

AN EVENT

Steady



as you go!

The dynamic development policy launched last year by AgroCentre is bearing fruit. Today AgroCentre is among Russia's major suppliers of imported farming machines. The company is establishing itself in new regions, where it creates modern maintenance centres.

In the new harvesting season, AgroCentre has prepared a present for the Chelyabinsk and Penza farmers, namely, two maintenance centres simultaneously opened in those regions.

The Chelyabinsk division is actively equipping and outfitting repair workshops. An area of one hectare will be used to accommodate servicing workshops (580 sq m), a spare parts depot (250 sq m), a demonstration site, training classes and a trading room. The maintenance centre's convenient location along the M5 federal highway enables the farmers to quickly reach "the technical ambulance" from anywhere in the region. Once they come to the maintenance centre, the farmers will be able to use the company's new service, a test drive, during which they can check out Challenger self-propelled equipment.

The new AgroCentre division in Penza will open a servicing centre with a total area of more than 800 square meters. This comprises a demonstration site (400 square meters) for presenting agricultural equipment, a spare parts and expendables depot (400 sq m), a repair section, maintenance workshops and offices.

"Training sessions, master classes and consultations on various types of equipment will be held at the maintenance centres for company specialists", says Nikolai Ivanishchev, director general of AgroCentre. "That's where the latest products of the world's agricultural machinery will be demonstrated".

Given the company's dynamic growth and the commitments it is assuming, it pays increasingly more attention to the enlistment of new personnel. To this end, it is offering interesting jobs, convenient working conditions and good career prospects.

By Anna BORDUNOVA

GLEANNING THE FACTS

A talking JCB

The JCB Company has released a series of children's toys called "My first JCB". In them, a set of loaders, excavators, bulldozers and tippers do all sorts of jobs just like their "real" counterparts. Each toy has its name and character. For example, the telescopic loader is called Larry! The machines can talk, thus helping the child understand which action he must perform and when.



The tractor-man



At festivities devoted to the 50th anniversary of Vaderstad, Magnus Samuelson, the strongest man in the world, once again demonstrated his super-capabilities. Watched by 6,000 viewers, he dragged, like a tractor, the three meter Rapid seeder that weighs 4.7 tonnes!

In the "heart"



This year, the Swedish Väderstad-Verken AB turns 50! In the anniversary year, AgroCentre and Väderstad have given Russian farmers an unforgettable present, arranging a visit for them to the very "heart" of Väderstad.

When Rune Stark, the founder of the industrial group, designed a harrow for his farm, he couldn't imagine that 50 years later his product would become a runner-up in sales of agricultural machines in Russia. It all began in 1962 with a small domestic workshop where Rune Stark and his wife Siv worked. Over time, their four children came to support their production. Today, Christer is chairman of the board of directors, Christine is director-general, Andreas is director for

of Väderstad

production, and Bo is director for sales in Scandinavia. This is a truly unique enterprise where all family members found a job for themselves.

Thus, a small business turned into a company with 12 divisions across the world and 950 personnel. The surface area of the enterprise in a small town of the same name, Väderstad, measures 5 hectares. Despite its large scale now, Väderstad

has preserved the homely atmosphere, openness and hospitality.

During the factory tour, the guests noted the complete automation of the manufacturing process. Each unit is tested in extreme conditions. To better see the process, the guests moved to the local quarry where the equipment operates on stones.

"One day of such a test equals five in the field", says Philip Vestman, Väderstad import

Christine Stark, Väderstad-Verken AB director general.

"What will our enterprise be like after 50 years? It's hard to say. To be sure, Russia will be the number one consumer of our products. The country's farming potential is very high. I suppose that the sale of soil tilling and seeding equipment to Russian farms will be roughly equal".

operations manager. "Such tests enable us to quickly discover the weak points of the equipment and to eliminate them before they come onto the market".

An impressive conclusion to the Russian farmers' visit was the

Over 50 guests from different countries attended the 50th anniversary of the enterprise. Among them were guests from Russia. Congratulating the company, Nikolay Ivanishchev, AgroCentre director general, wished the business established by Siv Stark success on the global market and hoped the company will live through many more fifty year periods full of innovations.

demonstration of Väderstad farming equipment. Along with famous machines like Rapid, Seed Hawk, Top Down, and Carrier, the guests were introduced to the Tempo inter-row seeder, which instantly was named "the air gun" for its seed embedding method. In the end, Christine Stark made the guests a present of 20,000 euros in the form of a discount for purchase of the Rapid RDA 600C seeder. Those wishing to enjoy the present were not long in coming forward.

"This is an exclusive bonus for our guests", explains Christine Stark with a smile. "It is not only in connection with our anniversary. This year it will be 10 years since we sold our first Rapid seeder in Russia!"

By Yulia SALKOVA

Live not by textbooks alone

Vladimir Yakushev, the Tyumen oblast governor, paid an official visit to Traktorgrad (Vinzili village), a major servicing and dealership centre in the Urals Federal Territory where AgroCentreZakharovo operates.



