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OUR MISSION:
To provide you with information about Case IH equipment, trends in agriculture and growers' experiences to help you successfully manage your farm business.

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THE FARMALL LEGACY CONTINUES

The designers of the first Farmall tractors knew they had a good concept with its narrow profile design. Unlike most tractors of the time, with their low ground clearance, the new Farmall tractors could work in taller crops without pushing them down. Visibility was better, too, and implements such as front-mounted cultivators let them do tasks that were previously handled by horses.

What they couldn't foresee was how the Farmall tractor would come to symbolize progressive North American agriculture. Farmers embraced the performance and value these tractors represented. And, they were sold and supported through an extensive dealer network. The letter series Farmall tractors, specifically the H's and M's, rank as the highest volume tractors produced in North America.

The Farmall tractors were introduced 85 years ago, in 1923. Today, we're proud to place the Farmall name on 20 models of tractors representing the lower horsepower models in the Case IH tractor line. Like the legacy Farmalls, our current Farmall tractors represent value and performance. As their name implies, they're sized to do it "all" around the farmstead or livestock operation, reliably, comfortably and economically.

Also unimagined 85 years ago was the role technology would play in every aspect of agriculture. With this issue of *Farm Forum* magazine, we're taking another step forward with the introduction of a new *Farm Forum* Web site. There, at www.caseih.com/farmforum, you can view exclusive magazine content, download helpful literature, find past issues of the magazine, and link to other Case IH Web sites.

Our primary Web site, www.caseih.com, is continually enhanced with new information and features. Visit it often for information ranging from new equipment details to current financing offers to used equipment locators.

Jim Walker

Jim Walker
Vice President
North American Case IH
Agricultural Business

Visit Case IH on the World Wide Web at www.caseih.com.

This Case IH Farmall 95C tractor is one of 20 models to carry the Farmall name. With a wide range of horsepower ratings and configurations, there's a Farmall tractor model sized to play a role on any cash grain, dairy or livestock operation.

NEW FARMALL TRACTORS DELIVER PERFORMANCE AND VALUE

Case IH has expanded the line of Farmall tractors with new utility and mid-range models with PTO hp ratings up to 90 hp joining the existing line of compact Farmall tractors. The new Farmall tractors replace the former D/DX, JX, JXU, JXN and JXC models.

All Farmall tractor models are designed to be a source of hard-working dependable power. Fuel-efficient and clean-burning Tier 3-compliant three- and four-cylinder diesel engines drive through hydrostatic, synchro or power-shuttle transmissions, depending on the model, with MFD available on all.

With configurations ranging from compact straddle-mount models to platform models and your choice of ROPS or a cab, there's a Farmall tractor model designed to meet your needs. All models can be equipped with loaders, making them ideal for livestock operations and all-around farm use. Mowing, hay production, light grading, material handling, and powering grain augers and generators are among their many uses.

Here's a look at the new Farmall tractor line:

Class 2 and 3 Farmall compacts: Five models – Farmall 31, 35, 40, 45 and 50 – with PTO hp from 25 to 43.

Class 4: Two models – Farmall 55 and 60 – with PTO hp ratings of 47 and 51.

Farmall: Four platform models – Farmall 70, 80, 90 and 95 – with PTO hp ratings from 52 to 80.

Farmall U: Three platform models – 85U, 95U and 105U – with PTO hp ratings from 70 to 90.

Farmall C: Four straddle-mount models – 65C, 75C, 85C and 95C – with PTO hp ratings from 50 to 80.

Farmall N: Two narrow-profile models – 75N and 95N – at PTO hp ratings of 60 and 80 with expanded and refined offerings to follow.

FARMALL – AMERICA'S FAVORITE TRACTOR

Eighty-five years ago, in 1923, an unusually narrow tractor, painted gray and carrying the name McCormick-Deering Farmall, rolled into a leading role in the North American agricultural revolution.

With its row-crop design – the industry's first – it could do more work at more stages of crop growth. Implements could be mounted fore and aft, expanding its versatility.

Thanks to its innovative features and a broad dealer network, Farmall tractors quickly became the tractor of choice for progressive farmers throughout North America.

More models came forth, designated the F Series. The F-20 and F-30 tractors, with powerful four-cylinder engines, helped put a lot of horses out to pasture for good.

In 1936, the now legendary "Harvester Red #50" paint was introduced for Farmall tractors to help make them more visible to motorists on country roads.

In 1939, the F Series Farmall tractors were replaced with the letter series. Their dramatically modern styling and bold red color helped them become one of the most recognized and favored series of tractors.

These models included the A's, B's, H's, M's and later variations. These tractors were produced during peak times for North American farm numbers. Trains pulling dozens of flatbed carloads of Farmall tractors were a common site near the Farmall plant in Rock Island, Illinois. More than 390,000 Farmall H tractors were produced to rank as the top selling Farmall tractor of all time. Nearly 350,000 M's and Super M's were produced.

The next Farmall models were the number series, introduced in 1954 with the 100, 200, 300 and 400 models. The Farmall name continued into 1973 and appeared on many popular models including the Farmall 1206, the first row-crop tractor to exceed 100 hp.

The Farmall name was reintroduced in 2003 on a new line of compact and subcompact Case IH tractors. These tractors were chosen for the Farmall name because of their strong, simple design and ability to handle all tasks on a small farm or fill important support roles on larger farms.

During the span of their production, Farmall tractors were owned by thousands of farm families whose children grew up to become the Greatest Generation and the Baby Boomers. The Farmall tractors, notably the H's and M's, were part of the landscape that shaped farm values of hard work and integrity, and fueled these generations to do great things.

