

GRASS & GRIT

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2018



Latest News

RURAL CONTRACTORS CONFERENCE 2018

The Rural Contractors Association had a great turnout with over 150 attendees at this years Rural Contractors Conference held at the Copthorne Hotel in Masterton.

Tulloch Farm Machines were proud to be a platinum sponsor of the event and would like to thank the efforts of all those involved. A huge thank you to our helpers at this years charity auction which raised \$34,000 for Wellington Free Ambulance!

There were some very interesting workshops and speakers in attendance. We also enjoyed hosting one of the field trips at our site and hope our guests did too!



Tulloch Farm Machines Trade Display at Copthorne.



John Tulloch addressing field trip visitors at the Tulloch site.



Net replacement wrap proving to be a winner

The latest Krone Comprima net wrap unit is proving its worth to Wairarapa dairy farmer Lewis Herrick, who has been trialling it since early last October. He is able to use both net and net replacement film with the unit so has been trialling film for the first time.

Although he is still in the adjustment mode with the new unit as he makes tweaks to get it to a full 100% efficiency for local conditions, Lewis says film is proving a winner.

"I'm testing it in all kinds of weather conditions, in the wind and the damp, plus trialling it on different crops so I can have a play to see what suits. Out of the 1500 bales I've wrapped this year, I've used film on 500. Baling time is definitely quicker."

"I've been feeding out since December and it's very easy as the bales don't expand so much when you cut the film plus it is easier to cut than net. Also film doesn't get caught in the bearings, as can happen with net."

Lewis says early indications are that the bales are in better condition with film, and there will be less spoilage in the longer term. As the bales are packed extremely tightly, less air can get in plus it's harder for rodents or birds to create too much damage.

"We'll have to see how it keeps in the longer term but I see the bales being able to stay wrapped for a couple of years."

He says he is already making savings as he's using only four layers of film rather than the usual six layers, as the film put on in the chamber offers more protection than net. When he does want to use net, it is very simple to change from film to net and vice versa.

The only issue he has experienced is that occasionally the film wraps around the roller, delaying the process. On one occasion in very windy conditions, four bales out of 40 had malfunctioned.

"But this will be fixed with a few adjustments. We're still in trial mode and it won't take long to get it all sorted. I certainly don't want to go back to not using film."

Krone has released a kit that is being trialled in Southland, the kit has shown to reduce the effect of windy conditions when the wrap is being used. John Tulloch of Tulloch Farm Machines said farmers in Southland and a contractor in New Plymouth were also having success in trialling the film wrapping. The fact less air could get into the bales, meant that, along with less spoilage, the quality of silage was improved.

"The film wrap will see the quality of silage improve for farmers and contractors using it."

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Good TMR Management - Supreme

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Tulloch
Farm Machines
For technology that works!

OUR CLIENTS



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Improving animal welfare through good TMR management



Morrinsville sharemilker Andrew Bouton bought his Supreme feed processor 800T from Tulloch Farm Machines Morrinsville dealer, Piako Tractors, three years ago and he says the results are definitely worth the investment.

The Canadian pull-type feed mixer has an efficient cutting and mixing system that ensures TMR management. The feed is evenly blended and the tub is designed with sloped walls so feed can slide easily from the top to the floor.

It can process all types of silage and haylage from any size of round or square bale, and blend them without placing undue stress on the machine. The system ensures balanced distribution of dietary elements as every animal receives the same mix of minerals, fibre and protein. A normal silage wagon does not offer the same mixing benefits.

“Our farm has some very hilly areas and knowing that the cows have received sufficient minerals on a daily basis gives me the confidence to graze all paddocks knowing the cows should be safe and aren’t likely to have any metabolic issues”.

He says while the total cost of owning, operating and maintaining the feed mixer wagon was higher than operating a basic silage wagon, the reduction in animal health issues and the ability to feed a range of supplements overall meant his financial position was about the same. The main difference was he felt he was able to cope better during wet springs or dry summer conditions; therefore, lowering the risk for his business plus lower stress levels for himself.

