank (litres)
LEXION 8900 TT	1,700	MAN D42; 790 hp	18.000
LEXION 8800 TT	1,700	MAN D42; 700 hp	15.000 / 18.000
LEXION 8700 TT	1,700	MAN D38; 646 hp	15.000 / 18.000
LEXION 8600 TT	1,700	MAN D38; 598 hp	13.500 / 15.000
LEXION 8500 / 8500 TT	1,700	MAN D26; 549 hp	13.500 / 15.000



New top-of-the-range TRION



Four years after its market launch, the TRION continues to set standards in the mid-sized combine harvester segment. Their greater harvesting performance with engine outputs of up to 507 hp further increase throughput, while the larger grain tank volume of 13,500 litres increases productive time by reducing overloading and offers reserves for long fields.

New to the TRION range for 2026 is the TRION 760, available in both wheeled and TERRA TRAC versions. The TRION 750 uses an APS TWIN HYBRID threshing unit with a 1,420mm feed channel width, 600mm threshing drum and two axial rotors with a diameter of 445mm and a length of 4,200mm for high-performance separation. For the three other TRION 700 models, CLAAS continues to rely on the APS SINGLE HYBRID threshing unit with a 570mm axial rotor for residual grain separation.

The TRION 760 is powered by a MAN D26 engine with a displacement of 12.4 litres and a rated output of 507hp. Thanks to its large grain tank with a capacity of 13,500 litres and the more powerful front-attachment drive, the TRION 760 achieves a significant increase in productivity and efficiency, especially in high-yielding crops. Thanks to DYNAMIC POWER, the engine power always adapts to the respective conditions of use, ensuring efficient work with fuel savings of up to 10 per cent. On the road, the new TRION has a top speed of 30 km/h at a reduced engine speed of 1,600 rpm, so is always on the move quickly, but with maximum efficiency and cost savings, even over longer distances between work sites.

To take account of the increased engine power, the powerful cooling in the TRION 760, as with the TRION 750, is provided by the horizontal cooling package familiar from the LEXION.

APPLE CARPLAY AND NEW INTERIOR LIGHTING.

Cab updates for both the LEXION and TRION for 2026 include the availability of Apple CarPlay and Android Auto 6.75 inch touch display, DAB+ radio receiver and Bluetooth. A blow gun with a 2-metre-long spiralled hose is also available for quick and easy cleaning of fittings and the cab floor. Thanks to new interior lighting in the cab, working in the evening and at night is even safer and more pleasant. New storage compartments in the left-hand B pillar offer additional storage options.

Thanks to DYNAMIC COOLING – now standard on both the TRION 760 and TRION 750 – the variable fan adapts its output to the working conditions, saving up to 15kW of power. This power saving is then available for the ground drive or other units - or ensures a further reduction in absolute fuel consumption of up to 10 per cent.

FULLY NETWORKED WITH CLAAS CONNECT.

With CLAAS connect, CLAAS is setting new standards in connectivity for both the LEXION and the TRION: From machine configuration, purchase processing, access to product documentation and the lubricant guide, maintenance planning and documentation to cross-manufacturer fleet management via DataConnect, automatically generated and highly accurate yield maps and other smart farming applications – CLAAS connect also enables comprehensive networking for the TRION with automatic documentation and access from the office or from a mobile device while on the move.

CEMOS DRIVER ASSISTANCE AND MACHINE OPTIMISATION.

With the revolutionary CEMOS AUTOMATIC, LEXION and TRION set the standard in the field of self-learning combine automation and optimisation to achieve the highest machine efficiency and maximum productivity for years. CLAAS offers the CEMOS AUTOMATIC combine harvester optimisation system in three expansion stages to meet all customer requirements for automation and driver relief:

- CEMOS AUTO for up to 10 percent increased throughput capacity, significant learning effects and noticeably more driving comfort thanks to dialogue-based optimisation, automatic regulation of the forward speed and automatic crop flow monitoring. The menu-guided loss sensor calibration is unique on the market.
- CEMOS AUTO Plus for up to 20 percent performance optimisation and automatic optimisation of residual grain separation, cleaning and digital sweep control in CEBIS.
- CEMOS AUTO Professional for more than 20 percent more output, including automatic setting of the threshing unit and camera-based, permanent optical monitoring, analysis and optimisation for maximum machine throughput with consistently top grain quality and minimum trash.