Today, those classic Farmall tractors have come to symbolize those values that people look back to fondly, whether they're long removed from the farm or still have Dad's or Granddad's first Farmall, carefully restored and stowed in the shed. n

The Farmall H, above, ranks as the top selling Farmall of all time, with the Farmall M, below, close behind. The tractors were favored for their bold styling, innovative features and the support of a strong dealer network.

Older tractors that were produced and/or any tractor without ROPS installed must not be used unless they are fitted with a Case IH approved ROPS. Contact your local dealer for information regarding installing an approved ROPS on your tractor. Your life may depend on it.

A NEW SOURCE OF INPUT FINANCING

CNH Capital teams up with crop input retailers to provide unique new programs

FIND A PARTICIPATING CROP INPUT RETAILER

The list of crop input retailers who provide CNH Capital Ag Resource financing is expanding. Find out who your nearest participating retailer is by calling (888) 333-2688.

CNH CAPITAL AG RESOURCE CROP INPUT FINANCING

The CNH Capital Ag Resource program offers financing for the cost of inputs sold by crop input retailers including seed, fertilizer, crop protection chemicals, custom application services, crop scouting services, fuel and lubricants, and operating costs such as cash rent, labor and equipment repairs.

Your farm dollars are squarely in the crosshairs of exciting times. There's the possibility of capturing near-record crop prices, with prices being potentially higher the longer you wait to sell.

On the other hand, crop input costs are spiking. Crop input retailers are incentivizing you with early-order discounts and possibly introducing a "first-come, first-served" policy for inputs in tight supply.

You want to buy now to take advantage of the early bookings, but you don't have crop available to sell. Your current bank credit lines are at their limits or need to be settled prior to starting the new crop year.

CNH Capital America LLC, the financial services company of CNH Global, has been watching this type of situation become more common over the past several years. Cash crop farmers find themselves making significant investments in the next year's crop while the current crop is still in the field. Their marketing plan may not generate immediate cash, yet making early payments into the next year's crop inputs would capture significant savings.

To help farmers meet these special cash flow needs, CNH Capital has introduced a new program called CNH Capital Ag Resource. It's offered through an expanding list of progressive regional crop input retailers who want to offer their customers convenient and competitive financing programs.

"CNH Capital has a strong heritage in agriculture. We understand agricultural, we're committed to this market, and farmers know us through equipment financing," explains David Swigart, who heads up Ag Input financing programs for CNH Capital.

CNH Capital offers three Ag Resource programs. Ag Resource Express can provide farmers from $5,000 up to $50,000 of unsecured credit. It's an ideal product for paying for preseason crop inputs and services.

The middle level program, called Ag Resource, provides financing for all products and services sold by the crop input retailer. Secured by a first lien on the crop, and with crop insurance required, Ag Resource offers financing beginning at $5,000 and without a maximum limit.

The third program, Ag Resource Plus, provides financing to cover the full range of crop inputs sold through the participating crop input retailer plus other crop production expenses including cash rent, labor and other general operating costs. Like the Ag Resource program, there is no upper limit to funding. Collateral requirements for Ag Resource Plus include the crop and a broader range of farm assets excluding real estate.

Swigart says farmers are choosing Ag Resource financing for several reasons. These include the convenience of handling financing at the point of sale which eliminates the paperwork and communication involved with a third-party lender. With financing in place with the crop input retailer, it's easier for the retailer to help the customer capture discounts for early order, bulk purchases and other incentives.

Another reason is that Ag Resource financing is based on a crop year. Additional loans can be put in place prior to settling current loans. "You could have financing in place for the 2008 crop year, and start another separate line to finance the 2009 inputs you want to secure on an early order basis," Swigart explains.

The ability to provide large loans is another factor users cite. CNH Capital can finance sums that may be beyond the capability of local lending sources.

And, Swigart notes, the CNH Capital Ag Resource financing is offered through the crop input retailer where a business relationship likely already exists. "That local relationship is important," Swigart says. "We've seen the value of it through the long-standing relationships CNH Capital has with customers of Case IH dealers. Now farmers can have a similar relationship with us through their crop input retailer." n

This article was developed in cooperation with CNH Capital. CNH Capital provides a comprehensive range of services, including wholesale and retail financing, leasing, insurance, asset management, and revolving lines of credit, for the global marketplace. Building on 50 years' experience in the equipment finance industry, CNH Capital is helping Case IH dealers and well over half a million customers throughout North America, Latin America, Europe and Australia.

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See your Case IH dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Offer good for a limited time at participating Case IH dealers. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice. Automatic system applicator must be purchased between February 1, 2008 and March 31, 2008.

Whether in his farm office, his equipment cabs or in government or trade group meetings, Ron Heck helps promote soybeans and corn for global trade and domestic biofuels.

This Iowa farmer sees great potential for soybeans and corn. Making farmers' voices heard will help.

TOTAL INVOLVEMENT

As Perry, Iowa, farmer Ron Heck looks across his dormant corn and soybean fields, he sees images ranging from the generations who farmed before him, to our nation's energy independence, to an ace hand in world trade. And, of course, his livelihood.

Heck is a full-time farmer who's also played an active role in soybean promotion, notably as a longtime member of the Iowa Soybean Association including its president in 1993, and president of the American Soybean Association in 2003. He remains active in those groups plus several groups promoting biodiesel and bioenergy.

He's learned a few things along the way. Notably, when ag policy is being shaped, it's vital to have a "farmer at the table" so that American farmers' interests are heard. And, when your time is limited, farming practices that are more efficient are valuable.

