

2/2018

FARM

F O R U M

MAXXUM ACTIVEDRIVE 8

Czech farmer's
first impressions **16**



WORK WITH EASE IN ANY CONDITIONS

Meet the new Axial-Flow 250 **4-7**

COMBINE HELPS COMPLETE CONTROLLED TRAFFIC SYSTEM

Axial-Flow is jigsaw's missing piece **18-19**

AFS RTK⁺ CROSSES BORDERS

Belgian grower enjoys the benefits **20**

14
**COMBINES ON
CONTRACT**

French business
prefers Axial-Flow
12-13



WORK WITH EASE FROM DAWN TILL DUSK



SIMPLY ADVANCED.

THE NEW AXIAL-FLOW® 250 SERIES WITH AFS HARVEST COMMAND™.



www.caseih.com

CASE IH
AGRICULTURE
FOR THOSE WHO DEMAND MORE



EDITORIAL



HARVESTING SPECIAL

HARVESTING SPECIAL

4 MEET THE AXIAL-FLOW 250

Meeting today's challenges with ease

8 ABOUT THE AXIAL-FLOW 250

The features that make a difference

10 COMBINING RICE IN ITALY

Helping growers to stay competitive

12 AXIAL-FLOWS WORK HARD IN FRANCE

Contractor has 13 in his fleet

14 ALFALFA IS A CROP SUCCESS

Spanish cousins bale a valuable harvest

15 BALING IN POLAND

Why Case IH is the choice

PRODUCT NEWS

16 MAXXUM ACTIVEDRIVE 8

First Czech farmer owner gives his view

17 FARMLIFT 632/735/935 MODELS UPDATED

Powershift machines get performance upgrades

17 ACTIVECLUTCH ENHANCES LUXXUM

Assists temporary stopping and precision movement

17 ACCUTURN PRO

Turn processes ease operation at headlands

Dear Reader

As another harvest in Europe draws to an end, in this Farm Forum our focus is on harvesting – and specifically on the AFS Harvest Command automation features that bring the next step in the Case IH Axial-Flow evolution.

Whilst the external differences are subtle, read on and you'll discover exactly how the changes we've made to areas such as automation and ease of operation address the challenges faced by today's farm businesses – the need for maximum productivity from your investment, the difficulties in sourcing experienced labour, the requirement for minimum unbroken grain. New AFS Harvest Command tackles every one. The success of our business depends on the success of yours, which is why our focus is on harvesting technology that allows you to reap the full returns from your work.

Elsewhere, the operating ease theme continues with details of developments such as AccuTurn Pro, which completely automates tractor headland operation. And you can read how some of the first customers operating recent Case IH introductions such as the ActiveDrive 8 eight-speed semi-powershift for Maxxum tractors have benefited from their investment.

Enjoy the issue.

Dan Stuart

*Product Marketing Director
Europe, Middle East and Africa*

ON FARM

18 CONTROLLED TRAFFIC FARMING

*New combine completes
UK farmer's system*

20 AFS RTK+ CROSSES BORDERS

Belgian grower enjoys the benefits

22 LOCAL MARKET

Text to come

23 LOCAL MARKET

Text to come

24 LOCAL MARKET

Text to come

25 LOCAL MARKET

Text to come

INSIGHT

26 TRAINING GHANA'S FARMERS

Case IH helps bring new technologies and practices

FARMLIFE

28 THE WIFE BEHIND THE FARMER

Online success for British woman

AROUND THE WORLD

30 GREAT AMERICAN HARVEST

*European combine operators
lend a hand*

IMPRESSUM: Farm Forum provides information on Case IH products, trends in agriculture and field reports and is intended to help you manage your farming business successfully. Publisher: CNH Österreich GmbH, Steyrer Straße 32, 4300 St. Valentin, Austria, Edition 2018 | Text & Concept: Land Communication Ltd, Ipswich, Suffolk, UK, write@landcom.co.uk | Layout & Design: Conquest Werbeagentur GmbH, Kürnbergblick 3, 4060 Leonding, Austria, Tel.: +43 732/67 40 41, E-Mail: office@conquest.at

Follow us on Facebook

Have a look at our videos on Youtube

For more Case IH News, please go to our website www.caseih.com

WORK WITH EASE TO THE HORIZON AND BACK

From easing professional operators' workloads to helping less-skilled staff exploit machine potential, and from protecting crop quality to maximising throughput, Case IH Axial-Flow 250 series combines do more to help your harvest.

While they look broadly similar from the outside, and retain familiar components inside, it's the less visible differences between the new Case IH Axial-Flow 250 series combines and the Axial-Flow 240 series machines they replace that mean a big step up in productivity. From header to chopper, and threshing/separation components to transmission, small changes make a significant difference – and a new auto-adjustment system makes every operator more productive.

"Axial-Flow 250 series upgrades are aimed at enhancing both combine and operator productivity, by making it easier and simpler to get the best from these machines,"

explains Sam Acker, Case IH global product manager for flagship combines.

"That's by aiding decision-making and enabling the combine to calculate the best combination of front-to-rear settings for a particular desired outcome. This is how Axial-Flow 250 series models can both help enhance experienced operators' performance and also help those who are less experienced to quickly gain confidence and get the most from their machine."





HELP TO ACHIEVE BEST PERFORMANCE: NEW AFS HARVEST COMMAND™ AUTOMATION

Currently capable of working in wheat, oilseed rape/canola, corn/maize and soybeans, new patent-pending AFS Harvest Command™ automation enables the operator to easily set Axial-Flow 250 series combines for a desired outcome.

The basic version of AFS Harvest Command™ includes the proven Automatic Crop Settings (ACS) system, which adjusts operating items such as fan speed and concave clearance according to the crop type selected on the AFS terminal screen, eliminating the need to make individual element settings. Adjustments can be made by the operator on-the-go, and settings saved for future use.

The next version, incorporating Feedrate Control, adjusts ground speed based on crop load for a desired outcome – performance, to control losses, maximum throughput, or fixed throughput. The operator sets the target maximum engine load and ground speed, and Feedrate Control operates up to those limits, accurately governing ground speed based on crop and ground drive load.

The top specification option, full AFS Harvest Command™ automation, automatically makes threshing and cleaning system adjustments based on

the same desired outcomes as Feedrate Control, with the addition of grain quality monitoring. Using camera-based technology and sieve pressure sensing, this provides an automatic adjustment process, minimising sample impurities to maintain maximum quality and capacity to cover more area per day.