Two into one does go!

This harvest has seen a new LEXION 8900 fitted with a CONVIO FLEX 1380 cutterbar and full CEMOS automation comfortably handle the 1300ha previously harvested at Clare Park Farms by two combines with a total cutting width of 21 metres.

In an albeit easy harvest where yields have been down on their normal 9.5t/ha average, the ability of the LEXION to regularly clear 48ha a day with capacity to spare bodes well for future, more 'normal' harvests, and fully justifies the decision to change brand to the LEXION, which was supplied by OLIVERS Winchester.



“...I did consider going for the LEXION 8800, but opted for the 8900 on account of the more power it would give us for chopping straw, especially in thick heavy oats.”



“Yes, it was an early harvest and yields were down, but nevertheless the LEXION did all that I hoped it would to the extent that we then moved it to our other farm 20 miles away to help finish harvest there,” says Giles. “This is not a farm with big open fields and block cropping. Here there are lots of blocks of small fields and you could have 40ha split across 6 fields; it’s very bitty and not terribly efficient, but that’s the way it is.”

TIME AND EFFICIENCY

Previously running two 10.8m cut machines, the main reason for the decision to move to just one high capacity machine was mainly to simplify logistics and the time taken to manage two harvesting teams.

“Having just one combine makes life far easier. Obviously there is the advantage that you have one less driver and support team, but by the time we had finished servicing the two combines in the morning we would always struggle to get going by 9 o’clock, and due to our smaller fields and narrow lanes, we lost a lot of time when moving between fields.”

When it came to replacing the two combines, Giles says it came down to just three machines. With all his cereal crops direct seeded, one of the most important aspects of any new combine was how it handled straw.

“That is as important as anything,” he states. “The three machines are all good combines, but what set the LEXION apart for me is the straw chopper and the spreader. I did consider going for the LEXION 8800, but opted for the 8900 on account of the more power it would give us for chopping straw, especially in thick heavy oats. I was concerned as to whether it would spread evenly across the full 13.8m, but it was no problem, even when harvesting very dry spring barley and the ability in windy conditions to automatically adjust the spreader was impressive.

CHALK AND CHEESE

“The principle of the threshing system on the LEXION is well proven, so that wasn’t a concern but I was impressed by the CONVIO FLEX header, especially when we were harvesting peas; it was amazing. Ultimately the draper header, the way it presented the crop into the combine and its ability to let us go longer into the evening without the crop wrapping as conditions got damper, meant it is chalk and cheese compared to a conventional header and the ideal match for the LEXION.

“This year has been an easy year and enabled us to get used to the LEXION. We looked for it to clear 48 to 52ha a day, which it was more than able to do and had capacity to spare, which we rarely could do with the previous two. We have not lost any output and in addition the fuel use has also been less than for the two machines. There is also the advantage that it’s slightly narrower on the road, the ride is good and 40kph is useful for when moving to the other farm.

“There is certainly more to be had from it and we will have to sit down and have a really good look at Telematics and CLAAS connect as to where we can tweak things and be more efficient next year. But overall, the LEXION has been as impressive as I hoped it would be, and I look forward to how it performs next year in better crops with more straw and grain to process.”

50 years of CLAAS combines

Last summer saw Ken Petch take the controls of his new LEXION 8700 TERRA TRAC, the latest in a long line of CLAAS combines he has run, starting with a MATADOR bought in 1975.

At 83, Ken Petch could be forgiven for wanting to take life easy. Reality is the opposite and given half a chance he is still involved in the farming business he runs with his son Alan, including driving the combine.