In fact, as anyone who's become deeply involved in association work knows, it takes a passion for the issue to devote the time demanded. "I do enjoy the work," Heck says of the soybean promotion roles. "And, there's the flip side of realizing that if we don't have farmers represented at the right time, bad decisions can be made. So there's the hope of gain and the fear of lost opportunity."

Fortunately the gains have been substantial and the losses few. Heck ranks new market development as one of the Soybean Association's successes. Aquaculture in Asia is an example. "The American Soybean Association virtually invented aquaculture in Asia, which now consumes millions of our soybean bushels," he says. "We showed the Asians how to feed soybeans to fish."

Expanding market access is another. While major global trade agreements such as the current Doha round of talks can be excruciatingly tedious and slow, Heck says bilateral country-by-country trade agreements have been much more fruitful. "The U.S. Trade Representatives Office and Congress look to associations such as ours to hear our issues and priorities. And, it's been my experience that the bureaucrats in Washington, especially the higher level ones who have the ultimate responsibility for trade and policy decisions, are eager to talk with us. They want to make good agreements and seek good advice," he says.

Of course, the heightened demand for renewable fuels is the success story of the hour. While most of Heck's involvements have focused on soy-based biodiesel promotion, he doesn't see an "ethanol vs. biodiesel" competition; both are key contributors to energy independence. Ethanol has simply been in commercial production longer than biodiesel, he notes. More ethanol is available, too. An acre of 200-bushel corn can generate almost 600 gallons of ethanol compared to 75 gallons of biodiesel from an acre of 50-bushel soybeans.

However, biodiesel is a very efficient fuel source and relatively easy to make. Heck says groups such as the American Soybean Association and the National Biodiesel Board, of which he's a board member, have worked with the Environmental Protection Agency and engine manufacturers to gain biodiesel's approval.

"It costs an engine manufacturer around $400,000 to gain EPA certification for every engine model it approves for biodiesel use. It's a huge step for the engine manufacturers, and it shows their commitment to agriculture."

Heck also serves on the Ag Steering Committee of 25x'25, a group whose mission is to have 25 percent of America's energy come from renewable sources like wind, solar and biofuels by the year 2025. Farmers, he says, will play a key role in the expansion of renewables. "They're the ones with the land and the productive capability."

On the 3,600 acres of corn and soybeans he farms with the help of his son-in-law and a full-time employee, Heck has embraced "productive capability" with new practices and new technologies. And, he's quick to solicit input from other growers as he evaluates changes.

For example, when site-specific yield mapping became available in 1994, Heck was among the first farmers to try it because he saw the potential to learn more about his land's productive capabilities.

"I generated my first set of maps and saw incredible variability in each field," he says. He wasn't alone; this new technology spawned many questions and few answers.

Through his involvement with the Iowa Soybean Association, Heck helped gain funding to start the Iowa State University Precision Farming research project and to create a network of Iowa farmers sharing results from their own on-farm precision farming trials.

HECK'S EXPERIENCES HAVE SHOWN HIM THAT WHEN AG POLICY IS BEING SHAPED, IT'S VITAL TO HAVE "A FARMER AT THE TABLE."

"Now we have a large and nationally respected program of farmers doing on-farm research," he says. And, thanks to advice gained through this network, Heck says his current yield maps show much more consistency.

Heck says he continually looks for ways to do things "better, faster or cheaper" on his own farm. He has greatly reduced, but not eliminated tillage. "Two-hundred bushel Bt cornstalks simply won't decay without some soil mixing," he says.

He's taken a unique approach to managing heavy corn residues: they're disked lightly, then packed into the soil surface with a roller. "This levels and distributes the residues, and puts them in contact with the soil," he says.

His 50-50 rotations of corn and beans are planted in 20-inch rows. He harvested 2007's crops with one Case IH Axial-Flow 7010 combine, which replaced the single Axial-Flow 2388 combine he'd been using. While 3,600 acres is a lot to harvest with one combine, Heck says it hasn't been an issue with the Axial-Flow combines. "They're reliable, and they get the job done," he says.

Trading up to the Axial-Flow 7010 increased his harvesting capacity. The equipment trade included a 35-foot header compared to his previous 30-foot one, and a new 12-row corn head replacing an older 12-row head. In beans, he says capacity increased by about 20 percent more bushels per hour. "And, the grain sample was fantastic," he says. "It does a great job of cleaning."

Corn capacity improved by about 10 percent, he says, noting his productivity was limited by construction at his farm's grain handling system.

The new combine's efficiency in beans, especially, was aided by an autoguidance system. Heck purchased the integrated Case IH AFS AccuSteer system on a new Magnum MX305 tractor he bought at the same time as the combine. The system's AFS Pro 600 monitor, which drives the guidance system, is transferrable. On the combine, he says the accurate hands-off steering was especially helpful running the 35-foot header in beans.

A longtime Case IH owner, Heck's equipment also includes a 9390 Steiger tractor used for the occasional deep ripping and other heavy tillage; an MXM155 and a pair of 7220 Magnum tractors for rolling, spraying and hauling grain; and a JX95 tractor which he says delivers low-cost horsepower for augers and the grain vac.

Little time is spent on equipment service. "The equipment is reliable, and my dealer is terrific. With my other time demands, having the dealer handle service is very efficient for me," Heck explains.

The balance of being hands-on with the farm and an active participant in major issues facing agriculture is appealing to Heck. "I can't emphasize enough the value of the farmer's voice being heard as policy is being made. It definitely makes a difference." n

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A STEP FORWARD

These Arkansas cotton specialists see Case IH Module Express 625 pickers as a step forward in cotton production technology

Partners Tommy Dilldine and Randy Reynolds don't spend too much time analyzing their crop mix. "We like to raise cotton," Tommy says. "It's our money crop."

