



## Fabral Announces Building Of The Year 2001 Winners

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — The recent 2001 NFBA Frame Building Expo in Indianapolis, Ind. featured many winners in the Post Frame Construction industry. Fabral, a national metal roofing and siding manufacturer, based in Lancaster held their third annual Building of the Year contest at the show. Over entries were received from Fabral customers across the United States.

Four categories were established and five buildings in each category were selected and voted on at the Frame Buildings Expo. The attendees at the show choose a picture in each of the four categories as the best in each.

The winners in Fabral's 2001 Building of the Year Contest are as follows:

**Woodframe-Agricultural Buildings** — Jurries Brother Builders from Hamilton, Mich. with their project "Geerlings Dairy." The building was clad in Fabral's Grandrib 3 Plus in evergreen for the roof and Grandrib 3 Plus light gray on the sides. The dairy has 21,000 square feet of roofing and 3,580 square feet of Grandrib 3 Plus siding.

**Woodframe-Rural Commercial Buildings** — A tie between Structural Buildings, Inc. from Becker, Minn. with their "North Country Concrete" and Wede-

ven Brothers Construction from Hamilton, Mich. with their own office and shop. Structural Buildings used 6,688 square feet of evergreen alutuff for the roofing. Wedeven Brothers used 10,000 square feet of Fabral's Grandrib 3 in evergreen for the main roof, 800 square feet of the 1-1/2-inch SSR in evergreen for a porch entrance roof, and 9,000 square feet of Grandrib 3 in ivory for the siding.

**Residential Buildings** — Cleary Building Corp. of Verona, Wis. with their "Cain Residence" of Franktown, Colo. won. Cleary used Fabral's Grandrib 3 Plus in hickory moss for the siding and Grandrib 3 Plus in evergreen on the roof.

**Woodframe-General Use Buildings** — Cleary Building Corp. of Verona, Wis. again won with their "Kechley Building" in Cortland, Ill. Cleary utilized Grandrib 3 Plus in evergreen for the roof and Grandrib 3 Plus in white for siding.

In the National Frame Building Association's Building of the Year contest, two of Fabral's customers won national recognition for their projects. Conestoga Builders of New Holland won the "Housing/Homes/Residential" category. Fingerlakes Construction of Clyde, New York won the "Hobby" Building Award.

## Bobcat Introduces

### Soil Conditioner Attachment

WEST FARGO, N.D. — Bobcat Company, a business unit of Ingersoll-Rand Company and the leading designer and manufacturer of attachments for compact equipment, recently introduced the Bobcat® Soil Conditioner attachment for skid-steer loaders.

Ideal for landscapers, golf course and general contractors, the landscaping tool leaves a perfect bed ready for seeding or laying sod. The Bobcat Soil Conditioner also can windrow rocks and debris left or right as well as de-thatch lawns.

The Soil Conditioner's hydraulic-angle option allows

the operator to adjust the drum to any angle from the operator's seat. The manual-angle option requires the operator to physically position the drum in one of three angles: 25 degrees to the left, 25 degrees to the right or straight.

Operators can place rocks and debris in a windrow to either the left or right side when the end wings are removed and the Soil Conditioner is angled. With the end wings attached, the Soil Conditioner will collect the windrow in a pile for easy pickup or turn it into a drum-style box rake.

## Getting Most Out Of Lower-Quality Soybean Seed

LINCOLN, Neb. — There are steps soybean growers can take to improve their odds of success with lower-quality soybean seed this spring, according to NC+ Agronomist Jim Cisco.

"Due to poor growing conditions last summer, soybean seed quality this spring is lower than normal," Cisco said. "However, there are steps growers can take to avoid placing additional stress on already weakened seed."

Cisco offers the following advice for improving soybean stands in 2001:

- Adjust the seeding rate. When calibrating the drill or planter, growers will need to account for the lower germination percentage and smaller seed size. For example, to obtain

150,000 plants per acre, about 176,500 seeds will need to be planted, for seed tagged at 85 percent germination.

- Watch your planting date. Soybeans don't respond to early planting like corn. A warm seedbed will allow soybean seed to germinate fast and emerge quickly. Warm seedbeds also minimize the opportunity for soil borne diseases to injure young seedlings.

- Handle seed carefully. Each time seed is handled, quality declines. Minimize the number of times the seed is loaded and reloaded.

- Utilize a fungicidal seed treatment. This will help protect seed from pythium/damping-off, rhizoctonia and phytophthora.

## Agco Introduces Compact Tractor Line

ATLANTA, Ga. — Agco Corporation has introduced a line of compact tractors as Agco® tractors. This is the first time the company has attached the name Agco, by itself, to one of its product lines.

The new Agco ST compact tractor series, six four-wheel-drive tractors from 24 to 44 HP, is designed to meet the demanding requirements of heavy-duty applications in the turf care and golf industries, landscapers, municipalities and parks systems. The compact and versatile tractors also meet the diverse needs of homeowners with large acreages to manage, equestrian facilities, specialty crop farms, small farms and hobby farms.

High-productivity features of the Agco ST series include:

- Indirect injection, three cylinder diesel engines with a pre-combustion chamber and cross-flow head design for better fuel economy, reduced stress on engine components, quieter operation, and reduced emissions. The ST45 has a four cylinder



Agco Compact Tractor

diesel engine for increased power and torque.