While touring the servicing centre, Governor Vladimir Yakushev touched on the subject of active cooperation between companies supplying agricultural equipment for the institutes of agriculture.

"It is important for the students of the Tyumen Agricultural Academy and farming colleges to learn life not by books alone, but also by obtaining practical skills on real machines so that upon graduation from the educational establishment they will be knowledgeable specialists versed in practical matters".

The head of the region commissioned the representatives of the servicing centres and of the Tyumen Agricultural Academy with preparation of a programme to jointly organise

students' training and practical sessions.

Active cooperation with the agricultural institutes is a pressing issue for the Tyumen division of AgroCentreZakharovo. This young and promising company is interested in the influx of new human resources and, in its turn, is prepared to train young specialists.

"We have everything we need for this", says Pavel Krasyukov, deputy director of the Tyumen division of AgroCentreZakharovo. "Skilled experts regularly taking training and probation at Russian and foreign companies are willing to share their expertise with us. The excellent equipment of the dealer centre enables the students to learn the basics of servicing and maintenance using real agricultural machines at our facilities".

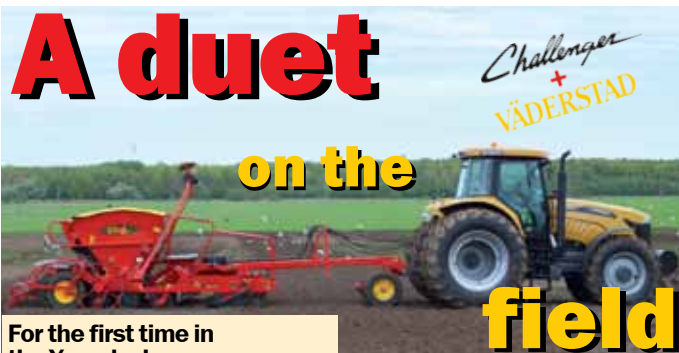
By Anna BORDUNOVA

Bryanskaya Myasnaya Kompaniya (the Bryansk Meat Company), a unit of the Miratorg Holding, purchases forty-seven JCB loaders from the AgroCentreLiski Company.

The increase of its pedigree cattle population, massive construction on its farms and dynamic growth of the company encouraged this large-scale purchase. The bulk of the machines, i.e. 10 compact JCB 260T mini-loaders and some 30 multiple-purpose JCB 531-70 Agri loaders, have already been delivered to the customer.

"We've been cooperating with Miratorg for several years", says Oleg Pireyev, regional sales manager of the Bryansk branch of the AgroCentreLiski Company. "It is pleasant to note that the company, the Russian leader in production of pork and fodder, puts its trust in JCB equipment, appreciating its productivity, all-purpose capability and dependability".





For the first time in the Yaroslavl area, AgroCentreZakharovo arranged a Field Day for the neighbouring regions' farmers at which new machines were demonstrated and gifts presented.

Opening the holiday, Victor Semakin, deputy director of the Yaroslavl Oblast Department of Agriculture, said: "The chief task facing the region's farming sector, updating the fleet of machinery, is being carried out successfully. Last year, we acquired more than one

billion rubles worth of machines. The Field Day is a fine opportunity to search for new solutions in the coming agricultural season. AgroCentre is giving our farmers a chance to learn about advanced technologies and to reach a fundamentally new level of farm management".

Some 17 farming machines were shown at the Field Day. The farmers saw several of them in operation. The first to start demonstrations was the magnificent duet of the legendary Swedish seeder

Rapid and the wheeled tractor, Challenger MT585B. The forte of the Rapid machine is a six operation capability in a single pass. The machine can seed various crops, treating the soil in no-till, minimum till or traditional mode. The farmers assured themselves of this following the Rapid's superb operation both in no-till mode and in tillage.

The Vaderstad Top Down cultivator won over the farmers by its multi-role feature. The machine proved that it can till the soil both on the surface and at a depth of down to 25 cm. The farmers familiarised themselves with Vaderstad's new product, the Swift duck-foot cultivator. The machine swiftly mixes the soil, even with a lot of crop residue on it. Most of the farmers attended the Field Day to pick out the fodder making equipment since the rapid development of husbandry in the region calls for steady provision of fodder. The specialists of AgroCentre met this demand by supplying a whole product line of Challenger

equipment. They spoke about the special features of the mower-crusher, the so-called butterfly, of the CHM 313 TR-KC trailed mower, CHT 7706 DN mounted agitator and the CHR 1603 rake.

This is very reliable equipment capable of operating in the harshest climatic conditions.