Year in and out, the partners grow cotton on the majority of the 10,000 acres their operations encompass around Blytheville and Osceola, Arkansas.

Lifelong cotton growers, Dilldine and Reynolds have evolved over the years. They formalized their partnership a few years ago and operate with a mixture of their own land and shared equipment. Randy's stepson, Heath Adkisson, manages the Osceola operation in partnership with Dilldine and Reynolds. Called Farmers Farms, it was previously operated by Tommy's late father and his partner.

They've made a priority of keeping up with the latest agronomic and equipment technologies.

As they planned for the 2007 crop, they were well aware of the new Case IH Module Express 625 module builder picker which builds 8-foot by 8-foot by 16-foot modules on-the-go.

Tommy Dilldine and Randy Reynolds switched their entire cotton picker fleet to the Case IH Module Express 625 module builder pickers to harvest their 2007 crop. With them, harvest was much simpler.

With the potential to eliminate the labor and equipment needed to build modules the traditional way, Dilldine says they were very interested in the new machines.

The partners had been harvesting with seven six-row pickers. They wanted to try the new Module Express pickers for the 2007 crop, but debated adding a couple of the new machines vs. replacing all of them.

"After thinking it through, we decided to run all module builder machines," Dilldine explains. "We

One of Farmers Farms' two Case IH Module Express 625 pickers unloads an 8- foot by 8-foot module, 16 feet long. It's ready to be covered with a reusable tarp and transported to the gin where it will be processed using the same equipment used to handle and process 32-foot modules. The new pickers eliminated boll buggies, module builders and the related tractors, maintenance, labor, and the scheduling needed to keep everything coordinated.

Heath Adkisson manages Farmers Farms in Osceola in partnership with Dilldine and Reynolds. "After a few rounds in these new pickers, our operators had them figured out," he says. "We used to have about a dozen people here supporting three machines. Now we have two on the ground to handle the tarps. That's been amazing to us."

had some concerns about jumping into them all at once, but decided we couldn't go part of the way and still get the benefits. If we were running some module builder pickers and some basket machines, it would be difficult to make everything work together."

Supporting their decision, Dilldine adds, was their familiarity with the Case IH picker and the capable service they receive from their Case IH dealer. "If there were any issues, I knew we could work through them," he says.

Dilldine, Reynolds and Adkisson put five of the new pickers in operation: three in Blytheville and two in Osceola.

As it were, the biggest "issue" was their amazement at how much simpler their 2007 cotton harvest was.

"When we went to the field, Randy made the comment, 'Where's the crowd?' We were used to having so many people there," Dilldine says.

"In our Blytheville operation, we parked four module builders, three boll buggies and the tractors. We didn't need them, or the people it took to run them, or the four or five more people for the ground crew," Reynolds adds.

The partners saw the obvious immediate savings with the Module Express pickers: reduced labor and fuel costs.

Other advantages quickly surfaced. Fewer people meant less time spent scheduling and managing them. No longer having to run a convoy of buggies and module builders on public roads and through small towns lessened that liability risk. Running fewer machines reduced the non-productive time spent each day . . . refueling, fixing flats, dealing with minor repairs.

"The module builder pickers have simplified things so much that we're still in awe," Dilldine says.

In the field, the Module Express pickers function with the same harvesting proficiency as basket pickers. But, rather than having cotton fill the basket for transfer to a boll buggy and then into a module builder, the module is formed underway. The operator is updated on the module's formation by a monitor and a video display. When the module is formed, the operator stops and unloads it. The module is ready to be covered and hauled to the gin.

"The monitor tells what's going on, but the operator does have to make some decisions about where and when to unload," Dilldine says. The partners say the operators who run their pickers readily adapted to the new machines. With a bit of planning, the operators can unload on row ends and not have to deadhead through the field.

"After a few rounds, the operators know what they need to do. The ease of these machines is great," adds Adkisson.

The partners continue to have two or three employees on the ground to cover the modules as they're unloaded. Some of their other workers and equipment are redeployed to other post-harvest field work, giving them a head start on the rest of the season's work.

With five Module Express pickers, the partners had one machine for approximately 2,000 acres, which is more acres per machine than they've had in the past. And while they say the actual harvesting performance of the Module Express pickers is very similar to the basket machines, the module builder pickers have an advantage in productivity.

They aren't dependent on other equipment. They don't have to sit and wait for the boll buggy to get to them, or stop picking if the module builder breaks down. One operator can work alone, without any supporting equipment. A crew can come by later and cover the modules.

Because the modules built by the Case IH pickers have the same overall dimensions as standard 32-foot modules, except for being exactly half the length, their size and shape is a key advantage. The 16-foot modules can be transported with the same equipment used for 32-foot modules, and gins can handle them without any modifications. Other than purchasing 16-foot reusable tarps, no other accommodations are needed.

After their first season using the Case IH Module Express 625 pickers, the partners see them as another step forward in overall cotton production technology.

"I think that people who grow cotton on very many acres are going to see this is the way to go," says Reynolds. "It's a whole new concept in cotton harvesting. And, it's really amazing." n

GUIDE YOUR WAY TO FUEL SAVINGS

AUTOGUIDANCE BENEFITS INCLUDE FUEL EFFICIENCY

CALCULATE YOUR SAVINGS

Need more convincing about the financial benefits of autoguidance systems? Use the Case IH AFS AccuGuide calculator. Enter your costs for labor, crop inputs and equipment size to calculate the estimated savings the different levels of guidance system can deliver. Access it at www.caseih.com>products>precision farming>AFS AccuGuide autoguidance systems>AFS AccuGuide tools>AFS AccuGuide calculator.