Starting his working life as a bus driver but with a keen interest in farming, in 1970 he managed to buy 12ha of land. Today, the farming and contracting business based at Mappleton on the East Yorkshire coast, has grown to where they are farming 280ha and combining around 800ha.

“My first combine was a Lanz towed behind a small Massey tractor. I changed that in 1975 for a MATADOR bought second hand from Jacksons and have been running CLAAS combines ever since,” he says.

Following that first MATADOR, which had a 4.0m cutterbar, there followed a series of used SENATORS, before finally being able to afford a new DOMINATOR. “I ran at least a couple of those, before going to a MEGA 218 and then onto the LEXION. Swards had a demonstration day for the LEXION at Burton Constable and I ordered a 460 there and then. I had a number of those, then also 450’s and 470’s as the acreage grew and I needed more combines. These were followed by the larger 760 and 770, and now the 8700 which is the second I have had.

“I have never looked at any other combine as I have always got on well with CLAAS and I still do. The whole team at CLAAS EASTERN at Catfoss are great, but especially Sam who looks after the combine – what he doesn’t know about combines isn’t worth knowing.”

In addition to TERRA TRAC tracks, ever since the difficult harvest in 2012 all their combines have been specified with a POWER TRAC driven rear axle. In addition, while size-wise they go for a higher capacity machine, due to the density of crop typically found in the area, they go for a smaller cutterbar, opting for a VARIO 770.

“We go down as far as Sunk Island, but with tracks and 4-wheel drive we can go anywhere and in all soil conditions,” explains Alan. “Yields can be anything up to 12t/ha, but with a lot of straw, plus being right on the coast, while ideally we would like to start combining at 10, often it will be 11 or 12 before its dry enough. It’s always about having enough engine power to handle the density of crop and for the chopper.”

Over his 50 years of running CLAAS combines, Ken says that the biggest difference he has seen is in the output and ease of operation. “It would take a lot of MATADORs to keep up with this new LEXION!” he quips. “The LEXION is so much more comfortable than the MATADOR and having the (CEBIS) screen with the outline of the combine and being able to just press a button for the straw chopper or to adjust the sieves, makes it so easy to operate compared to having to stop and adjust it by hand.

“It’s the name, the service and the reputation for reliability, but also CLAAS combines hold their value so well. That’s why I have always run CLAAS – they are the ‘Rolls Royce’ of combines.”

“It would take a lot of MATADORs to match the LEXION 8700,” says Ken Petch who has run CLAAS combines for 50 years and still drives the combine each year.



“CLAAS combines hold their value so well. That’s why I have always run CLAAS – they are the ‘Rolls Royce’ of combines.”





Flexibility for a high

Growing upwards of 30 different varieties of seed for a number of seed merchants, each with their own specifications, requires not only a highly efficient grain handling and storage system, but also flexibility, efficiency and timeliness with harvesting – the responsibility of three CLAAS TRION combines.

AF Monk have specialised in growing high quality seed crops since the 1980s. Extending to 1,400ha with 90% of their crops for seed, the large majority are C1 for C2, but if required they will grow Basic and Pre-Basic. In addition to a grain storage system that enables them to segregate crops into 50 to 60 different 'heaps', they also have their own seed testing laboratory and crop inspector.

"For us harvest is all about timeliness and having the ability to be in three different crops at once. We can be growing the same variety for a number of different merchants, all to a different specification, so every time we change or move between crops, it takes 1½ hours to completely clean out the combine," explains Tom Monk, who this year is growing 9 winter and 1 spring wheat varieties, 6 winter and 6 spring barleys, 3 winter and 2 spring oats, as well as herbage seed, oilseed rape, peas and poppies, while last year the mix also included sunflowers.

CHANGE TO TRION

After many years of running CLAAS LEXION combines, all of which have been MONTANA versions since 2004, last year saw the arrival from OLIVERS Winchester of a new TRION 660 MONTANA with a 770 CONVIO FLEX header in place of a LEXION 660. That was followed this year by a further two TRION 750 MONTANA with 930 CONVIO FLEX headers in place of a LEXION 760 and 670.