With full automation, the operator sets maximum target engine load and maximum ground speed limits for the combine to then operate in:

- **Performance mode:** the combine operates at a speed to ensure acceptable rotor and cleaning system losses.
- **Fixed Throughput mode:** the combine maintains a target throughput by varying its speed, and adjusts settings to minimise losses.
- **Maximum Throughput mode:** the combine operates up to the operator-set speed or power limit, while adjusting settings to minimise rotor and cleaning system grain losses.
- **Grain quality mode:** the combine adjusts settings to maintain a targeted grain quality and impurity level, while minimising losses.

"AFS Harvest Command™ automation enhances operator decisions, identifying the factor limiting combine performance as conditions change, displaying it and making adjustments to address it,"

says Sam Acker.

"Experienced operators can further improve output and grain quality, and inexperienced ones can more quickly achieve productivity comparable to an experienced operator. For both, AFS Harvest Command™ means less need to worry about factors such as losses, fan speed and rotor speed, allowing greater focus on header position and unloading.

HELP TO BOOST THRESHING AND SEPARATION PERFORMANCE: ROTOR CAGE AND SIEVE UPGRADES

Axial-Flow 250 series combines with AFS Harvest Command™ automation are fitted with in-cab adjustable rotor cage vanes, actuated from a right hand console switch when not using the automation facility, or automatically adjusting themselves when AFS Harvest Command™ automation is engaged. The electrically-adjustable rotor cage vane feature can be obtained as a stand-alone option on combines fitted with a high capacity (HC) unloading



system. A manually-adjustable version is also available. In conjunction with upper and lower sieve control, full AFS Harvest Command™ automation also incorporates new in-cab pre-sieve adjustment, allowing automatic sieve adjustments according to loss sensor, grain camera and sieve pressure sensor feedback. This can also be manually activated when AFS Harvest Command is not in use. The in-cab adjustable pre-sieve is also available as a stand-alone option, including a remote switch allowing setting from the side of the combine.

Unique sieve pressure sensors provide AFS Harvest Command™ automation with sieve loading data, allowing it to understand impending losses and make pre-emptive adjustments, and helping discern the difference between sieve overload and blow-out losses. Fan and sieve settings are automatically adjusted accordingly, preventing grain loss when exiting or entering the crop at the headland or stopping in the field. Working together with the Auto Fan option, this also helps prevent losses before they occur by detecting sieve load and combine inclination. The fan and sieves work in conjunction to maintain an ideal operating setting and sieve pressure.

HELP TO MOVE MORE SMOOTHLY: NEW TRANSMISSION

A new hydrostatic transmission, featuring field and road modes and on-the-move two-speed range control, provides increased tractive power and eliminates any need to stop except when changing the mode. Maximum respective speeds in range one and range two are 18km/hr and 30km/hr, although reduced maximums can be set according to operator preference and field conditions.

There's now a floor-mounted electrical button for differential lock operation, replacing the previous mechanical pedal, while braking is now via an internal oil-cooled brake, reducing required pedal pressure for the same braking effort and enhancing the cooling required where continuous braking is needed.

HELP TO HANDLE WIDE HEADERS: FEEDER/INTAKE ELEVATOR UPGRADES

A new 6.1 tonne lift capacity option enables the handling of 18-row corn heads and 13.5m draper heads, while factory-fit dual lateral tilt cylinder options can now also enhance control of the header. Also new, an optional in-cab-controlled face plate fore-aft feature allows alteration of header fore-aft angle to improve harvesting efficiency in both low- and high-growing crops. Header

height control function upgrades mean improved responsiveness and flotation. Ground Speed Adaptive Sensitivity (GRAS) automatically adjusts header height sensitivity as forward speed changes, keeping the header stable yet responsive.

HELP TO EASE ACCESS: IMPROVEMENTS TO XTRA-CHOPPING PACKAGE

A new remote switch at the rear of combines fitted with the Xtra-Chopping straw chopper package tilts the spread boards, easing engine/fuel tank deck access.

HELP TO MONITOR PERFORMANCE: TELEMATICS AVAILABILITY

Factory-fit telemetry allows two-way file transfer between combine and office PC via a web portal. All combines are prewired and have antennae to receive the required modem, fitted as standard on combines ordered telematics-ready. With the modem initialised from the factory, all that's then required is an unlock code and a dealer-sourced subscription.

For more information, watch the following video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4URZFL_30IA



THE FEATURES THAT MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Here's how the Axial-Flow 250 series does more to care for your crop, more to make working days easier, and more to help get the maximum from every element of your machine.

New patent-pending AFS Harvest Command™ automation is designed to relieve the operator from refining combine settings to changing conditions, and allow for a greater focus on unloading and logistics. As a result, it brings benefits to both novice and experienced operators alike. The standard and proven Automatic Crop Settings (ACS) system allows the key components, such as fan speed and concave clearance, to be set up for a certain crop at the press of a button. The Feedrate Control option adds to ACS the benefits of controlling the ground speed

based on crop load to pre-set parameters. Full-specification AFS Harvest Command™ automation adds rotor cage vane adjustment, grain camera and sieve pressure sensors, to maximise harvesting speed by changing the combine settings until pre-set parameters are not exceeded. Select from four operating modes – balanced performance, fixed throughput, maximum throughput and maximum grain quality – and the combine will select the best combination of settings to maximise its harvesting speed.

1

AT THE FRONT

By increasing feeder lift ram capacity and beefing up related components, Case IH engineers have ensured 14m grain headers and 18-row maize heads can be lifted and lowered with ease, making it possible to allow the potential capacity of these machines to be exploited to its fullest, and make crop entry and exit at the headland swift and safe. An adjustable return-to-cut feature also helps here. For low-growing or low-podded crops, optional front face-plate fore/aft angle adjustment allows operators to easily alter header pitch to ensure no crop is missed. And with Ground Speed Adaptive Sensitivity (GRAS), header height sensitivity is automatically adjusted in relation to forward speed, enhancing responsiveness as the combine moves faster.

2

IN THE ROTOR CAGE

Now that rotor cage vanes are adjustable from the cab, or will automatically adjust themselves when AFS Harvest Command™ automation is engaged, operators have the ability to retain crop for longer or eject it more quickly from the rotor cage. Altering the pitch of the rear six vanes allows crop to be moved faster or more slowly through the cage. Longer retention may be desirable for less-ripe crops to be threshed and separated properly, while faster flow will improve straw quality for baling. Meanwhile, automatic sieve adjustment responds to feedback from the loss sensors and the grain camera and sieve pressure sensors.