The Challenger 500, 600 and 700 wheeled and tracked tractors put up a real show, demonstrating their capabilities on the field. Pavel Konkov, the AGCO Machinery LLC regional sales manager pointed out the special advantage of the Challenge tractors - their modern stepless gearbox that reduces fuel consumption by 10%. Starting this year, the 500 and 600 series tractors and 647 Challenger grain combine harvesters are being assembled in Russia. One pleasing episode of the event was the contest for prizes. The lucky visitors got keepsakes from AgroCentre in the form of Challenger, Vaderstad and Kverneland scale models.

By Anna BORDUNOVA

Top twenty



At the Field Day in the Orel oblast, AgroCentre presented over 20 units of agricultural machinery. The spotlight was on a new product from Vaderstad, the Tempo inter-row seeder.

The Field Day was arranged on the facilities of OrelAgroProm LLC (Ozerna village of Sverdlovsky district, Orel oblast). The event attracted the leading farming enterprises of the region. Greeting the guests, Yevgeny Ankudinov, head of the Orel division of AgroCentreLiski LLC, said: "Over the short period of its operation in Orel oblast, the company has won the trust and respect of many farms. We are steadily increasing our product range, offering farmers more and more new products, and providing high quality servicing for them".

AgroCentre specialists spoke about the agricultural machines they are supplying this season. Special attention was given to Challenger, Kverneland, Vaderstad and JCB equipment. The guests watched with keen interest how the machines operate in field conditions.

Pavel Velchinsky, regional manager of Vaderstad, is sure that the Tempo system has successfully passed the test drives in the Orel region.

"In early May, this machine was

used to seed 200 hectares of maize", he says. "It should be noted that at the high operating speed of 18-20 km/h

this machine assures high seed introduction accuracy, 6 seeds per metre. Today it is obvious that the result surpassed all expectations. The sprouts are ideal. There are no omissions or double seeding!" (more details on page 8)

The farmers especially liked the Challenger 647 grain combine harvester assembled in Russia. This is a fine example of an optimum price to quality ratio. The core of the harvester is its economical 275 hp engine. The machine is unloaded on the move, just during operation. The hopper is fully emptied in 1 minute 43 seconds! Due to its high productivity and economical efficiency, many participants of the Field Day have opted expressly for this model.

Live operation was also arranged for the Challenger wheeled and tracked tractors. The guests were agreeably surprised to find a raffle of gift certificates for discounts on the purchase of these tractors in series six, seven and eight.

By Yekaterina GALUSHKINA

All machines in demand

The agricultural sector of Belgorod oblast is among the most developed in Russia. As nowhere else, people here understand that high results are unattainable without modern farming equipment.

AgroCentreLiski held a Field Day at the facilities of the Agroholding Ivnysky LLC, one of Russia's largest agricultural enterprises. Twenty-five units of equipment were presented here. The guests saw many of them in operation.

"Each machine had its prospective buyer, i.e. each farm came here with a settled decision to purchase a concrete piece of equipment", says Pavel Chumakov, AgroCentreLiski regional manager. "However, particularly keen interest was shown in the Spra-Coupe 4660 self-propelled sprinklers from Challenger".

This sprinkler with an operating width of 24.4 m features superior efficiency and processing quality. It

can operate at high speeds with a minimum loss of process solution. In short, it is ideal for small farms.

The Challenger MT 765C and MT 865C tracked tractors were also the focus of the guests' attention. Low on-soil pressure and minimal slippage (up to 2%) make them advantageously different from their wheeled counterparts.

By Yulia SALKOVA





The agricultural enterprise Agrost LLC (Nerekhtsky district of Kostroma oblast) is one of the youngest in the region. It is hard for a newly created farm to find its niche on the agricultural market. Life is particularly difficult for those who have decided to take a real risk.

Agrost LLC made its first steps in agriculture in 2010. A group of like-minded enthusiasts decided to resurrect ecological farming on the soil of a once advanced farming enterprise called Rodina (Motherland).

"Today, Russia has practically no market of highly reproductive seeds of real quality", says Dmitry Knyazev, technical director of Agrost LLC. "This prompted us to take up seed production and launch a relatively new line of Russian agriculture known as ecologically sound seed production".

Dmitry Knyazev believes that our chief asset is the land. The job of the real farmer is to preserve it as it was created by Nature and to

grow on it truly natural products. Humanity has always been engaged in precisely this kind of agricultural production. But in the age of advanced technologies organically natural products came to be replaced by their "modernized" counterparts. Today the return to the original sources requires extra resources and efforts since the "fruits" of scientific and technological progress are obvious, i.e. the exhaustion of soil and transformation of the environment beyond recognition.

Organic or environmentally friendly farming is a risky business given that crop yields here are smaller, labour productivity is lower and selling the produce is more complicated. However, the founders of Agrost did not fear difficulties when they launched the production of ecologically clean seeds of grains, flax and grasses. The farm took over deserted wastelands. So they had to start everything from scratch. In their work, they unswervingly observed the strict rule – to use professional equipment and avoid chemicals. They purchased tractors, mulching

A step towards 'organic foods'

machines, deep rippers and the Vaderstad-built Carrier cultivator for mechanical weed processing. The farm employs a total of 15 modern farming machines. In addition, highly productive Russian-selected seeds were bought from the research institutes of Kirov, Torzhok, Pskov and Tomsk. Last year, the first grass seeds were introduced on an area of 70 hectares. This season, the grains, flax and grasses were spring-sown on an area of 500 hectares.