If you're considering the purchase of an autoguidance system, add potential fuel savings as another reason to make the investment.

Guidance systems can help you save fuel. They do so in ways from simply reducing overlap to helping you adopt new farming practices such as controlled traffic that have reduced fuel consumption as one of their many benefits.

One estimate from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service states, "If guidance systems were used on 10 percent of the planted acres in the United States, fuel use would be cut by 16 million gallons."

The fuel-savings benefits of autoguidance systems are most directly realized through reduced overlap in primary and secondary tillage operations. Covering more ground per pass uses fuel more efficiently. University and independent studies commonly cite fuel savings of 5 percent in these operations.

Because autoguidance systems remove the burden of steering, you can run implements a few feet wider to cover more ground with little additional fuel required. Or, boost your ground speed a bit to cover more acres. If your tractor is equipped with a performance monitor, you can compare "acres per hour" vs. "gallons per hour" to identify the optimum speed, with the confidence that your autoguidance system will keep you on course.

As more combines become autoguidance-ready, there's the opportunity to maximize fuel efficiency during harvest. For example, with autoguidance you can use the full width of grain headers rather than leaving that outer foot or so vulnerable to your steering ability. You cut more grain with every pass and every gallon, and complete each field a bit faster.

Beyond the direct fuel-saving benefits of managing the overlap in tillage, planting and seeding, spraying, and harvesting operations, autoguidance systems can let you perform practices such as controlled traffic that were difficult to attempt prior to this technology.

Researchers say as much as 90 percent of a conventionally tilled field can be covered by tire tracks in one year. And, driving equipment through soft soil requires more fuel compared to running on firmer ground. The higher levels of autoguidance systems, such as RTK, allow repeatable accuracy. With them, it's possible to set wheel spacings on tractors, implements and combines to run in the same tracks, year after year, so the equipment rolls on firmer soil.

Strip tillage goes hand-in-hand with controlled traffic. This practice of tilling only the portion of the field to be planted, as opposed to tilling the entire field, holds the potential for significant fuel savings.

Of course, potential fuel savings is just one benefit of autoguidance systems. Overall crop input costs can drop or be used to their maximum potential, by being applied or planted with the proper overlap and in accurate row spacings.

You can improve your odds of maximizing yield potentials by planting, spraying and harvesting when conditions are best. By reducing the fatigue of steering, autoguidance systems can help you run longer if need be, and can provide a valuable assist for running at night.

If you embrace any of the controlled traffic practices made possible through autoguidance systems, you stand to capture further yield gains through reduced compaction, which ranks as a significant yield limiter.

New autoguidance systems that provide transferrable data provide still more possibilities. Suppose that you have made site-specific yield maps using a Case IH AFS Pro 600 display. After harvest, you've analyzed the low-yield areas on the maps and have identified compaction as the culprit. Because the Pro 600 display is portable, you transfer it to your ripper-equipped tractor, drive to the compacted areas identified on the maps, and alleviate the compaction exclusively in the areas where it's needed, saving time, fuel and equipment costs while improving yield potential.

There's much more . . . the ability to employ operators without them needing highly accurate driving skills; the ability to review irregular fields on your autoguidance system's display to confirm that all portions have been tilled, planted or sprayed; the ability to return a few days later to the spot where you stopped working.

Clearly, autoguidance can do a whole lot more beyond helping you drive straight . . . including even saving a few gallons of fuel. n

AUTOGUIDANCE FUEL SAVINGS

- Reduced overlap
- Run wider or faster
- Use the full width of grain headers; cut more grain with every pass
- Move into controlled traffic and strip-till practices

PRESEASON PLANTER MAINTENANCE

Planting is the production stage where timeliness matters most. After all, a crop can't start growing until the seed's in the ground. And, missing the optimal planting dates limits yield potential.

You're counting on your planter to deliver seed accurately, plant to the moisture, and provide good seed-to-soil contact and consistent depth control, reliably and predictably. Preseason maintenance should focus on seed delivery systems, ground engaging tools and overall planter integrity.

The Case IH crop production team offers these basic planter preseason maintenance tips.

For reliability, check:

Tractor/planter hookup. Make sure your planter tractor has ample horsepower and hydraulic capacity to capably handle your fully loaded planter. All hitch and hydraulic connections should meet or exceed the requirements set forth in the planter's Operators Manual.

All hardware for overall integrity. Inspect the entire implement to make sure all bolts and fasteners are tight. Check frame members and welds for cracks or signs of fatigue.

Operation of electronic control systems. Make sure wiring and connectors are in good condition and properly routed.

Tires. Because they may play a key role in implement depth control, planter tires should all be the same size and inflated to the same pressure.

Row markers. Run them through their cycles to check for proper operation. Be sure marker disks and disk bearings are sound.

Safety equipment. Be sure all lights, reflective markers and SMVs are clean and functional.

For performance, check:

Planter leveling: Planter row units should be set for level front-to-back operation.

Soil opening, firming, closing and packing systems. All components should be in good condition and equally matched in terms of wear.

Row-unit depth control. Make sure all depth control components function properly.

Seed metering and delivery systems. Inspect all components that play a role in selecting, delivering, placing and monitoring seed.

Planter drive systems. Inspect all chains and sprockets for alignment, tension and sprocket wear.