3

AT THE SIEVES

Sieve pressure sensors provide AFS Harvest Command™ automation with crop load data on the sieves, forewarning of impending losses and allowing the combine to make adjustments before they happen. They help the system discern the difference between sieve overload and blow-out losses, and adjust fan and sieve settings accordingly, preventing grain loss when exiting or entering the crop at the headland or stopping the combine in the field. Harvest Command™ uses loss sensor, grain camera and sieve pressure sensor data to adjust sieve settings.





ON THE MOVE

Time spent travelling is unproductive. That's why Case IH equips Axial-Flow 250 series combines with a new transmission that eliminates any need to change gears on the road. The new twin-range design incorporates a field mode and a road mode, with seamless range-changing taking these machines all the way from a standstill up to 30km/hr when in road mode. There's no need to stop and shift should you encounter a gradient. It's also possible to set reduced maximums to limit speed in the field where this is beneficial or desirable.

To keep these combines moving in tough conditions, the differential lock is now operated via a floor-mounted electrical button rather than a pedal. And to ensure the combine stops swiftly when required, a new braking design incorporates an internal oil-cooled brake, which requires less pedal pressure for the same result, and is more easily cooled in continuous braking circumstances.

5

AT THE REAR

Little things often make life a lot easier – especially at harvest time. Making even the most basic task simpler, faster and cleaner will result in greater productivity during the day. A new rear mounted remote switch allows actuation of the spreader board of the Xtra-Chopping system from ground level, allowing the service ladder to the engine deck to be folded down for access to the engine.

IN THE FARM OFFICE

The use of telemetry to send operating data directly to a farm computer can allow combine owners to analyse and maximise machine performance, and make immediate, well-informed decisions on everything from the physical location of the combine, to when a combine may need refuelling or servicing. The importance of measurement to improve management means, for season 2019, all Case IH Axial-Flow 250 series combines are prepared for telemetry, with modem and antennae requiring only the unlock code for activation. Two-way file transfer between combine and office PC means no need for data movement via USB, and provides the opportunity to communicate instructions for settings directly from the farm office.



TECHNOLOGY HELPS ITALIAN RICE GROWERS REMAIN COMPETITIVE

Francesco (left) and Alberto

Increasing global competition is concerning farmers throughout Europe, including Italy's rice producers who are adopting new techniques to remain profitable.

The area of rice produced in the Vercelli province, within the Piedmont region, has remained constant for 30 years, but increasing global competition has reduced profitability and the number of growers has fallen sharply. Those with under 25ha have been most affected, but larger producers are also having to change.

Azienda Agricola Delsignore Alberto E Francesco S.S in Tenuta Cantone is one of the largest, with 360ha of the crop. The company was founded in 2003 by Alberto and Francesco on a rented farm, then in 2009 they took over the family business started by their grandfather.

He had come there in 1932 as farm manager, and purchased it in the 1970s with their father, Giancarlo. Today it is 418ha, including 40ha of organic wheat and 15ha of poplar trees.

The water table in some fields is so high that only rice can be produced. Close to populated areas it is grown in dry conditions and irrigated every 15 days, while the remaining fields are flooded in the traditional method. They produce three types of rice: 'round' for domestic markets, 'long A' for parboiling is sold in Italy and export markets, while 'long B', or 'Indica', is popular with foreign buyers.

"We have developed strong relationships with specialist millers based on trust and cooperation over many years," Signor Alberto states. "These are increasingly important because other European countries that have purchased Italian rice are now importing it from elsewhere, so we must adapt to meet that challenge."

INCREASING MECHANISATION

To remain competitive, they make increasing use of mechanisation and technology. When it comes to equipment and systems they are totally self-

sufficient, with drying plants that can process 100t/day and 2,500 tonnes of storage. Silos incorporate dehumidifying and cooling systems which reduce the rice's temperature by 15-16°C to prevent over-drying and pests, so it can be stored for a year.

"Our father influenced our choice of machinery when he purchased the first of what he called his 'American Reds' in 1999, a Maxxum MX 150 which stayed for 19 years.

"Having grown up with different machinery brands we saw the benefit of Case IH products. When our dealer, Doria Mario in Villanova Monferrato, took on Case IH in 2007 we bought a 215hp CVX 1195 and now we just 'see red'.

"Our Maxxum 140 Multicontroller and Luxxum 120 tractors are fitted with iron wheels for sowing, weeding and fertiliser spreading in the flooded paddy rice fields. The Maxxum pulls a 2,500-litre/24m sprayer, while the Luxxum alternates between a trailed 2,000-litre/19m sprayer and a trailed 2.5-tonne fertiliser spreader. Our Puma CVX and Optum 300 CVX are used with five-furrow reversible ploughs, laser levellers, scrapers, subsoilers and trailers.

"We also operate two Axial-Flow combines, a 448hp 7140 and 516hp 8230. Having previously used straw walker-type combines our concern was that the rotary separation system might damage the grain. In fact, when we tested the original 7130 we were so impressed by how gently it handled it that we replaced another conventional combine with the 8230."

A PROGRESSIVE APPROACH

During the last 20 years new varieties have increased paddy rice yields by 20%, while larger machinery together with new tillage and establishment techniques have made growing much more efficient.

Rice used to be broadcast into submerged fields, but now some varieties are sown in dry soil, and submerged only when plants have two or three leaves. For this, the Maxxum 140 Multicontroller is used with a 6m pneumatic drill, its one-tonne hopper holding enough seed for 6ha. Operating at 12 km/h, the set-up includes a 600-litre tank on the front



Both Axial-Flow combines have four-wheel-drive and rubber drive-axle tracks to maximise floatation in wet conditions. To keep width below 4m, those on the 8230 are 75cm wide with a longer carriage to increase contact area. The 7140 has 90cm tracks, the 17' and 20' headers being interchangeable. Specified for use in rice, with sintered components for a longer life, both combines incorporate Case IH AFS and complete 150 hours annually. The above picture is from a nearby rice farm, as Alberto and Francesco were not harvesting when we visited.



linkage feeding a rear-mounted spray bar, so pre-emergence treatments can be applied at the same time.

To further increase efficiency, agrochemicals are applied through low-pressure, anti-drift nozzles, fields are levelled to minimise water use using laser-controlled graders, guidance systems maximise machine efficiency and field/yield mapping enables precision farming.