The feed used through the mixer wagon is made up of about 40% maize (grown on farm), 40% palm kernel with the last

20% being some tapioca, dried distillers grain, barley straw and molasses.

He feeds his cows on a concrete pad, therefore saving pasture being trampled and ensuring far less feed wastage than feeding out on paddocks.

“When feeding supplements like maize and PKE out on paddocks you are probably losing anywhere from 20-40%, compared to only losing about 5% when feeding out on concrete.

“The Supreme gives me far more control over the whole feeding process. It assists in animal welfare and makes economic sense. The more we can do [as farmers] to stay at the forefront of animal welfare issues and the healthier we can keep our animals, the greater our returns will be on milk production.”

Andrew has worked with a couple of different feed mixers in the past and said the Supreme mixer was definitely built more solidly than the others. The thickness of its side walls was one of the reasons he chose it as some feed is abrasive and wears out the sides.

Andrew said he and Sarah’s relationship to the dealership, Piako Tractors, who service the machine was good and they have a high standard of workmanship although servicing was relatively infrequent.

“Overall, we are happy with our purchase and the wagon still looks and feels new after three years. We have serviced it only once and haven’t had any unexpected breakdowns.”

VISITORS & STAFF



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Visitors From Far & Wide...

We were lucky to have some good friends from Sky Drills and Krone visit us over the last couple of months.

Marco Leying from **Krone** Germany came to attend our BiG Line Conferences in Timaru and Wellington and presented our clients with the latest news in regards to the BiG X and BiG M machines. He was followed by a visit from **Serge Suffissais** of **Sky Drills** France. Serge educated us on the latest innovations in the Sky Drill range and visited several clients to discuss their experiences.

Always a pleasure! Au revoir and Auf Wiedersehen!



Good to see Serge from Sky Drills is supporting the right team!



Marco Leying

Photo Corner



National Fielddays® 2018

New Staff - Welcome!

NEW DIESEL MECHANIC!

Louise Nix, a qualified diesel machanic, has recently been recruited to our Service Department at the Masterton site.

Louise has a background as an accounting clerk but wanted a change of scenery and went on to join the NZ Army and train as a diesel mechanic at the Linton Army Camp.

She returned to the Wairarapa region after finishing her apprenticeship and has worked as a mechanic at Eastwood Motor Group for the past few years. She joined Tulloch Farm Machines in early April to further her knowledge of tractors and agricultural machinery and apply her practical skills to maintaining them.



NEW MARKETING ASSISTANT!

Ashleigh Macleod joined us as the new marketing assistant in February 2018. She moved to Wellington several years ago to study at Massey University and continued to live there while working in the newspaper/advertising industry. She returned to Masterton four years ago and has since had roles as a Marketing Coordinator for Taratahi and has been a director of her own small design business.

“My experience at Tullochs so far has been very positive, it has been great getting out, attending events and meeting our clients face to face. The staff and our customers are very welcoming and friendly. I look forward to increasing my knowledge about the agricultural machinery industry”.



NEW PRODUCTS



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Big X 630

FORAGE HARVESTER

Setting new standards in chop quality, performance, handling and impressive operator comfort. This is the third machine of its type in New Zealand. There is also a demo machine available. After testing in NZ conditions this machine is exceeding initial expectations for performance.

The **Big X 630** from **KRONE** is a precision-chop forage harvester that delivers an exceptional quality cut, maximum throughput and convenience.

Big M 450

MOWER CONDITIONER

The latest self-propelled **KRONE Big M 450** mower conditioner offers huge work width (up to 9.95m), superior manoeuvrability and optimum weight distribution. This is the perfect mower for large or small fields. The first machine is already on the water and has been sold in Southland through Farmchief Invercargill. The sale will be aided by training and assistance from Krone Germany. This machine is built to last.



NEW TWINE² RANGE



20% stronger and longer without compromising on the famous KRONE quality.

- Excellent strength
- Excellent reserves
- Optimum fibrilling
- UV protected
- Great tear resistance
- A range of options to suit even the most extreme conditions.

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Farm Machines
For technology that works!

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