Consider replacing:

- Ground engaging tools that are worn beyond the limits recommended in the Operators Manual.
- Gaskets and seals required to maintain air or vacuum pressures.
- Any seed singulation or seed delivery components that are worn beyond recommended limits. n

NEW PLANTER PRODUCTIVITY GUIDE

Case IH has a new Planter Productivity Guide for 1200 Series planters. It's available at your Case IH dealer.

Choose parts kits for accuracy and ease

Use parts kits for easier preseason maintenance on Case IH planting and seeding equipment. These kits include everything needed to replace worn components with new genuine Case IH parts.

Planter clinics, planter inspections

Case IH dealers are your source for information about planter setup and operation. If your dealer has a planter clinic, do try to attend. There, you'll learn the latest recommendations for planter setup and operation.

Your Case IH dealer can also handle preseason planter maintenance for you, with a Customized Maintenance Inspection. These involve detailed inspections, replacement of worn parts and adjustment to recommended settings. This is a valuable service especially if your preseason time is limited or you want added assurance that your planter is field-ready.

Planter performance basics

- Plant to the moisture
- Have consistent depth control
- Assure good seed-to-soil contact
- Deliver accurate in-row seed spacing

Case IH offers extensive information about maximizing your crop's potential through seedbed preparation and planter management. Visit: **www.plantstandmanagement.com**

CASE IH NEW PRODUCTS

Case IH continually introduces new and updated equipment. Here's a look at several new products that can bring new efficiencies to your farming operation.

NEW SHORT WHEELBASE PUMA MODELS DESIGNED FOR MAXIMUM UTILITY

With 135 PTO hp, the Puma 155 is one of four new full-featured Puma models built on 107-inch wheelbases.

Case IH has introduced four new models to the Puma line of midrange tractors. These new models, ranging from 95 to 135 PTO hp and built on 107-inch wheelbases, join the four larger Puma models from 135 to 180 PTO hp on 113.6-inch wheelbases.

Powered by 6.75-liter Tier 3 compliant 2,200-rpm engines, these tractors are sized to be a fuel-efficient source of power for a wide range of tasks where productivity and ease of operation are key. Ideal applications include livestock operations, hay production, and cash crop duties including spraying, secondary tillage, grain carts and PTO work.

Engine management systems include Power Boost to provide up to 25 additional horsepower during transport or PTO operations, and Constant Engine Speed to provide a constant engine rpm and PTO speed regardless of load variations.

These are full-featured tractors with excellent power-to-weight ratios. The standard 18-speed forward/6-speed reverse transmission includes an Auto-Shift function for automatic shifting based on load conditions. Other transmission choices include options for creeper drive, reduced rpm in road gear for improved transport economy, and a high-speed option for transport speeds up to 31 mph (50 kph). All have full power shuttle shift with fingertip control.

Standard three-point hitch capacity is 12,185 pounds with 15,197-pound capacity optional. Electronic draft control, dynamic ride control, flex link ends and fender-mounted raise/lower switches are standard features.

The PTO is independent 540/1000 rpm with a reversible 1 3/8-inch shaft. The closed center pressure flow compensating hydraulic system delivers implement pump flow of 26.5 gpm through three or four mechanical remotes; electrohydraulic remotes are optional.

The SurroundVision cab has 67 square feet of glass with an optional roof window for enhanced visibility during loader work. Front axle suspension on all MFD models, cab suspension and a deluxe air-ride seat provide a smooth ride.

All new Puma models can be ordered "loader ready" with rear loader brackets, two- or three-function mid-mount valves and a joystick to match with Case IH LX 700 Series loaders.

The new Puma tractors can use B5 biodiesel blends and are approved for B100 biodiesel provided approved Case IH maintenance practices are followed.

New Precision Air carts include two compartments, are ISO11783-compliant and are offered in 280- and 330-bushel capacities.

PRECISION AIR CARTS DESIGNED FOR ACCURATE HIGH-CAPACITY SEEDING

Two new Case IH Precision Air carts deliver greater capacity and are ISO 11783-compliant to match them with any ISO 11783-compliant in-cab display.

Both new models have two molded polyethylene tanks with a 57/43 capacity split to apply combinations of seed, fertilizer or granular products in a single pass. The Precision Air 2330 has a total capacity of 330 bushels; the Precision Air 2280 carries 280 bushels. They're available in tow-between or tow-behind versions. A 10-inch auger provides a fill rate of 55 bushels per minute.

Choose the AFS 200 monitor to control all Precision Air system functions including fan speed, individual meter roller speed and application rate. The AFS Pro 600 monitor handles all these functions plus interfacing with the Case IH AccuGuide autoguidance system.

Patriot 3320 sprayers have 235-hp engines, 1,000-gallon product tanks and near-equal fore-aft weight distribution.

PATRIOT 3320 SPRAYERS SIZED FOR ON-FARM PERFORMANCE

The Case IH Patriot 3320 sprayer provides many of the performance features of the larger Patriot 4420 favored by high-acreage growers and commercial operators.

With 235 hp from its 6.7-liter engine and a 1,000-gallon product tank, the Patriot 3320 has ample power to handle hilly fields and soft conditions.

The unique cone-shaped mid-mounted tank and rear-mounted engine offer several advantages. The sprayer is quiet, with in-cab sound levels of 71 dBA. There's good visibility rearward to the booms on both sides. And, the sprayer has near-equal fore-aft weight distribution, which reduces rutting and can help this sprayer work in muddy field conditions that could limit other sprayers.

The Patriot 3320 sprayer rides on a trailing-link suspension for a smooth stable ride. An optional active suspension system aids overall performance including hill climbing capability.