Today, Agrost has around 7,500 hectares of land. Next year, it plans to increase the seeding area and to start building a modern grain drying facility.

"This involves the enlargement of the inventory of farming equipment", says Dmitry Knyazev. "In our situation, we have no right to make a mistake in choosing the machines. This year, we bought the Challenger MT595B tractor from AgroCentreZakharovo. Thus far it operates perfectly well. We plan to purchase some more machines of the same brand. We don't think we'll have downtime considering the excellent maintenance provided by our partner".

Agrost LLC started to produce highly reproductive seeds for companies seeking to update their seed stocks. In the future, the crops obtained from "ecologically clean" seeds may become raw material for the production of ecologically clean fodder for animal husbandry. If these hopes are realized, then, possibly, an issue will arise of producing ecologically clean food.

Dmitry Knyazev is convinced that the farming business can and must be both profitable and useful. For this purpose, it is necessary to experiment and to believe in success. And then the results won't be long in coming.

By Anna BORDUNOVA

OUR PRESS

Ladybird settled down at AgroCentre

A stroke of the hand and carelessly scribbled lines can turn into a meaningful article. Add to this the shrewdness of Sherlock Holmes, the curiosity of Barbara, the impudent pushiness of a fly and the ability to analyse and look into the facts and you'll get a real journalist. So thinks Aleksey Demidov, a system administrator of AgroCentreZakharovo and, simultaneously, an editor-in-chief of the AGROnozhka wall newspaper, a job which he does like a real professional.

The idea of creating a wall newspaper cropped up at one of the daily briefings.

"The necessity emerged to promptly obtain an unencumbered information flow about the life of all company divisions", says Aleksey Demidov.

"So we purchased a large notice board on which we decided to place each month a new issue of the wall newspaper".

In his spare time Aleksey works on the newspaper's design, selects relevant news and pictures and writes texts. At AGROnozhka the employees can learn interesting facts about the company's activities outside the stuffy offices with their long talks. "The Fun Page" will cheer you up while "The place for your ad" feature offers space for notices and advertisements. "The Sports Corner" will tell you, for instance, who became the best goalie of AgroCentre.

"Of course, we don't live up yet to the AgroCentreNews publication, our parent", says Aleksey. "We



Aleksey replies with a smile: "When I was looking for the title, I came upon a photo of a ladybird. I remembered how we sang with friends in our childhood: 'Ladybird, fly to sky; ladybird come with pie'. Overall, our company is very much like this insect. Our people work to help grain producers obtain high quality harvests. In addition, our workers, like journalists, live by their feet. That's how AGROnozhka came into being".

The sociable Aleksey Demidov is a far cry from the traditional image of a software developer as a fellow immersed in the realm of codes and tags. He does his editing job with glistening eyes and contagious enthusiasm. Now, each month, you can read in the AGROnozhka editorials about how AgroCentreZakharovo is doing.

By Anna BORDUNOVA

need time for development. And time will show what lies ahead".

Asked why they named the newspaper AGROnozhka,

AGROCENTRE RECOMMENDS

Smart machines



Harvesting and storing potatoes are important links in the production of “the second bread”. The quality and timeliness of harvesting determines the amount of crop gathered and the tuber storage life. The Kolnag smart machines will help farmers to do these jobs with minimum losses.

For fast and efficient potato harvesting, the AgroCentre specialists recommend that farmers look to the AVR combine harvesters.

The AVR 220BK Variant potato combine harvester is a mix of simplicity and careful handling

of tubers. Attentive and caring cleaning of the product is achieved by using three wide (1,600 mm) conveyers with small height differential and large separation area plus an array of shakers and a soft coating of contact surfaces. The Variant combine harvester

needs no pre-cutting of the haulm on table varieties of potato. Variant can also harvest other crops, such as beetroots and onions.

As compared to AVR 4100 and 6100, the Spirit family of combine harvesters with lateral digging and 4 and 6 tonne capacity hoppers features a new system of sieving, haulm

removal and feeding conveyers with a horizontal table separator. This ensures an even flow of potatoes, the highest possible cleaning and separation of soil and haulm.

The Spirit 8200 two row system operates better than its counterparts in the early potato harvesting. The excellent effect is achieved, on the one hand, thanks to the latticed conveyor for removing close-fitting haulm and, on the other hand, due to the small sweep angle of the flow, which leaves the young peel undamaged.