"We are the third generation, and hopefully our daughters will be the fourth. to run a business that has continually expanded and become more efficient to keep pace with the times."

ALBERTO AND FRANCESCO'S FLEET

Axial-Flow 8230 combine
Axial-Flow 7140 combine
Optum 300 CVX
Puma CVX
Maxxum 140 Multicontroller
Luxxum 120
Farmall 115 U-PRO
JXU 115
JXU 95



AXIAL-FLOW IS BETTER THAN ALL THE REST

For one of the largest, most respected agricultural contracting businesses in central southwest France Case IH Axial-Flow combine harvesters have numerous advantages over all the other makes and models which are currently on the market.

The Axial-Flow has the lowest operating costs in the business, which is important for us as an agricultural contractor," states Jean François Preneron, whose family company Sarl Preneron has operated them for four decades.

Based at Moléon d'Armagnac, a village in the Midi-Pyrénées, the business was founded in 1952 and is now widely recognised as one of the best agricultural contractors in the Gers area. It has an excellent reputation for maintaining and adjusting its machinery to deliver the best productivity, quality of work and reliability, so customers know that their crops will be harvested to the

highest possible standards, whatever the conditions.

The company provides farmers with a complete range of farm services, from land preparation to harvesting, grain storage and transport. Each year its employees prepare and drill 1500ha of land, and harvest 3000ha of corn, soya beans, sunflowers and cereals in the region. Average yields are 13.0t/ha in corn, 6.0t/ha in wheat, and all of the straw is chopped.

Such are the standards to which the business operates that they have conducted field tests, product evaluations and endurance tests on behalf of Case IH

NUMEROUS BENEFITS

Sarl Preneron has been a Case IH customer since 1978, when they purchased their first Axial-Flow, a 1460 model, because of its performance in corn compared with an existing straw-walker machine. Since then they have purchased a further 15 Axial-Flow combines, amongst them the first AFX Pré Série 8010 which has now harvested 12,500ha. Since purchasing the company's first Case IH tractor, a 1255XL, the business has operated them ever since and currently has fourteen in its fleet.

Discussing why Case IH Axial-Flow combines suit the business so well, Monsieur Preneron told Farm Forum magazine:



"They are reliable, economical, profitable to operate, comfortable and capable of very high outputs, 100 tonnes per hour from the AFX models in corn where we use 8- and 10-row headers. Some of our Axial-Flow combines are equipped with wheels, some with 900mm tracks which give better traction and flotation in muddy conditions.

"Grain quality is another major reason for choosing the Axial-Flow, as the main crops which we harvest are corn and soya beans. The large-diameter single rotor provides gentle, grain-on-grain threshing and produces zero damage to the corn kernels, which is very important because Spain no longer accepts waxy* corn harvested by any other combine brand.

"Some of the other key features of the Axial-Flow design that I like are that the key components in the threshing and separating mechanisms are heat treated for longevity and reliability. The dual-speed elevators are essential when harvesting corn and four-wheel-drive provides excellent traction when working in wet soil conditions.

"The Axial-Flow is designed with a minimum of moving parts and provides excellent accessibility for servicing, although it's the only combine that does not need daily maintenance. The design is very simple and requires a minimum



THE PRENERON'S AXIAL-FLOW HISTORY

PREVIOUS AXIAL-FLOW MODELS:

1460 | 1480 | 2 x 1680 | 2x2188 | 2x2388 Exclusive | 1x2366

CURRENT AXIAL-FLOW FLEET

AFX Pré Séries 8010 | AFX 8010 (2004) | AFX8010 (2005) | AFX 8010 (2008)
AFX 8120 (2010) | AFX 8120 (2012) | AF 8230 (2014)

CURRENT CASE IH TRACTOR FLEET

Puma 155 | Puma CVX 180 | 2 x Puma 195 | Puma CVX 210
Puma CVX 230 | MX180 | Magnum 250 | Magnum 280 | 2 x MXM 155
MX 135 | 2 x Quantum 95F | 644



Pictured (from left to right) are: Jean François Preneron, Joël Preneron, Yoann Clarisse of Case IH Agriculture, Laurent Preneron, Mickael Colin, and Franck Ducos of Eurosama.

of servicing, only every 50 rotor hours, which saves time and money. The combine's structure is also extremely strong, which is very important to ensure that it can withstand working in muddy condition when equipped with front tracks and large corn headers."

Monsieur Preneron told us that another key reason for choosing Case IH is the expertise of his local dealer, Eurosama in Lanne-Soubiran, which looks after 220

Axial-Flow combines in the region. He praises the skills of Eurosama's workshop team, which includes Manager Frank Ducos, combine expert Claude Amadio and tractor expert Guy Dufo.

*Waxy corn is a raw material used to produce amylopectin starch which is processed by certain wet millers in the USA, Canada, Europe, and other countries for industrial and food uses.

SPANISH COUSINS ARE INTERNATIONAL ALFALFA EXPORTERS

Once small dairy farmers who produced grain to feed their cows, two cousins from the Zaragoza region of Spain now specialise in producing conserved forage product which they export all over the world.



have an excellent twine binding system. Each machine produces 30 500kg alfalfa bales per hour, 10,000 per season.

"Initially, some customers in Northern Spain who used small bales resisted changing to the 120cm x 70cm x 230cm bales, but the quality of our product convinced them. Now, we sell alfalfa directly in Spain, Portugal and France, and export to the United Arab Emirates, Iran and Jordan through Green Grain in Alicante."

China is their next target market. Apparently, customers there are accustomed to seeing the whole alfalfa plant in the finished product, exactly what José Miguel and Manolo produce, so they hope it will enable them to further develop their already successful business.

The increasing pressures on dairy farms in the 1980s meant that José Miguel and Manuel ('Manolo') Chaure faced a difficult decision, to expand their small dairy herd to benefit from the economies of scale or leave the industry.

They decided to stop producing milk and focus on growing crops. SAT Hnos Chaure, the company they founded at Movera in 1985, has since expanded to 700ha, including 540ha of alfalfa, which represents 80% of their business.

"The Ebro Valley can produce the best alfalfa in Spain, so we put quality before quantity," José Miguel explains. "We invest in agrochemicals to produce pure, weed-free alfalfa and have built a reputation that attracts international clients. First and second cuts are sold to dairy farmers, the remainder to dehydration plants which produce pelleted feed."