Spray booms, at 60/90-foot or 60/100-foot widths, are self-centering and can be extended or folded with a single switch control. The Patriot 3320 booms share the same parallel-link style used on the Patriot 4420.

Servicing the Patriot 3320 is handled at the center-mounted service center which houses all plumbing connections for ground-level tendering.

Combo-Rate nozzle bodies from Wilger allow fast switching between two bodies at each nozzle location. This provides up to 300 percent greater flow through a single body, compared to conventional nozzle bodies, to match higher travel speeds. Controller choices include the Case IH SCS 4600 or Case IH Viper PRO rate controller.

Optional AIM Command spray system uses pulse width modulation technology to uniquely manage pressure and droplet size independent of speed and rate. By holding a constant spray pressure, independent of rate and ground speed, it also provides "on-the-go" drift control.

NEW ROUND BALERS, WINDROWERS HAVE INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY

New Case IH RB 4 Series round balers and WD 3 Series windrowers have new features for increased durability and productivity.

All RB 4 Series round balers use a combination of belts and rollers to produce dense, uniform bales. New steel formed-ribbed bale forming rolls last longer and improve core formation in tough conditions.

Pickup tines are now formed using a shotpeened process to make them twice as durable compared to prior model tines. A new one-piece welded design hitch is also considerably stronger, and the mesh wrap system has been simplified.

The RB 4 Series balers include five models ranging from the RB444, which produces 4-foot-tall by 4-foot-wide bales to the RB564 which produces 5-foot-tall by 6-foot-wide bales. All models include continuous-run PTO, wide pickups with gauge wheels and your choice of twine or mesh wrap. Choose the RB454 Silage or RB454 Rotor Cutter Silage to process crops with up to 65 percent moisture content into round bale silage.

WD 3 Series windrowers have up to 226 hp to handle heavy crops, hilly terrain and wide headers. The 226-hp WD2303 and the 190-hp WD1903 are powered by a new 6.7-liter six-cylinder Tier 3 compliant engine. The WD1203 has a 4.5-liter four-cylinder engine.

All three models have the same spacious high-visibility cab that's used on Case IH Axial-Flow 7010 and 8010 combines. Standard four-point cab suspension and an air-suspension seat provide a comfortable ride. An optional independent rear axle suspension provides another level of comfort and allows faster ground speeds on rough terrain. WD 3 Series windrowers are approved for B5 through B100 biodiesel following Case IH approved maintenance practices.

Put a Case IH header to work with the WD 3 Series windrower to handle any hay and forage crop. RD Series rotary disc headers include three cutting widths up to an industry-leading 18 feet. There are four models of HDX 2 Series sicklebar headers in widths from 12 feet 3 inches to 18 feet 3 inches. The DHX 2 Series draper headers are the choice for grain and cereal crop producers. Four models range from 21 feet to 36 feet wide. Specialty seeds and other crops not requiring conditioning can be cut with the HSX142 grass header at 14 feet 3 inches wide.

New RB 4 Series round balers (top) and WD 3 Series windrowers have new features for durability and increased productivity.

Learn more in person or online
See your Case IH dealer for more details on how Case IH equipment can help you be a more efficient producer. You can also find more information and specifications at www.caseih.com.

MAGNUM TRACTORS EARN TOP DESIGN AWARD

The strong and distinctive styling of Case IH Magnum tractors earned a design award in an international competition.

If you think the current Case IH Magnum tractors look great, you appreciate good design. Magnum tractors were recently honored with a prestigious Good Design™ Award from The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design.

Other winners in the award's transportation category included the NASA Lunar Lander, the Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder automobile, the BMW F800S motorcycle and the Camcopter S-100 UAV Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.

"We were judged against some of the best transportation companies in the world – and out of this world, when you factor in NASA," says Mike Bunnell, one of the company's tractor vehicle engineers who designed the current Case IH Magnum tractors. "That's pretty impressive competition."

The Magnum earned its award based on how it successfully combines style and extreme functionality. "It's stylish and looks great, but it's also a rugged, muscular tractor," Bunnell explains. "The design has to integrate a lot of necessary functions such as airflow, cooling, high visibility and operator comfort."

The Chicago Athenaeum: Musuem of Architecture and Design founded its Good Design award program in 1950 and ranks among the oldest most important design awards program in the world. The Case IH Magnum tractor was one of several hundred entries, and marked the first such award received by Case IH.

CASE IH SPONSORS INDIANA CORN EXHIBIT

Case IH is partnering with the Indiana State Museum to sponsor an educational exhibit titled, "Corn: Powering the World." The exhibit demonstrates how this versatile crop feeds and fuels the world's population.

Visitors will view archeological artifacts, discover how popcorn pops and calculate how much corn it takes to power an Indy race car. A modern lab built into the exhibit will allow visitors to experience genetic engineering firsthand. "Corn: Powering the World" will help shape public opinion about critical issues and help visitors understand how corn is rapidly becoming the most important plant-breeding achievement of all time.

Case IH is one of four national sponsors of the exhibit, along with Dow AgroSciences through the Dow Chemical Company Foundation, Ford Motor Company and National Starch Food Innovation.

Scheduled to open at the Indianapolis museum in August 2009, the exhibit will continue through January 2010, then travel to other venues nationwide.

Case IH is one of the national sponsors of an exhibit, "Corn: Powering the World," which will open at the Indiana State Museum in August 2009. Barry Dressler, left, president of the museum, receives a ceremonial check from Terry Snack, Case IH product specialist.