“The Kolnag combine harvesters are smart machines, which makes them advantageously different from their counterparts”, adds Maxim Gorelko, AgroCentreZakharovo LLC equipment sales manager. “Having the ‘soft descent’ option, they allow you to containerise the products straight from the hopper. The Diabolo autopilot, the admixture separation rotary comb, automatic hopper filler and other ‘smart’ functions preclude the influence of the human operator on the harvesting quality”.

How to “put in” correctly?



The feed hopper plays an important role in laying potatoes and other vegetables for storage. It is a sort of a buffer that ensures the cleaning of the flow from soil and batched supply to the line. Due to the fact that the line's throughput capacity starts with the feed hopper, Miedema developed a new range of highly efficient MH hoppers with a moving bed measuring 6.6 m long and 2.4 m wide.

A wide choice of options, such as automatic control of the moving bed speed, and continuous roller cleaning from soil and small tubers make it possible to fully automate the operation and avoid frequent line stoppages.

All to the conveyor!

The Miedema KT 75 /KT 95 band conveyers are multiple-purpose machines. The KT elevators with goose-neck and increased elevation are used for withdrawing the seed fraction from under the calibrating rollers at the feed hopper and for loading onto trailers or into containers.

The TAT-HAT telescopic and horizontal conveyor copes with all distances in the vegetable storage depot. The groove-shaped bands ensure a high throughput at low speed. The rubber-coated contact surfaces and the minimal height differential between the containers ensure the careful

treatment of the product.

Like all other Miedema machines, the TAT/HAT conveyers consume 1.5 times less electric power than their counterparts. The TAT telescopic conveyers reduce the number of line relocations during filling due to their folding components.

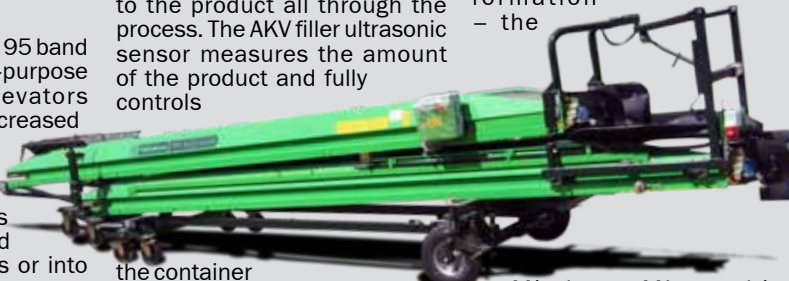
Smart solution

The automatic Miedema AKV 42 fillers and container tippers are another “smart” solution from Miedema. The filling and tipping proceed automatically with maximum care applied to the product all through the process. The AKV filler ultrasonic sensor measures the amount of the product and fully controls

efficiency.

A machine which is pleasant to use

The Miedema ML loading elevators are the final link in putting the potatoes into storage. The main use of the Miedema ML loading elevators is the layer-by-layer arrangement of potatoes in the storage facility, which prevents fractioning, ensures regular air circulation in the clamp and reduces the duration of ventilation. Offering ample options – from partial to complete automation of clamp formation – the

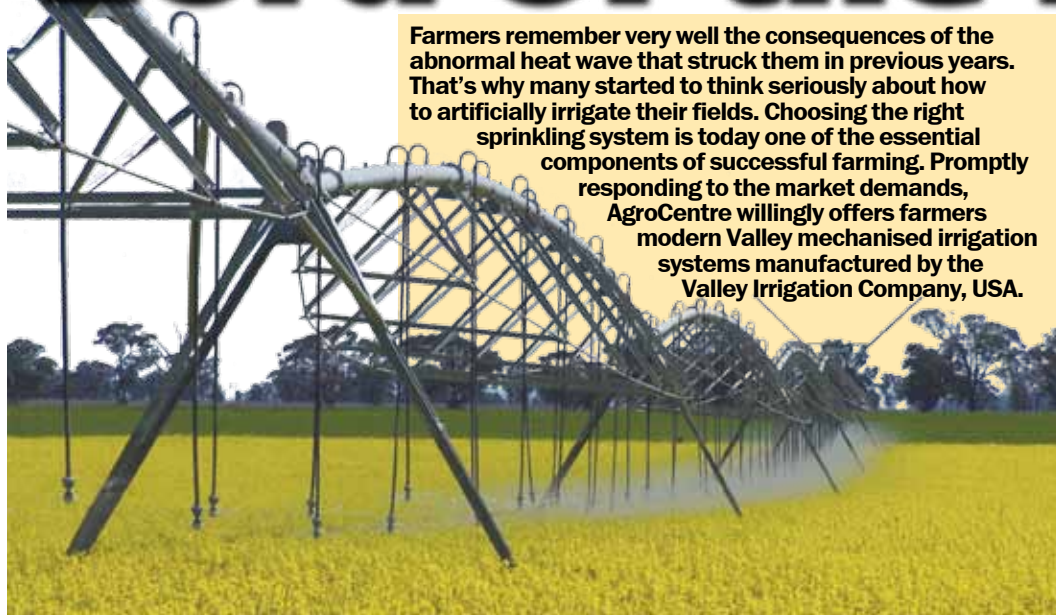


the container filling. Once the container is full, the line automatically stops. The only task that remains is container replacement. When the full container reaches the platform, the tipping and further transportation start. Special sensors monitor the platform inclination and the product flowing to the line. Such a procedure assures high

Miedema ML machine makes work easy and pleasant. The operator only needs to introduce the storage facility parameters into the wireless control unit and press the “On” button. The machine will do all the rest. In addition, the ML elevators are used for loading trailers or forming grain clamps.

