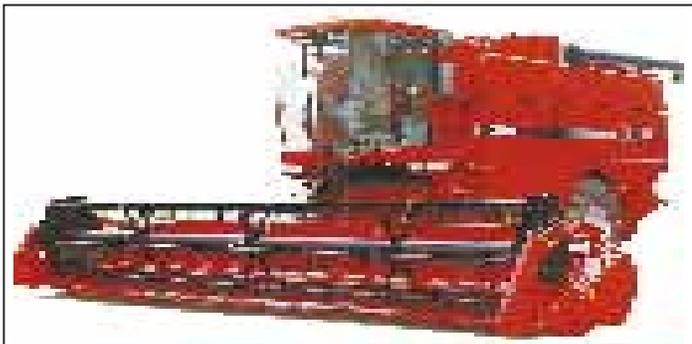


What's New In Europe!

Editor Mark Newhall recently traveled to the Agritechnica farm show in Hanover, Germany. Held every other year, the big exhibition features more than 1,300 exhibitors from 30 different countries. Some 180,000 visitors showed up from all over the world. Featured here and on the next three pages are some of the latest new products and ideas on display.



Case-IH Exhibits New European Combine

One of the hottest developments at the Agritechnica was the introduction of the new Case-IH Arcus combine which the company bought last year from East German manufacturer, MDW.

The Arcus looks radically different, with large drive wheels in back and smaller steering wheels in front. Engineers say the design adapts better to the weight distribution of the machine, which is claimed to have the industry's biggest grain tank - between 500 and 600 bu., according to a spokesman.

The Arcus is fitted with twin axial rotors for the main threshing area followed by a horizontal drum. It's powered by a 6-cyl. Volvo motor and has a top road speed

of 25 mph. Fitted with a 25 ft. cutterbar. Twin straw choppers are standard.

The new combine, which has been tested extensively for the past three years, has a comprehensive computer monitoring system. Estimated selling price is expected to be right at \$190,000.

The combine's axial rotors connect directly to the header so that they rise and fall as the header is raised or lowered. Most of the straw brought into the combine is ejected about half way back on the machine. Grain and chaff move to the horizontal cylinder at the back.

According to Case-IH, there are no plans at this time to import the new Arcus combine to North America.



Self-Propelled 30-Ft. Disc Mower

There's never been another mower like the new "Big M" 30-ft. disc mower from Krone Niemeyer.

Introduced at the Agritechnica show in Germany in November, it is already being marketed in North America by Krone's U.S. division that's headquartered in Arkansas.

Krone built the big mower in response to custom contractors who needed higher performance. The Big M is fitted with three 10-ft. sections of disc mowers and drum-type conditioning units. They leave three sepa-

rate swaths that are later raked. Wings fold up for a total road width of just 10 ft.

Power is supplied by a 300 hp. Deere diesel. The 4-WD unit is hydrostatically driven. It will mow 25 acres per hour.

Marketing manager Jody McRee says a number of units have already been sold to U.S. farmers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Krone Niemeyer, 406 S. Woods St., P.O. Box 1896, West Memphis, Ark. 72303 (ph 870 732-4270).

Hillside Mower Handles The Steepest Slopes

The need to mow hay fields on the side of mountains or steep hills has resulted in some unusually handy pieces of equipment built by European manufacturers.

The Rasant "Berg Trak" is a 4-WD ATV-type mowing machine that has an upfront cutter bar. It's fitted with flotation tires and has a 6-ft. wide wheelbase. A front pto drive runs the sickle bar, as well as a number of other optional powered components.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rasant Land, A-8541 Schwanberg, Aichegg



20 Germany (ph 3467 75110; fax 3467 7511 11).

Deutz-Fahr also exhibited a giant new self-propelled mower at Agritechnica. The 240 hp. "Grasant" is 20 ft. wide. It uses a new process to condition hay within the body of the machine which the company says results in faster drying times. Hay is augered from the folding disc mower across the front of the machine to an elevator that brings it inside the machine. A large cylinder and two smaller rollers condition the hay before spreading it back out in a wide drying swath behind the machine. The machine will cover 15 acres per hour.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Deutz-Fahr Gmbh, Deutz-Fahr Strasse 1, D-89415 Lauingen, Germany (ph 221 8224337; fax 2 21 8224494).

Coming Soon: Colored Tractor Tires

Tires are busting into color thanks to a pair of European tire manufacturers who have come up with new manufacturing processes to make colored rubber.

Michelin and Vredestein are both test-marketing tires with color. Michelin started with a line of small car tires in red, green or yellow. Vredestein, which is based in the Netherlands, has a new line of tires with bands of red and yellow in the sidewalls. It started last year with a single size of car tire. The popularity of the tires has prompted them to come out with six sizes of colored tires for 1998. Both companies sell the colored tires for about 10 percent more than regular black tires.

Vredestein used a tractor tire splashed with bright shades of color to attract showgoers to its booth at Agritechnica. Although colored tractor tires are not yet on the market, the company says there is nothing to stop them if the demand is there.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vredestein Banden B.V., P.O. Box 27, 7500 AA Enschede, The Netherlands (ph 31 53 4888 888; fax 31 53 4 888 800).

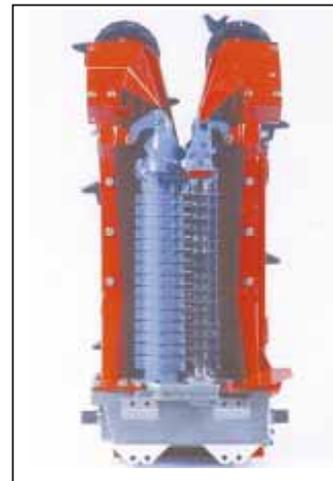
Geringhoff Introduces New Stalk Chopper

The German manufacturer, Geringhoff, has been selling cornhead mounted stalk choppers since the 1980's. Previous models consisted of interlocking roller bars under the snouts. The problem was that they were heavy and required considerable horsepower.

Now the company has introduced a new "Rota Disc" system that consists of 15 cutting discs that slice through special stalk-stripping rollers under the snouts. As stalks are pulled down, the discs cut through their entire length, which causes them to break down faster in the field than stalks that are simply cut into short pieces, says the manufacturer.

The stripping rollers and cutting discs are coupled to a transmission mounted on a frame at the back of the header. Any element of the cutting system can be removed individually, making repairs easy.

The new system is incorporated into Geringhoff headers that range in size up to 12-row, 30-in. They're being handled in North America by a number of dealers, in-



cluding: FARM SHOW Followup, Willmar Farm Center, 3867 E. Hwy 12, Willmar, Minn. 56201 (ph 320 235 8123).