The cousins harness the sun to dry the crop naturally. Only 10% of alfalfa is dried this way because it requires more infrastructure, but the end-product is better for dairy cows. Alfalfa

is harvested every 33 days, so they get six crops per year between April and September. Judging when to bale is something that comes with experience, but generally they operate at night when the air is cool, and the crop is at the correct moisture.

"We've operated Case IH products for 25 years because of their reliability and performance, plus the service from our dealer AGROZARAGOZA TALLERES 2010 in Fuentes de Ebro," Manolo adds. "Our LB 423 and LB 424 are easy to operate, simple to maintain, incredibly reliable and



FARM FACTS

FARMED AREA: 700ha

CROPS: Average yield

Alfalfa 15t/ha

Wheat 8t/ha

Corn 14t/ha

Festuca 14t/ha

Ryegrass

BALERS: LB423 - steering axle / LB424 - tandem axle

TRACTORS: Maxxum 125 / MX135 / CVX 170 / 5140 / 5150 / Puma 180 / CS150

% moisture at harvest

40-50%

12-13%

20%



CASE IH IS THE CHOICE FOR THIS ONE-BRAND FARMER

Polish farmer and contractor Grzegorz Majchrzak believes that all machinery should come from one manufacturer. On his farm that means Case IH.

Why Case IH? "Excellent products, supported by an excellent dealer," says Mr Majchrzak, Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce at Topola Mala, a village in the western Ostrów Wielkopolski county. He and wife Jolanta grow 80ha of grain crops for their 100 pedigree Great White Poland sows and bale all the straw.

Mr Majchrzak converted to Case IH in 2009 because of the products' build quality and positive feedback from owners. Impressed by the Maxxum 140 Multicontroller he purchased that year, plus the service from local dealer AGRO-RAMI, he and his future son-in-law, Tomasz Strankowski, ordered a Maxxum 125 and RB455 baler in 2014.

In 2015 he purchased an Axial-Flow 5140 combine. The first in the area, it attracted significant interest from other farmers. The key features, says Mr Majchrzak, are its high-quality manufacture and unique single-rotor

which gives him top-quality threshing, excellent grain quality and a clean sample. The gentle grain handling is a vital consideration as some is saved for seed. He's also impressed by the fuel-efficient six-cylinder engine, high output and that instruction books and monitors are in Polish. Working up to 10 hours per day, it harvests the farm's 80ha, and 320ha on contract.

BALER BENEFITS

When looking to replace his previous baler Mr Majchrzak wanted a good-value belt-type, variable chamber machine. Having seen an RB455 working, the baler's operator, Tomasz Strankowski, immediately liked the high output and bale quality. While the size of the bale is unimportant to him, a variable chamber is vital to handle various crops, assist bale handling and reduce storage space. With a 2.3 m wide pick-up, the RB455 produces perfectly shaped bales of uniform density up to 1.5m diameter.



FARM FACTS

Area:	80ha
Crop	Average yield (t/ha)
Wheat	8.5
Winter Barley	9
Triticale	7
Oats	4
Lupins	2
Grain Maize	10
Livestock:	100 sows

MACHINERY

Axial-Flow 5140
RB455
2009 Maxxum 140 MC
2014 Maxxum 125

Simple to maintain the RB455, like all Mr Majchrzak's Case IH equipment, is serviced by AGRO-RAMI and in his view it is unbeatable for crop pick-up, overall performance and reliability.

GRZEGORZ'S RB455 BALER

Baling period: May – September

Area bales: 600ha

Bales produced per year:
up to 7,000

Baling speed: up to 88 per hour

Maximum daily output:

800 bales in 20 hours

Average daily output: 400

Bale weight: up to 800kg



FAMILY BUYS CZECH REPUBLIC'S

FIRST MAXXUM ACTIVEDRIVE 8

The first Case IH Maxxum tractor with ActiveDrive 8 eight-speed semi-powershift to be sold in the Czech Republic has impressed its new owner with its ability on his hilly land.



In the fertile area of Vysočina, near Ledeč nad Sázavou, lies the small village of Bojiště, named after the battle that took place there in 1420. Here, in the centre of the Czech Republic, Josef Jeřábek and his family farm 60ha of cereals, oilseed rape, corn/maize, potatoes and grass on some very hilly terrain. That topography is a key reason for the recent switch to a Case IH Maxxum with the new ActiveDrive 8 eight-speed transmission – the first to be sold in the Czech Republic.

"My grandfather began farming here shortly after the revolution in 1989, with just 12 hectares," explains Josef.

"Since then, my family and I have gradually expanded the land area, and now grow crops on 60ha, in addition to rearing beef cattle."

"Like most Czech farmers, our first tractors were manufactured here, but when last year we began to seek a new

machine to replace our existing 110hp main model, we looked wider and tested other makes. Based on several criteria, including a good relationship with the local dealer and positive references from a neighbouring farmer, we decided to opt for a Maxxum 135, with the new ActiveDrive 8 eight-speed semi-powershift."

"I wasn't actually able to test this version of the Maxxum, as it only became available this year, but the design of the tractor and its transmission attracted me after learning more about it from the dealer and the brochure."

"My main requirement was for a more powerful model that would not only be able to operate effectively and efficiently on our steep land, but would also perform safely on the local hilly roads. With a maximum output of 169hp, and

with eight clutchless shifts in each of two ranges, the Maxxum 135 appeared capable in both areas."

Main partners for the Maxxum include a set of 3m discs, a four-furrow plough, disc mower, and round baler, while a front hitch and PTO add to its versatility. With key operating controls gathered on the Multicontroller armrest on these mid-range Maxxum models, operation is easy, says Josef.

"I chose ActiveDrive 8 semi-powershift as I prefer the fully gear-driven transmission design to a CVT," says Josef.

"But I still wanted smooth shifting. With eight clutchless steps and only two ranges, that's what the ActiveDrive 8 gives me, while making it simple to easily select the right gear for the task and, as a result, work at low engine speeds to minimise fuel consumption."



FARMLIFT 632/735/935 MODELS UPRATED

Powershift-equipped Case IH FarmLift telescopic loaders now benefit from upgrades which enhance acceleration performance by 30% and provide a boost for climbing and pushing ability. The updates apply to the 632, which has a maximum lift height/lift capacity of 6.1m/3.2t, the 735 (7.0m/3.5t) and the 935 (9.1m/3.5t).

A new torque converter design more effectively turns engine output into tractive power and enhances pulling performance, for greater productivity,

while a lower-geared crown wheel and pinion design has been incorporated into both front and rear axles, for improved power transfer to the wheels and quicker acceleration.