By Anna BORDUNOVA

Lord of the rain



Farmers remember very well the consequences of the abnormal heat wave that struck them in previous years. That's why many started to think seriously about how to artificially irrigate their fields. Choosing the right sprinkling system is today one of the essential components of successful farming. Promptly responding to the market demands, AgroCentre willingly offers farmers modern Valley mechanised irrigation systems manufactured by the Valley Irrigation Company, USA.

"The signing of our dealers' agreement is a good beginning of long-term cooperation", says Stepan Smirny, brand promotion manager of AgroCentreZakharovo LLC. "We offer the Russian farmers state-of-the-art mechanised irrigation systems that have shown themselves to be the quality standard across the world. Operating since 1954, Valmont Irrigation has become the leader in design and production of irrigation equipment for agriculture. The entire product line of the company is designed for increasing productivity and preserving scarce

water reserves".

Depending on the field size, the irrigation area and the crop types, the company offers different irrigation systems. These are circular, frontal and angular installations, as well as smaller field machines, plus auxiliary equipment and its spare parts. The Valley automatic machines for circular irrigation are considered to be the most advanced in their class. They increase irrigation efficiency on fields of all sizes, ensuring the quality of watering and, as a result, a superior harvest. Use of

the irrigation system at a height of 1.85 to 5 metres makes it possible to grow practically any crop.

All structural elements of the Valley machines are designed, developed, and tested taking into account the actual operating loads the machines sustain in work.

"The design of the circular systems can resist the highest loads caused by soil irregularities, furrows and long spans. Circular sprinklers are the staple products of the Valley Company. Strong

and reliable materials are used to manufacture them".

The Dual Span sprinkling system has two sets of spans and high-speed engines for irrigating individual field areas. Such an arrangement halves the amount of time needed to irrigate the entire perimeter.

The single span circular system powered by a petrol engine is ideally suited for small fields of 2.2 to 10 hectares where electric power supply is unrealistic. The system's maximum inclination angle is 10%, which is why low pressure is needed to operate it.

The Spinner single span circular system is an excellent choice for farms with small seeding areas from 2.2 to 6 hectares. The machine involves minimum expense on maintenance, needs no power supply and operates effectively on fields with an inclination of up to two percent.

Both systems can be installed permanently or towed from field to field. The longevity of the circular irrigation system is ensured by the Valley fixed central articulated supports. They are manufactured in four size formats which fill all possible needs of the farmers. Their reliability and quality assure maximum service life of the entire platform. AgroCentre specialists can help you select the optimum Valley irrigation systems for your farm.

By Yekaterina GALUSHKINA

The Strawmaster harrow is a revolutionary development of North-American designers.

"One of this machine's functions is the rational crushing and distribution of straw after harvesting for subsequent no-till and minimum till sowing", says Nikolai Bashkirov, head of the equipment orders department of AgroCentreZakharovo LLC.

Each Strawmaster harrow is based on a simple design using torsion spring rods. They enable hydraulic control from the cabin, using the pressure of 862 kg per section. The spring rods ensure field hugging by lifting the frame on elevations and lowering it on depressions. These capabilities make it possible to closely follow the features of the terrain.

The operating speed of the machine reaches 20 km/h. The pegs are arranged in four or five rows and fitted on large (3.05 m wide, 1.83 m long) sections spaced 24" (610 mm) from one

The real



Since ancient times the peg-tooth harrow has been one of man's principal tools for levelling the ground, breaking the soil crust and eliminating weeds. Its prototype was the wooden frame with a row of sharpened pegs fastened with baste. Modern technologies have moved far ahead and the current peg-tooth harrows have a metallic frame fitted with metallic operating elements. The Strawmaster peg-tooth harrows manufactured by the Canadian company Degelman have proved to be excellent tools on the Russian fields.

another for maximum intake of the processed material. The pegs are shaped like a conic spring, which reduces stress on the

metal, preventing peg breakage. The hydraulic cylinders replace a standard geared drive jack. They help to adjust the harrow peg

inclination angle, thus ensuring steady pressure on each section.

The Valmar 3255 system, used for introduction of seeds and granulated fertilisers, is offered an option for the harrow.

