

Case Introduces Planters, Air Seeders

RACINE, Wis. — Case Corporation announces the next step in precision farming with Advanced Farming Systems (AFS) planters and air seeders.

Utilizing tractor-mounted touch-screen computers and differential global position system (DGPS) receivers, these new systems provide automatic "on-the-go" control of input rates to help farmers respond to variability in field conditions.

The new planters and air seeders combine advanced hydraulics, electronics, sensor technology, and software with the proven performance of Case IH Early Riser® Cyclo Air® planters and Case IH Concord Air Seeders, according to Kurt Schenek, marketing manager for planting and seeding equipment.

"These are high-production systems designed to place the seed in the optimum environment for uniform germination and emergence. When you add to that the ability to vary input rates across the field, it sets a new standard for precision planting and seeding operations," he said.

"Allowing farmers to develop prescription applications will help them use crop inputs more efficiently to optimize yield potential across the field," said Doug Rehor, program manager of Case IH AFT Tractor and Implement Systems.

"Thanks to the success of the AFS yield monitoring and mapping technology used with Case IH Axial-Flow combines, we have thousands of customers with yield maps showing clear evidence of variability in their fields," said Rehor. "With an AFS planter or air seeder, they'll have the opportunity to respond to that variability."

Unlike conventional planters and air seeders that use ground-driven meters, the new AFS systems use a series of hydraulic drives that are controlled by an in-cab computer and electronic control modules, all deployed on a sophisticated communications architecture. Seed, fertilizer, herbicides, and insecticides can each be applied at variable



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rates, and whole sections can be turned on or off separately.

Farmers will be able to choose between two displays. The AFS display features an easy-to-use 5.5 inch diagonal monochrome touch-screen interface and allows the operator to control all functions by merely touching the desired input product and selecting a rate. It performs all monitoring functions as well as frame holding on planters.

Highly precise metering requires highly precise monitoring capabilities to verify that the intended rate is the actual rate being applied. New, "smart" seed sensors will provide industry-leading seed counting accuracy on AFS planters. "If an operator sets his corn planting rate to 30,000 seeds per acre, the sensors will verify that the planter is planting at that rate," said Rehor.

The AFS planters will be offered initially on 12, 16, 24-row and 12/23 front-fold sizes as well as the 5500 Soybean Special. AFS air seeders will be available across the entire Concord line, including two compartment 1100, 2300, 2400, and 3400 models and the recently introduced three-compartment model 3503.

Under development is a variable seed variety option which will allow operators to choose between two different seed hybrids of varieties "on-the-go."

"This technology will revolutionize planting," said Rehor. "With this option, growers will be able to plant seeds with the genetics best suited for each part of the field without having to stop and refill the planter box."

Mycogen Seeds Introduces New Products

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Farmers searching for seed that packages consistently high yields with strong defensive characteristics will want to look to Mycogen Seeds' 33 new hybrids and varieties for the 1998 growing season. The new lineup includes 12 corn hybrids, three silage corn hybrids, eight soybeans varieties, seven sunflower hybrids, and one alfalfa variety.

"In terms of yield potential and agronomic performance, this is our most exciting lineup to date," explained Tim Kroenke, Mycogen Seeds prod-

uct management director. "Biotechnology, a strong conventional breeding program, and extensive precommercial product testing are allowing Mycogen to bring farmers the seed products they need when they need them."

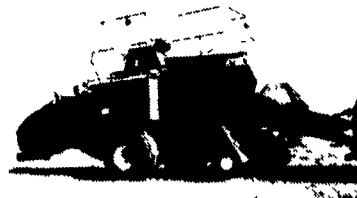
Half of the new grain corn hybrids and one silage hybrid contain the NatureGard® NGBt1 gene for yield protection against first and second generation European corn borer (ECB). Mycogen is also offering a new corn hybrid with both the Bt gene and IMI herbicide toler-

Hesston Introduces Big Bale System

ATLANTA, Ga. — It's hard to improve upon the efficiency and productivity offered by the Hesston Model 4755 mid-size rectangular baler — particularly because it allows producers to package both dry bales and silage bales with a single high-capacity machine. But with the introduction of a new Model 4720 bale accumulator, improvement is possible.

Designed as an integral part of Hesston's mid-size bale system, the 4720 accumulator attaches directly to the 4755 and uses the same tractor hydraulic system as the baler to collect one to five bales and drop them anywhere in the field, right from the tractor seat. As a result, the operator saves loading time and field travel, and reduces compaction by eliminating extra trips over the field with trucks and loading equipment.

"The 4720 is also designed so that it can be used as either a three-bale accumulator or as a five-bale accumulator," said Ken Johnson, AGCO general marketing manager for Hesston products. "In the three-bale mode, the wings on the side cart are



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folded up and the screen on the cab-mounted control console is programmed to show the side carts as full when only one bale is shifted to each side. This allows the accumulator to be used in fields with narrow windrow spacing and to unload bales without placing them on an adjacent windrow."