"The combination of having both straw walker and the rotary (ROTO PLUS) machines works well as it gives us flexibility, but also some crops are better suited to different machines. Oats, for instance, thresh better and produce a better sample using a rotary while the straw walker TRION 660 is better suited to herbage seed and greater straw quality."

All the TRION have been specified with full CEMOS AUTOMATIC. In addition, one of the TRION 750 was specified with a variable feeder housing for harvesting certain crops, while the 660 is fitted with an agitator in the tank for small grain size crops such as herbage.

"It's all about flexibility and having the right machine for different crops, not just output. Going from two to three machines again gives us that bit more flexibility, especially in a difficult year, but also future proofs us for any expansion. The LEXION worked very well for us and was why Phil Cole suggested that the TRION would be a more suitable replacement, as we would be swapping like for like.



“It’s all about flexibility and having the right machine for different crops, not just output.”
Tom Monk

quality harvest

QUALITY UTMOST PRIORITY

“We trust in CEMOS AUTOMATIC and it takes a lot of the stress off the operator and helps with efficiencies. Split grains are a big ‘no-no’ and obviously grain quality is very important. Working with the ‘Quality’ setting in CEMOS helps us achieve that. The operators have also been surprised by how quick they can go using it. There are times in the day when you know that you can push on, or when to hold back, but CEMOS enables the combine to react far quicker to those changes and is very good in the evening.

“We initially trialed the CONVIO FLEX cutterbar with the TRION 660 and were very pleased with its performance and the flexibility it gave us, especially in crops like poppies, peas and beans when they are close to the ground where it works very well. We went for the wider 30ft headers for the TRION 750 as the drivers felt the greater width meant it flexed better. We have also found the CONVIO FLEX to be easier to clean than the VARIO and the crop flow into the combine is more even.

“Having the combination of CEMOS AUTOMATIC and the CONVIO FLEX cutterbars, we have certainly seen a noticeable increase in output and we are driving quicker. Typically with the LEXION we would be running at 4kph, but with the TRION we are up to 6kph and holding them back.

“CLAAS combines have historically worked very well for us and we like what the combine gives us in terms of straw management and grain quality, but they also self-clean well and are also easy to clean down.

“And combined with that is the support that we get from OLIVERS with the good availability of spare parts should we need them – it’s good, total back-up.”

“We trust in CEMOS AUTOMATIC and it takes a lot of the stress off the operator and helps with efficiencies.”



New 8.0m SCORPION 848

The arrival of the new SCORPION 848, which combines a high load capacity of 4,800 kg with a lift height of up to 8.0 metres, bridges the gap between the current SCORPION 756 and 960, and extends the SCORPION range to nine models.

Under the bonnet there is a 156hp Deutz 4-cylinder engine with DYNAMIC POWER, which during loading and stacking automatically adjusts the engine speed relative to the position of the joystick and thus to the desired lift and loader speed, ensuring faster and even more efficient loading cycles. When the telescopic arm is lowered without load, the engine speed is automatically reduced, which reduces fuel consumption, as does the reduced transport speed of 1,600 rpm at 40 km/h.

The engine also has DYNAMIC COOLING which automatically adjusts the fan speed to the required cooling demand - again saving fuel but also guarantees more power reserves under challenging operating conditions.

The SCORPION 848 is equipped with the fully automatic, stepless, hydrostatic VARIPOWER PLUS drive as standard. In addition to the VARIPOWER wide-angle hydrostat with a 45-degree pivot angle, this uses a second variable displacement motor with a 32-degree pivot angle. Together with the standard differential lock, this ensures that sufficient thrust, tractive force and traction are always available.

STRONG BOOM, SMART LOADER

As with all SCORPION telescopic handlers, the pivot point of the boom is positioned low on the chassis for maximum stability.