Also new is the machines' closed-centre, load-sensing 140 l/min hydraulic pump, which cuts power wastage and boosts hydraulic performance, and revised crowd and dump geometry, for improved bucket loading and emptying, all of which have the potential to cut cycle times.

ACTIVECLUTCH ENHANCES LUXSUM

New ActiveClutch technology for Case IH Luxsum tractors is designed to make temporary stopping and precision movement safer, easier on the operator and gentler on drivetrain components. When ActiveClutch is engaged by the operator, pressing both locked brake pedals disengages the clutch and engages the foot brake, making it particularly useful when stopping temporarily at road junctions or on hills. Press the pedals firmly, and the tractor comes to a halt, with no need to use the clutch, protecting it from unnecessary wear. Engine torque monitoring ensures automatically that there is no power transmission interruption when braking while driving downhill with heavy loads.



ACCUTURN PRO COMBINES HEADLAND TURN PROCESSES

The capabilities of the Case IH HMC II headland management and AccuTurn headland auto-steering systems have now been combined, with integrated software that creates AccuTurn Pro, which can be used to completely automate tractor and implement operation when meeting the headland, making a turn and re-entering work. As a result, the number of operations the operator has to perform when approaching or leaving the headland is vastly reduced, and the turn into the next pass is made with full precision.

On tractors with AccuTurn Pro, the operator first uses the AccuGuide auto-steering feature to record an A-B line and mark the field boundary and headlands. As with the standalone HMC II system, the desired headland processes – such as raising of the implement, disengagement of 4wd and of the PTO and activation of remote valves, for example – are then performed and recorded, with the opposite processes also performed and recorded for re-entering work. AccuTurn Pro allows operators to then, when approaching the headland,



make a single button press for the tractor to not only perform those functions, but also execute the turn and re-enter work, whether the field is being worked pass-by-pass or in lands. The result is less operator strain and improved precision at the headlands.

Andrew Cragg operates a 12m controlled traffic farming system, based around a Case IH Axial-Flow 9230 combine.



COMBINE HELPS COMPLETE CONTROLLED TRAFFIC SYSTEM

Eight years after adopting controlled traffic farming across his land, Andrew Cragg purchased his first Case IH combine. Aside from RTK-guided steering, Xtra-Chopping straw distribution and a header width that fits his system are among the factors making it one of the final pieces in his CTF jigsaw.

South-eastern England farmer Andrew Cragg was an early adopter of precision farming technology, having first yield-mapped the harvest results across his 560ha of silty clay soils in 1996. While he subsequently began to address some of the variation he discovered by variably-applying fertiliser, having identified low yield patches attributable to areas of deficiency, elsewhere it was clear that it wasn't necessarily the composition of the soil that was holding yields back, but its structure.

Alongside a renewed focus on correcting structure damage where

necessary, that led to a decision in 2008 to adopt a controlled traffic system, working on a 12m basis to match the farm's implements and restricting vehicle paths to as little as possible of each field, using the same paths year on year. The installation of a farm mast to provide a real time kinematic (RTK) satellite signal correction made possible sub-2.5cm auto-steering accuracy with year-on-year repeatability, crucial for making CTF work.

SEEING THE BENEFITS

"Once we were able to store path lines and limit field traffic to them, after

a few seasons we began to see lower fuel use, easier-to-prepare seedbeds and reduced winter ponding on field surfaces."

But with a cutting width of 9m, the farm's drum-and-concave/twin-rotor combine, although tracked, was the piece of the jigsaw that didn't fit, leaving behind significant out-of-line compaction.

"I looked at a bigger header from the same maker, but it was fractionally narrower than 12m, which is no good for the level of precision I'm aiming for,"

says Mr Cragg.

"That led me to look at other options, and Case IH was one of the few at the time that could supply a machine of the capacity I wanted with a header slightly wider than 12m – 12.5m to be precise – to ensure we have the small margin necessary to stay within our tracked areas."

Although header width was a key criteria for combine selection, Mr Cragg had 33 others against with which he compared his potential combine purchases.

AUGER ATTRACTION

"Among the other attractions of the Case IH Axial-Flow 9230 was the ability to provide an unloading auger with the reach to keep trailers on the tramlines. Case IH was able to offer a factory-warranted auger of suitable length, and was prepared to make adjustments to it after the first season when we found it wasn't quite long enough. The pivoting spout was also appealing for additional 'throw', as was the ability to shut off the cross augers and completely empty the unloading auger tube where required, which is handy if unloading has to be halted.

"Other features, such as the end-fold for the unloading auger, and the higher unload speed, lighter weight and greater footprint area than competitive models, helped convince me to switch from the combine we were running, and we purchased an Axial-Flow 9230 in time for harvest 2015."

But among the other key attractions was the promise of the new Xtra-Chopping package, pairing the standard 120-blade Case IH MagnaCut II chopper with the MAV from Canadian firm Redekop (now supplied ex-factory by Case IH). The system has two key benefits, lacerating straw lengthways to hasten its breakdown and, courtesy of 12-blade paddle fans at each end of the chopper rotor, generating maximum air flow velocities of up to 180kph (106 miles/hr) to draw straw and chaff through the chopper and propel it across the full width of cut.

BROOKER FARMS

Location:

Kent, south-east England

Farm size:

560ha

Soil type:

Silty clay

Cropping:

Winter wheat, winter barley, spring barley, vining peas for seed

Combine:

12.5m Case IH Axial-Flow 9230 with Xtra-Chopping

Other CTF system equipment:

12m Lemken Heliodor cultivator, 6m Simba/Dale drill



More than 30 criteria were compared in Andrew Cragg's analysis before he selected a Case IH Axial-Flow combine over alternatives.

FINISHING THE CTF JIGSAW

"The introduction of this package indicated to me a Case IH commitment to controlled traffic farmers,"

says Andrew Cragg.

"Combining is the first process in establishing the next crop, and if it's not done well from the cutterbar through to chopper, then crop establishment can be compromised, particularly in controlled traffic farming where we don't want to be making unnecessary passes.

"The Xtra-Chopping package delivers the best chop and spread I've seen from any combine I've owned, and at reasonable cost. Being on marsh land close to the coast, we have short harvesting days, and start later and stop earlier than farms further inland, due to the mist. We still face that restriction, especially once we move from winter wheat into the spring crop in September, but the Xtra-Chopping package does a good job of distributing damper straw later in the day.