In the five-bale mode, two bales can be placed on each side cart, while a fifth bale is placed on the center cart. In either

mode, each side cart can be independently unloaded, or both carts can be unloaded at the same time. To unload all five (or all three, in the three-bale mode), the operator simply unloads both side carts, shifts the center bale to either side and unloads that side cart again.

"The 4720 accumulator comes standard with electrical bale unload, automatic bale shift bar control and cables to attach it to the existing baler control console for in-cab monitoring," said Johnson. "Other standard features include a centralized lubrication system that allows the operator to grease 12 different points from one location and dual caster wheels with stabilizing brakes. The dual caster wheels not only allow the accumulator to make sharp turns in the field, but provide extra flotation for less oil compaction."

Bales can be shifted on the accumulator either automatically or manually, using controls on the baler control console. A bale-unloading control box, also mounted in the tractor cab, allow the operator to unload either or both side carts at will.

Round Baler Offers More With Less

ATLANTA, Ga. — With the introduction of a new 5 x 5 round baler, the Model 844, Hesston gives hay producers one of the widest selections of round balers in the industry. However, the 855 also offers something less.

Joining six existing round baler models, including the recently introduced Model 545 Silage Special, this Class III variable chamber model produces tightly packed dry bales that measure 61.5 inches wide by 30 to 60 inches in diameter and weight up to 1,610 pounds.

Unlike previous Hesston models, though, the 855 is missing a

part that has caused round baler operators numerous headaches. There is no starter roll. It has been eliminated, along with all the problems related to crop buildup and wrapping that go with it.

"The operator can spend more time baling and less time trying to get a bale started for unwrapping crop material," said Ken Johnson, general marketing manager for Hesston products. "In place of a starter roller, the Model 855 uses a set of double rollers on the bottom of the tailgate to assist in bale starting and to provide a support surface for the bale itself."

Another Model 855 innovation is a removable, solid-pan wind-

guard that keeps hay flowing smoothly over the pickup and into the bale chamber; yet permits quick and easy access to the pickup area. Gauge wheels on each end of the 75.3-inch, low-profile pickup assembly also give the unit ground-hugging capabilities to gather in all the crop. Pickup adjustments is accomplished with a simple crank handle, while chain drive and slip clutch protection further add to the convenience.

There are plenty of other performance and convenience features on the Model 855, too. Hydraulically controlled belt tension and bale density make adjustment quick and easy while producing more uniform and dense bales. And when the baler is not in use, the control knob can be used to relieve belt tension for longer belt life. In addition, an oversize bale protection system that automatically de-clutches the pickup when the bale chamber is overfilled is standard.

A total of eight Chevron-design belts, measuring nearly seven inches in width, enclose 90 percent of the bale to reduce leaf loss and increase feed value. When it's time to wrap the bale, dual, hydraulically controlled twine arms make quick work of the process. A large capacity twine box that holds up to eight balls of twine means fewer stops, too.

"An operator-friendly monitor also keeps the operator in constant control of the machine," said Johnson. "In addition to a light to indicate when the tailgate is closed, the monitor includes driving lights to indicate which side of the chamber needs filled, and both a light and an audible alarm to tell the operator when the bale chamber is full. An ejector switch also allows the operator to turn off the optional bale ejector in hill conditions."

Requiring a minimum of 65 horsepower, dual remote hydraulics and 540 or 1,000 rpm PTO, the Model 855 is designed to fit a wide range of operations and is simple enough for even the beginning operator.

Drilling Systems Flex With Crops, Conditions

ATLANTA, Ga. — Tye drill systems have earned their place in countless fields over the past 33 years and nearly countless crops. Tye drills were first developed to meet the needs of no-till farming and pasture renovation.

Today, Tye drills, with their extra heavy duty frames (still the strongest in the industry) and rugged components, can handle any field condition from conventional tillage to minimum- and no-till.

"No matter what the crop or soil condition, if it can be drilled, there is a Tye seeding system that can do it, and there is probably a Tye owner who has done

ance.

Soybean growers will also have three new Roundup Ready soybean varieties available from Mycogen for 1998. Mycogen will market the new soybeans under the Atlas brand name. The new Atlas brand Roundup Ready soybeans are a result of a licensing agreement between Mycogen and the Stine Seed Company.

it," said Andy Anderson, Tye marketing manager. "It is our Tye owners who are the driving force behind many of the innovations and enhancements we have made over the years. They demand the best and challenge us to provide it."

New solid seeding drills such as the new 2000 No-Till Systems fit a wide variety of crops from soybeans, dry beans and legumes to wheat, other small grains, and grasses.

Tye also makes specialty drills for soybeans and rice and intensive cereal management (ICM) programs. Multirow grain drills are marketed for milo, sorghum, cotton, soybeans, and wheat. Grass drills, which Tye has been making since 1978, were developed to handle light, trashy grass seed as well as small grains and legumes.

Crop flexibility is matched only by tillage flexibility. Tye drills come in a variety of shapes and sizes from mounted to pull type and folding designs. Drill widths vary from 5 to 30 feet with nearly all standard sizes in between represented.