Lengthy overlaps between the telescopic elements guarantee torsional rigidity and stability even with the heaviest loads. A lateral support integrated into the frame increases safety when working at full reach or extreme leverage when pushing. An optional fine control further increases precision and safety, especially when stacking heavy loads at great heights or when working with dangerous goods.

The standard boom suspension for the telescopic arm prevents the machine from bouncing during fast loading manoeuvres, for example when handling straw bales.





Thanks to the combination of hydraulic control with electronic pilot control, the comprehensive SMART LOADING functions on the SCORPION 848 provide operators with the following automatic functions and assistance systems:

- Automatic bucket return to the previously saved position: A considerable gain in time and comfort for repetitive work cycles.
- Automatic bucket shake function: The tilt rams ensure reliable emptying of the bucket or even distribution of trickling material, even when the material is very sticky.
- Automatic retraction of the telescopic arm: The boom is automatically retracted when the telescopic arm is lowered - making work much easier for the operator.

With a hydraulic capacity of up to 187 l/min and 270 bar working pressure, the load-sensing hydraulic system ensures that fast loading cycles are no problem, even with heavy loads. Additional control circuits for attachments and a choice of single or double-acting connections at the rear round off the SCORPION 848 equipment.

ALL-ROUND VISIBILITY

The generously designed driver's cab provides an ideal environment for working comfortably, safely and focussed, even over long working days. The cab provides the operator with an almost 360-degree all-round view, and blind spots can be minimised using up to three optional cameras. Inside, all the main operating controls are laid out in a well thought-out, ergonomic and intuitive arrangement making operating the new SCORPION 848 easy and relaxing.

WIDE RANGE OF TELEHANDLERS

Built by Leibherr in their state-of-the-art production facilities at Telfs in Austria, CLAAS now offers nine SCORPION telehandlers for a wide range of customer requirements with load capacities from 3,300 to 6,000kg and maximum lift heights from 6.23 to 9.75m.



Neighbour Ed Thomas (left) works in conjunction with Tom Lougher and operates the QUADRANT 5300

Quality QUADRANT

Faced with an increase in baling work, the decision by contractor Tom Lougher to change up to a QUADRANT 5300 in 2018, making him the first in the area to run a 6-string baler, has definitely proved beneficial.

Previously running a 4-string 80x90 baler, the step up to the larger 120x90 6-string QUADRANT was not taken lightly, but the benefits of the QUADRANT both for him and his customers in terms of output, time saving and ease of use were considerable.

“Straw accounts for about 90% of our work, with a bit of haylage and maybe some hay depending on the season,” explains Tom, who is based on the coast at St Athan and works mainly along the 30-mile coastal belt between Cardiff and Bridgend.

“With the combine it means that I can offer a complete service. Speaking to my customers about changing to a 120x90 bale size, for the arable guys it made sense as it meant fewer bales to move, so fields are cleared quicker. While for the livestock guys using the bales, they were happy because they could still get two bales into their straw spreaders, but also having just a single knot makes it far easier to remove the strings. The haylage guys were initially a bit more wary, but are more than happy now.”

SUPERB BALE

Having made the change to the QUADRANT 5300 ROTO FEED in 2018, that baler was then changed in favour of a new EVOLUTION version in 2022 with a tandem steering axle. Working mainly behind four combines, all of which are around 6.17 to 7.70m, including Tom’s own TRION 730 new this harvest through RIVERLEA, this year he has baled over 1,200ha and to date the QUADRANT has already clocked up over 20,000 bales.

“When set right the QUADRANT will bale anything and creates a superb bale,” states Ed Thomas, Tom’s neighbour who works in conjunction with him and operates the baler. “We aim to create a 500kg bale. A lot of our customers are using the bales themselves and don’t want bricks and anything heavier could be too much for their straw choppers. However, if the weather is changeable, it does give us the leeway to ramp-up the pressure and crack on.