Meet Case Isaac Hayden Reinke, with his parents, Dan and Kathy, last summer, and as a seven-month-old Case IH fan.

THE REST OF THE STORY . . .

A production error deleted the last two lines of copy in the Case IH Owner Profile article on the Reinke family from southern Indiana, which appeared in the Fall 2007 issue of *Farm Forum*. The missing lines referred to how Dan and Kathy Reinke decided upon the name for their new son, born just a few weeks before *Farm Forum's* visit.

The complete passage stated, "We started talking about names, and Danny suggested 'Case.' Then we thought of the other names we liked, and it all came together," Kathy says.

Young Case's full name is Case Isaac Hayden Reinke. And if that's too long to write out, he can proudly go by Case I.H. Reinke.

Our congratulations to the entire Reinke family, and especially, to Case.

Farm Forum goes online

We're pleased to introduce an expansion of *Farm Forum* magazine on the Internet. The newly created Web site (www.caseih.com/farmforum) includes more of the information you've come to expect in *Farm Forum* magazine, including the online exclusive First Owner Report.

You'll also find this current issue in an easy-to-use flipbook format.

This new site, www.caseih.com/farmforum, will be your place to access current and past issues of the magazine. You'll also find a calendar of events where you can see Case IH equipment displayed and talk with company representatives.

The site will grow with information of interest to Case IH owners such as brand merchandise, wearables and gifts you can order online for your convenience. And, you can link directly to www.caseih.com, which is the Case IH Web site for complete and detailed information about Case IH products and services.

Visit us, and bookmark us, today.

FARM FORUM ONLINE EXCLUSIVE FIRST OWNER REPORT

A MORE ACCURATE, EASIER TO USE SEEDING SYSTEM

Greg and Brian Thomson

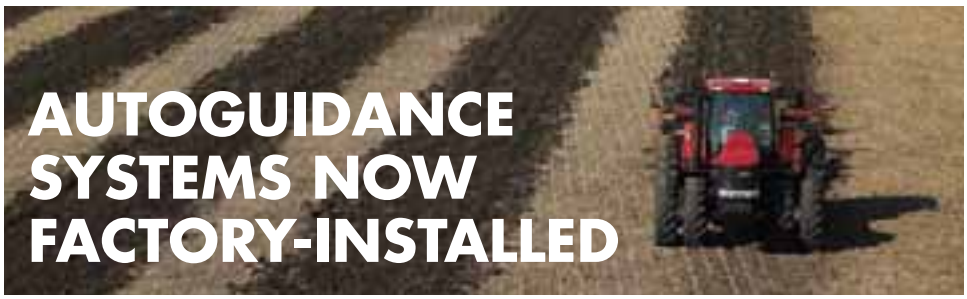
"We were looking for better accuracy," explains Brian Thomson. That's the main reason that prompted him and his son, Greg, to look for a new air seeder to replace the one they'd been using.

Brian and Greg farm about 6,500 acres near Plumas, Manitoba, with half the acreage devoted to canola and half to cereal grains including wheat, barley and oats.

They've kept pace with new seeding technologies, moving from a pair of 14-foot press drills to a 39-foot, then a 50-foot air seeding system. As seed costs increased, notably for canola, which has been pushing $6 a pound, the Thomsons wanted a drill that would provide the best possible seed rate accuracy.

The Thomsons selected a Case IH ATX700 60-foot air hoe drill with an ADX 3430 tow-behind cart, and seeded their 2007 crops with it.

You can read more about their experiences with this high-capacity seeding system at www.caseih.com/farmforum.



AUTOGUIDANCE SYSTEMS NOW FACTORY-INSTALLED

Case IH is the first manufacturer to offer complete factory-installed autoguidance systems. The Case IH AFS Accuguide system is available on Magnum and Steiger tractors and Axial-Flow combines.

The system includes the portable AFS Pro 600 color display, the Navigation Controller II mounted inside the cab to receive data from the operator, satellites, correction signals and steering inputs, and the AFS 252 GPS roof-mounted receiver antenna.

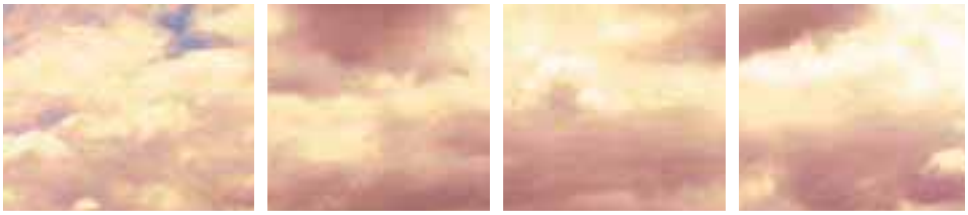
There are several advantages to factory-installed guidance systems, explains Nate Weinkauf, Case IH AFS Precision Farming marketing manager. "You have the convenience and quality control of having all components set up and tested as the tractor or combine moves down the assembly line.

"And, it's an easier way to include the autoguidance system in the financing for the tractor or combine, as opposed to buying it separately and having the dealer install it."

This marks another milestone in Case IH's Precision Farming and Guidance technology leadership: The company was the first to provide factory-installed site-specific yield monitoring systems in combines, beginning in 1995.

NEW IRRIGATION POWER UNITS

Case IH has added four new models to its line of irrigation power units. The new P70, P85, P110 and P170, at 70 to 170 hp, join the PX215 and 240 models. They include new customer-requested features for engine protection and overall power unit integrity. The P70 and P85 models are Tier 2 compliant; the higher horsepower models are Tier 3 compliant.



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