"It does use more fuel than a conventional chopper would, but I think it's important to balance this against the evenness of spread, the lack of need for a straw rake and the fact incorporation is so much easier. We use a 12m Lemken Heliodor disc for cultivation and 6m Simba/Dale drill for establishment. My next plan, and the very final piece in our CTF jigsaw, is to change the latter for a 12m low disturbance machine. This and the combine will complete the system."



The introduction of the Xtra-Chopping system indicates Case IH's commitment to controlled traffic farmers, believes Mr Cragg.

AFS RTK⁺ HELPS COVER DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

On some mainland Europe farms, it's not uncommon to work across country borders. One Belgian Case IH operator is using the AFS RTK⁺ network to ensure his tractor's auto-steering can do the same.

The benefits of sub-1.5cm pass-to-pass repeatability offered by real-time kinematic (RTK) steering correction signals have been proven across a wide range of fieldwork tasks – but its accuracy levels are particularly beneficial in the production of row- or bed-grown crops. If passes aren't parallel at planting, then every

subsequent operation is affected – and individual plants won't grow evenly and perform to their potential. This is why, as a grower of these crop types, including seed and processing potatoes, maize, cauliflower, sprouts, spinach, carrots and salsify, reliable RTK steering signals are important to Belgian farmer Bart Cocquyt.

But what's equally important, given his location and spread of land, is that his tractors can receive an RTK correction signal wherever they are, because he also operates in France. Like many vegetable growers, he contract farms land over a wide area to ensure his crops are grown on 'clean' soils.

"Our Puma 240 CVX, with AFS AccuGuide RTK auto-guidance, is used with a four-row planter for our main crop, potatoes," explains Bart. "I specified AFS AccuGuide RTK as it was possible to order it integrated from the factory, and our dealer was experienced with the system."

"It's used with the AFS RTK⁺ correction signal system because this uses an arrangement of reference stations that covers much of Europe, meaning I can utilise the same network whether working land in Belgium or in France."

"With the crops we grow, RTK correction for auto-steering is invaluable for everything from minimising overlapping when preparing seedbeds to ensuring even application when spraying and lifting crops accurately at harvest. Using AFS RTK⁺ means we automatically receive an RTK correction signal wherever we are, with no need to do anything different when in one country or the other."

As a result, the Puma 240 CVX can be operated with confidence wherever it is, says Bart.

"AccuGuide is an easy system to use, for me or other family members, or for our seasonal workers. It's easy to set up through the integrated AFS 700 terminal, and with AFS RTK⁺ we always have signal, thanks to the spread of correction mast coverage. That's true even when working close to trees."

"AccuGuide RTK helps us to maximise the efficiency of crop inputs and minimise overlap, but it also helps give the driver a clear head and peace of mind, meaning it's possible to work for longer when necessary. And AFS RTK⁺ helps do that reliably and consistently, wherever we are."



Turning Point

The new merchandising
collection awaits you online



CASE IH
AGRICULTURE
FANSHOP

WWW.CASEIHSHP.COM



LOCAL MARKET

LOCAL MARKET

LOCAL MARKET

LOCAL MARKET



TRAINING GHANA'S FARMERS

OF THE FUTURE

Ghana, a thriving democracy on the Gulf of Guinea, is often referred to as an 'island of peace' in one of the most challenging regions on earth. With a tropical climate it is one of the world's leading cocoa exporters.

Agriculture dominates the economy, employing 40% of the population, but from 2009 to 2015 the industry's contribution to Ghana's Gross Domestic Product declined from 31.8% to 12.8%. Now, steps are being taken to reverse that trend in a country where the average annual GNP per capita is just \$390 and half the population lives on a dollar a day or less.

Case IH has been instrumental in a major project to introduce new agricultural technologies and train local communities in modern farming practices, which will make a real difference by enhancing productivity, boosting the economy and improving living standards. It is based at Damongo Agricultural College at Yagaba in the Northern Region, the largest of ten regions in the country but home to just 10% of the population - and the poorest. Over 97% of adults work in farming,

which is mostly done by hand or using animals to provide power.

Case IH is establishing a project to train technicians who will help their communities produce crops more effectively and more efficiently. It is a collaboration with the government-backed Development Partnership with the Private Sector (DPP), Integrated Water Management and Agricultural Development Ghana Ltd (IWAD), and GIZ, the German government's development agency.

The project underlines Ghana's efforts to attract foreign investment and create employment opportunities. The regional economy will benefit through greater productivity and revenues, while helping to stem the migration of young people to urban areas.

Daniel Bordabossana, Marketing Manager, Case IH Africa and the Middle East, states: "The agricultural sector was being held back by the lack of funding



and because few people knew how to operate modern machinery. Case IH became involved three years ago and the project is a very creative approach to help establish our presence here, not just with agricultural equipment but, through our parent company CNH Industrial, with a full range of equipment, including IVECO trucks and earthmoving equipment.

"The project will benefit all involved and local people are delighted that one of the world's largest agricultural equipment manufacturers is helping them to succeed."



NEW BEGINNINGS

Support for Damongo Agricultural College started in 2017 when the partnership sponsored six trainers in sugarcane cultivation to go and study at the Sugarcane Industry Research Institute in Mauritius. Case IH also donated a JX55T utility tractor for use at Damongo as this, along with the 75hp JX75T, is the company's best-selling tractor in Ghana.

By the end of the pilot program, the school and Yagaba training facility will have a fully-equipped workshop for up to five tractors. Equipped with Case IH Advanced Farming System components for precision sugarcane production, it will include practical training materials and demonstration crops, including corn and sugarcane.

Starting in September, 60 students at Damongo Agricultural College will learn a range of skills, from modern irrigation techniques and climate-smart management practices to the operation and maintenance of agricultural equipment. They will also learn to drive a tractor and gain the licence required to operate one in Ghana.

"The partnership will select students who are keen to take advantage of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity which will give them a career for life," Daniel Bordabossana adds. "Graduates will be given responsibility for managing land in Yagaba, so the program will have an exponential impact on the region's economy."



"Case IH is a leader in the sugarcane business and the crop has significant potential because of the availability of land and water in this region. Not only are we teaching farmers how to work with sugarcane, but also how to work in a modern agricultural sector so they can transfer their skills to almost any crop."

IWAD has already developed the first state-of-the-art 400-hectare commercial irrigation scheme in

Northern Ghana, with the goal of expanding sugarcane production to 6,000 hectares. This venture is expected to create 15,000 new jobs and benefit the economy in Northern Ghana significantly, but the key will be to ensure that enough well-trained men and women graduate from Damongo Agricultural College.