SUPERB VISIBILITY

“The one great thing about the QUADRANT compared to other balers we have looked at, is the fact that sat in the cab you can clearly see the crop flowing all the way through from the pick-up right into the pre-chamber. Most of the time I just leave the pre-chamber on the 1:1 setting, but change to the Small Row setting for haylage. The auto pressure control system for the chamber works really well and certainly helps maintain bale density. Here, I will generally start the day with it set at 65% and then just gradually increase the pressure as I get into the crop.”

“Having the tandem steering axle makes getting into fields off narrow lanes far easier,” adds Ed. “We also bale quite a few new leys for haylage and it is certainly noticeable that there is less scrubbing on the headlands, but generally it follows the tractor very well. We also use it with a ball hitch, which by having a rigid connection makes a lot of difference and is far quieter.

“Having slip clutches instead of shear bolts is far better and easier; you can easily lose 40 minutes changing a shear bolt, so this saves a lot of time. Maintenance is very easy; the pick-up just has a couple of grease points and there are about eight others for the baler, plus the turbo fan and overall design of the baler means it stays very clean. You open the panels and there is hardly anything there, unlike some other balers.”

“Finally the service we receive from RIVERLEA is extremely good. If ever we have a problem James (Bramhall) or Hywel (Evans) will do their best to sort you out. I like that they understand the pressure of the job and will do their best to keep you going, which is great,” concludes Tom.



Constant improvement in driver comfort

The arrival of a new SCORPION 742 VARIPOWER in March marked the latest stage in the Baxter family's loyalty to CLAAS telescopic handlers stretching back over 20 years and now to six machines.

During that time, they have seen every iteration. Starting with their original Sanderson handler, that in turn was replaced by a TARGO K70 in 2001, through to their latest SCORPION 742.

"We are highly reliant on the SCORPION and have always got on very well with them; it's the only machine on the farm that is working all day, every day – it's easier to list what it doesn't do!" says Richard Baxter, who farms 385ha near Leeds with his children Chris and Jenny. "But all machines will go wrong at some stage in their life and if it goes down we have a big problem.

"So the important thing for us is how any problem is dealt with and the service and support we get from CLAAS EASTERN, and Swards before them, at Wilberfoss has always been fantastic. I can't fault them. They are easy to deal with, if someone says they will come back to you the following day they will and all the engineers are brilliant."

"Over the years, with every new machine that we have had there has always been an improvement and the new 742 is no exception. You do wonder what more they can do to further improve it," says Chris.



FANTASTIC DRIVER COMFORT AND FINESSE

Introduced in 2024, a major feature on the new 3- and 4- tonne SCORPION models was significant improvements in comfort and ease of use, in addition to greater stability and an increase in hydraulic pressure resulting in a 300kg more lift capacity. Power comes from a 143 hp, 550 Nm Liebherr 4-cylinder diesel engine with a hydraulic output of 160 l/min at a quiet and fuel-efficient 1,600 rpm. During loading, DYNAMIC POWER automatically adjusts the engine speed to the joystick angle and so to the desired lift and loading speed. This unique feature ensures faster, even more efficient load cycles.

In these respects the new SCORPION 742 certainly delivers, reckons Chris. "It's a major step-up again from the 741. All round it's a better machine and so easy to operate. The cab and general driver comfort is fantastic but it is the overall finesse of the machine that makes it so easy to use. The joystick reaction is faster, but also finer, and cycling times are a lot faster."

"The braking is also extra good," adds Jenny. "When you take your foot off the throttle, the VARIPOWER transmission will slow it down, but when you need it to stop it will definitely stop!"

"The SCORPION just fits and is ideal for our needs. It's not too big and lift capacity has never been an issue, and its pushing power is fantastic," comments Richard. "When we put up a new barn built into the bank a few years ago, we ended up 25ft down at the back but did it all with the SCORPION. They've never not done anything we have asked of them."



The Baxter family's loyalty to CLAAS telescopic handlers goes back 20 years and 6 machines. Richard (in cab) with Chris and Jenny.



CLAAS

Matt Solley,
Harvest 2025,
LEXION 8900

Changing to the first 8900s was a real eye-opener – it suddenly put us well on top of the job.



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