The Valmar grooved plastic metering rolls enable precise and regular introduction of fertilisers during each rotation. The batching is set by using the number of rotations per hectare. Given that the system is fitted with a clutch, it ensures a steady rate of seed-out regardless of the rate of introduction.

For this purpose, the tool has 60 batching reels which vary from the smallest of 1 kg/ha to the largest of 100 kg/ha at a speed of 8 km/h. In calibration, the collector can be lowered for easier and safer collection of material. The convenient sliding shutter of the hopper makes it possible to remove the rolls for cleaning, inspection and repair.

By Yekaterina GALUSHKINA

AGROCENTRE RECOMMENDS

3

trump cards of Challenger

Gone are the times when the tractor was exclusively used as a prime mover and "the pulling machine" or as the basis for a loader. Today farmers need a machine featuring enhanced operational preparedness, high productivity and all-purpose capability. The Challenger equipment meets all these demands.

AgroCentre offers a range of reliable Challenger wheeled and tracked tractors with a power range of 92 to 610 hp.

Wheeled tractors MT400B 96-125 hp

The Challenger MT400B product range includes four tractor models with a capacity of 92 to 115 hp. Massive in appearance but agile and manoeuvrable, they are simple to use and offer an ample component package. They will be a real find for mixed farming enterprises which will appreciate such features as the possibility of fitting a front loader or a forward mount. The powerful and reliable engines with low emissions, plus the superior AUTO Power 4 transmission and operator-friendly cabin interior, ensure high speed, excellent efficiency and ease of operation.

MT500B/D130-240 hp

A dynamically growing agricultural enterprise will find it particularly useful to have a medium traction tractor. One such machine is the Challenge MT 500, which is powerful enough for various types of jobs. The new Caterpillar engines with electronically controlled fuel injection and displacement of 6.6 litres (402 cubic inches), plus the time-proven AGCO SISU POWER electronically controlled engines with a displacement of 7.4 litres won the farmers' recognition on two earlier models due to their reliability and fuel efficiency.

The MT 500 model with a three point mount offering the highest

lifting capacity in this entire class of tractors is an ideal match for modern heavy equipment like mounted seeders.

MT600D 270-370 hp

The new Challenger MT600D series is a revolutionary product line of powerful tractors designed to reduce fuel consumption and exhaust gas toxicity to unprecedentedly low levels.

These tractors are built fitted with the newest AGCO SISU POWER engines. Thanks to the use of the E3 selective catalytic reduction (SCR) technique, these tractors exceed by far the rigorous requirements applied to the toxicity of exhaust gases. The Techstar® CVT stepless gearbox ensures the engine's high power transmission. The mount's rear mechanism features a lifting capacity of 12 tonnes. The machine has a strong chassis and front bridge support.

MT900C 470-610 hp

The Challenger MT900C tractors are built for large agricultural enterprises. They are the biggest and heaviest wheeled tractors and the first tractors to be fitted with an

articulation arrangement. In addition to a massive frame, the machines have the most powerful engines, power transmission systems and bridges.

The Caterpillar ACERT C15 (15.2 l) and C18 (18.1 l) large

displacement engines provide huge power in the operating rotation range and an increased torque reserve. This enables the tractors to tow larger implement with a deeper soil penetration and wider area coverage. The Caterpillar Full Powershift gearbox with a capability of switching all transmissions under-stress is designed expressly for the MT 900C series. In association with the ACERT technology, it ensures the maximally smooth gear change and increased efficiency of the entire machine.

Caterpillar tractors MT700C 290-355 hp MT800C 470-610 hp

The steady improvement and permanent use of advanced technologies gave birth to and brought to the market the new C series tracked tractors.

Both series of the Challenger tractor, MT 700C and MT 800C, are fitted with an innovative

hydraulic system that smoothly distributes the flows regardless of the load (Load Independent Flow Distribution, LIFD). This enables the machine to perform several operations at a time.

The tractor cabin is fitted with a tractor control system (TCS), whose essential component is a new 178 mm full colour display. The new control centre fully meets the ISOBUS standard, which makes redundant some mount controls in the cabin. The One Touch turn control system (control by a single push of the button) has become more universal and convenient in use. The system can store up to 35 turn performance sequences for six different implements.

The tracked machines' strong polymer-coated support rolls are fitted as per customer requirements. They are an excellent alternative to the standard rubber-coated rolls, offering a long service life in adverse operating conditions due to excellent resistance to minor mechanical damages of the surface.

By Yekaterina GALUSHKINA

[FEEDBACK]

Pin-point accuracy



This farming season, the Tempo inter-row seeder, first demonstrated by Vaderstad at the Agritechnica 2011 exhibition, passed trials at Orelagroprom LLC (Sverdlovsky district, Orel oblast).

Unlike other inter-row seeders now available on the market, the Tempo embeds seeds in a perfectly new way. Under high pressure, the seeds are "shot" in a given direction from the seed chute, like from an air gun, at a speed of 40 metres per second. This minimises the vibration effect and assures superior seeding accuracy despite the high speed and soil irregularities.