- Easy shifting 6F/2R and 9F/3R manual transmissions offer simple, rugged and efficient performance under extreme working conditions.

- Invalid character - ignored nPartially synchronized 16F/16R transmissions provide a wider choice of working speeds than most competitive models, and include a mechanical shuttle for front loader work. A 16F/16R transmission with Power Shuttle provides clutchless shifts between forward and reverse in front loader applications.

- Hydrostatic transmissions provide an infinite range of working speeds up to a trans-

port speed of 13.4 mph.

- All ST models are available with R1, R3 or R4 tires to meet a wide range of agricultural, turf and industrial applications.

- All ST models have an engine-driven hydraulic pump that generates from 5.3 to 12.6 gallons per minute for Category I 3-point hitch lift capacity, depending on the tractor model. For loader attachments or implements that require them, auxiliary hydraulic remotes are available.

- A new line of attachments job-matched to each Agco ST compact tractor includes loaders, mid-mount mowers, front blades, and backhoes.

- An open operator's platform leads the industry in spaciousness for operator comfort. Other comfort features include transmission and 3-point hitch controls positioned to each side of the operator for fingertip control, (the ST30X has a center shift manual transmission), power steering, and a spring-suspension seat.

## Pioneer Says Manage Alfalfa Stands For Increased Yields

MOUNT JOY (Lancaster Co.) — Older alfalfa stands may not be providing optimum value per acre for producers. But there are a few easy ways to check stands to see if you're getting the most value from your alfalfa fields, according to an expert with Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

"Today's alfalfa growers and livestock producers can't afford not to get the maximum value per acre from their forage," said Carl Bannon, Pioneer technical information manager in Mt. Joy. "It is important to plant varieties that offer top yields and quality. And it's just as important to double-check established stands, especially if they are more than 4-years-old. If these older stands aren't producing at optimum yield levels, it's better to rotate to corn or another crop."

According to Bannon, as stands get older, they thin out, resulting in decreased yields and increased weeds. The weeds reduce the forage quality of the alfalfa and make drying to the correct harvest moisture more difficult.

It's relatively easy to check the health and population of older stands, Bannon said. Begin by counting the number of

plants in one square foot at several locations throughout a field. The alfalfa population in an established stand should average at least four plants per square foot.

A second method for evaluating alfalfa stands was developed by University of Wisconsin forage agronomists Dan Underlander and Dennis Cosgrove and involves counting alfalfa stems. This method allows you to wait until stems have grown six to 10-inches before checking the number of stems per square inch.

Stem counting offers a more accurate idea of stand health and yield potential. If there are more than 55 stems per square foot, maximum yield potential can be expected. Stem counts dropping below 40 stems per square foot can reduce yield by 25 percent or more. If stem counts fall below 40 per square foot, consider rotating to another crop. You also can check the health of the stand by digging up several plants and checking for crown and stem rots.

"It is important to know if your current alfalfa varieties are producing yields that make a difference for your farming operation," Bannon said. "If they

aren't, switch to another crop and consider using newer varieties for your new alfalfa seedings this year.

"We have a number of excellent Pioneer varieties from which to choose, including Pioneer® brand variety 5454, which sets the standard for fast regrowth and recovery," Bannon said. "Also, 54V54 offers top yield potential and excellent disease resistance, and 53Q60 exceeds the National Variety Review Board standard for high quality designation."

Once you have checked older stands and selected newer varieties, Bannon suggests you follow proven management practices to ensure quality alfalfa production. Prior to planting, make sure that your soil pH measures 6.5 and 7. Be sure you're getting good seed-to-soil contact by either rolling or culti-packing prior to and after seeding alfalfa. After seeds have emerged, scout fields to determine if weed control is needed. In addition, scout for potato leafhoppers when plants are three to six-inches tall.

For more information about alfalfa variety selection, stand check or management practices, contact your local Pioneer products provider.

## Barenbrug Announces Manager

TANGENT, Ore. — Barenbrug USA is pleased to announce the addition of Roy Deason as southeastern forage manager. Roy comes to Barenbrug with over 15 years experience in forage and wild game seed marketing.

He has successfully launched numerous forage varieties and

wild game mixes specifically designed for the southeastern and midwestern states.

His technical expertise and agricultural training will be used to develop a progressive marketing program for wholesale seed companies in Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Georgia and

Florida.

Roy will work with wholesale seed companies, county extension agents, livestock producers and wildlife professionals to promote Barenbrug's complete product line.

He can be reached toll free at (888) 284-3299 or by e-mail at rdeason@barusa.com.

## Land Pride Introduces 45 Series 3-Way Rear Blade

SALINA, Kan. — Land Pride's new RBT45 Series 3-Way Rear Blade is built tough from the ground up. Designed to handle 125 HP tractors, this blade is available in 96-inch and 108-inch widths with a fully welded main frame and a heavily reinforced moldboard.

Make manual or hydraulic adjustments; Angle up to 45 degrees, tilt up to 15 degrees and offset up to 35-inches. The

RBT45 features a one-inch thick plate steel turntable, 3/8-inch thick tilt pivot bushing and a four-inch solid kingpin. An optional cushion valve protects cylinders and blade components during extreme impacts. Other

options include single or dual hydraulic gauge wheels, side plates and skid shoes.

Land Pride also offers 40 Series and 55 Series 3-Way Hydraulic Rear Blades.

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