Andrey Selin, chief agronomist of Orelagroprom LLC, briefed us on the trial results:

"We are very pleased with the

The Vaderstad specialists promised Russian farmers the following advantages:

1. high seed-out speed (12-20 km/h);
2. high productivity;
3. regular seed embedding;
4. seeding depth accuracy.

Tempo's performance. The seeder has fulfilled all the

promises made by Vaderstad. First off, our seeding speed was 18 to 20 km per hour, which is quite impressive given that the traditional inter-row machines operate at a speed of 8 to 9 km per hour. Second, in three days we seeded 200 hectares. Third, at such a speed the seeder assured pin-point accuracy of 6 seeds per metre. Fourth, the embedding depth of 6 cm is maintained at

the greatest possible accuracy, as evidenced by the ideally regular sprouts, which promises a superior crop. I also must point out the simplicity of adjusting the Tempo".

Another test of machines from AgroCentre and Vaderstad took place in the Tyumen oblast using the facilities of the Sovkhoz Chervishevsky Joint Stock Company. Under test was the Rapid RDA 600C seeder, or rather its Russian counterpart, which enjoys well-deserved trust of our country's farmers. The test was mainly prompted by the Tyumen farmers' curiosity – does the Russian Rapid match the Swedish one? Does the system have the same advantages, such as high speed and accurate seeding?

The results of the test seeding were reported by Sergey Grigoryev, director general of the farm:

"We started seeding on 20 May and seeded 300 hectares of oats. Of course, this seeder needs a loading auger. We operated at a speed of 15 km per hour and did the job in three days. Now we look forward to the sprouts to be able to judge about the embedding accuracy".

By Yulia SALKOVA

[A NEW PRODUCT]

This season, Kverneland has come up with some new types of soil tilling equipment. These are the CLC Evo stubble cultivators, the Kverneland 150 S/B plough and Qualidisc disc harrow.



The generation Next

In creating its equipment, Kverneland pays special attention to the machine's multi-role capability, components' wear resistance and efficiency of the entire system.

The new Kverneland 150 B mounted one-way plough has all those excellent features. It is intended for small farms on light and medium soils. The plough combines with up to 130 hp tractors. The new uniquely designed frame, link and case tines with shear bolts are expressly designed for reducing the plough weight while retaining high

productivity and reliability.

The considerable clearance under the frame (80 cm), plus the distance between the plough cases (100 cm) ensure high quality treatment of the soil which has a lot of plant residue on it.

Mechanical adjustment of the case grip width enables the plough to easily mount variously powered tractors without limitation on the wheel gauge. This makes it possible to optimally combine the capabilities of the plough and the tractor and, thus, to save fuel.

By Anna BORDUNOVA

JCB does its job

The JCB Company presents on the Russian market its upgraded 527-58 AGRI loader developed expressly for poultry farms.

Russian farmers already know the JCB 527-58 AGRI loader to be a highly agile multi-role machine for use on small animal farms. Due to its compact size (2 x 2 metres), the loader easily goes into limited access buildings and structures with narrow approach lanes. The machine's lifting capacity is 2.7 tonnes, and the lifting height is 5.8 m. Stepless transmission enables the operator to gather speed right from the start-up without changing gears, thereby ensuring fast acceleration and efficiency.

Now the 527-58 AGRI loader can also help poultry farmers. By adding new options expressly developed for the Russian and CIS markets, the JCB specialists maximally improved this model for excellent work on poultry farms.

Among the novelties are blue headlights. They do not disturb the birds and reduce the stress they experience from the equipment operating on the farm.

The heated mirrors fitted on the 527-58 AGRI machine ensure a

satisfactory rear view in cold weather and adverse climatic conditions. This makes possible very efficient machine operation and eases the operator's work in small and constrained areas.

The upgraded loader has a 2,000 mm fork. It is usually used on poultry farms for relocating cages with birds. The fork allows you to load and unload cages from the edge of the car, all of which maximally increases the load intake and reduces the operating costs.

The 527-58 model can be fitted with a large 1.6 cubic metre bucket for loading and unloading grain, bird fodder and droppings. This makes the machine still more universal and increases the efficiency of loading and unloading operations.

By Anna BORDUNOVA



AGROЦЕНТР

Publisher: AgroCentre Group of Companies

Editor-in-Chief: Ms. Svetlana Weber

Address of the editorial office:

79-a Radishchev Street, Kursk, 305004,

tel. +7 (4712) 39 26 60

e-mail: news@agrocentr.ru

Signed for printing on 13.04.2012

Distributed free of charge

Translated by the Snegiri Translation Bureau

www.snegiri-tb.com, e-mail: buro@046.ru

Printed by VIP Publishing House LLC, 51st Mokovsky

lane, Kursk, 305007. The circulation of the

issue: 560 copies. Order №