CASE IH JXT55T

Rated power: 55hp (40kW)

Engine size: 2.931 cm³

Cylinders: 3

Transmission: 8 fwd/ 2 rev

Driveline: 2WD or 4WD

Type: Common Rail Diesel with 24 valves, turbocharged and intercooled

Max. lift capacity: 1,920 kg



HANNAH IS ONLINE

'WIFE BEHIND THE FARMER'

Determined to 'stay connected' with the outside world after the birth of her first child, farmer's wife Hannah Morgan developed an online presence and now has a growing following with those who appreciate her unique style.

DID YOU KNOW?

Ireland has the lowest proportion of female farmers in the European Union, just 11.6%, compared to an EU average of 35%. Denmark has the next lowest rate of female farmers, 20% - still notably higher than Ireland. The highest ratio is in Austria, where women account for 45% of the agricultural workforce. Recent figures from the UK's Office of National Statistics show an encouraging 11% increase in the number of female graduate students coming into the food and farming sectors there.



"I'm not your standard farmer's wife. I love country fashion, homeware and gin. I am creative, thrifty, imaginative and above all a lover of our wonderful British countryside,' Hannah Morgan writes on her website (www.thewifebehindthefarmer.com).

"I love being a mother and farming, but neither is easy and whoever says that life in the country is simple has probably never experienced it," says Hannah, whose husband Matthew spent 21 years as a service engineer for Case IH dealer James Green Farm Machinery, where her late father worked as a sales representative. The couple met through Young Farmers in Worcestershire and after graduating in Countryside Management at Harper Adams University Hannah spent 12 years as an Event Coordinator.

Just before the birth of their first child they moved to the 83-hectare mixed farm on The Bentley Estate in Lower Bentley, Worcestershire, which Matthew's family have tenanted for some 91 years. Hannah decided not to return to work but focus on raising a family and they now have four-year-old Max and two-year-old Nancy.

BLOGGING LIKED

"After Max was born I needed to keep occupied when not being a mum or farm secretary," Hannah explains. "I helped Matthew when I could, but it's difficult with a young child. I've always been good with computers, so I created a website and wrote about being a mum.

"I'd started 'blogging' after my father died, discussing grief and how people deal with it. The response was amazing and encouraged me to write about other things, such as how farms can be quite lonely places to live, bringing up children on a farm and events such as lambing and harvest.

"People seemed to like that and the number of 'followers' increased. Many are not involved in farming - either they live in the country but aren't farmers, or come from urban areas and want to learn about country life. Others asked if I could write about other topics, such as how a certain brand of clothing lives up to life on the farm. Then companies began to get in touch, the first being Welligogs, a British country clothing business.



COVERING COUNTRY STYLE

"Now, I cover all things country, but specialise in country style and fashion for the family. I love showcasing my favourite products and providing honest, trustworthy reviews on my website, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

"Recently, British Polo Gin invited me to the launch at the Moor Farm Polo Club in Shropshire. Now, I promote the brand and receive a percentage of the orders placed through my website.

"If I like a product, I contact the manufacturer. Recently, another farmer's wife who hand-crafts felt pictures produced one from a photograph of Matthew's bull. After I featured it on Instagram and Facebook so many orders came in that she couldn't keep up.

"My social media presence could be much larger, but Matthew and the children come first. Taking things to the next level would mean being away more, so for now I do as much as I can from home. I don't set targets, I write articles when there's something to write about and increasingly use Instagram for timely, visual posts. The key is to make it understandable for those not involved in farming but interesting for those who are - and never talk politics!

"When I started this project, some in the local farming community didn't understand what it was about and thought I'd gone slightly mad, but now they're starting to get it!"

Instagram - @hannah_l_morgan

Twitter - @hannah_l_morgan

Facebook - The Wife Behind The Farmer.



WOMEN IN FARMING

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in the developed world women make up 43% of the agricultural labour, and in some countries up to 80%.

Providing female farmers with access to the same resources as men could, the FAO says, reduce the number of hungry people in the world by 100-150 million.

However, a 2016 study 'Women in Farming and the Agricultural Sector', commissioned by the Scottish Government's Rural and Environment Science and Analytical Services Division, found that women in businesses outside of agriculture face far fewer barriers to business involvement and leadership.

EUROPEAN OPERATORS JOIN THE GREAT AMERICAN HARVEST

America's custom cutters harvest crops for farmers who don't have the time or labour or cannot justify the investment. Farm Forum met some at the Case IH Pro Harvest Kickoff event which precedes this amazing months-long mechanical migration.

Every year, as wheat and small-grain crops ripen, custom cutters work their way from Texas over 1,000 miles north through Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota to bring in the harvest. While some stop when they reach Montana or North Dakota, others carry on to the Canadian Prairies. Weather is a constant challenge, from searing heat and stifling humidity to intense thunderstorms, hail and even tornadoes which can wipe out thousands of acres.

Custom harvesting in America's Great Plains flourished during the 1940s when World War II constrained labour and machinery, providing harvesting services to farmers who couldn't get the equipment and help they needed. Subsequently, that service became increasingly attractive to those who didn't want the expense of owning a combine or hadn't enough labour. By the 1960s 3,000 custom harvesters worked the Great Plains and they still have a vital role, over 400 being members of U.S. Custom Harvesters, Inc. (USCHI).

"We provide producers with a workforce which is getting harder to find, a turn-key operation that gets the job done," states Jim Deibert, a

customer harvester from Colby, Kansas and President of USCHI.

ESSENTIAL SUPPORT

Now in its 25th year, the Case IH Pro Harvest Kickoff in May is a focal point at the start of the season and co-sponsored by USCHI, Case IH, and Great Plains Technology Center in Frederick, Oklahoma. Frederick Future Farmers of America provide breakfast for 300 custom harvesters, who meet Case IH's Pro Harvest team and attend workshops on combine operation and safety.

Custom harvesting is a tough business, not just doing the job and keeping customers happy, but complying with numerous rules and regulations and the human challenges of months on the road.

"Crew members come from North America and countries such as Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Scotland and Australia," explains Kelly Kravig, Harvesting Marketing Manager. "Three-quarters have never operated a combine, so machine orientation is critical. We work with USCHI to promote safety and have trained 6,500 participants."

In constant contact with hundreds of custom harvesters, Pro Harvest teams monitor Axial-Flow performance



Shawn Johnson

in all crops and conditions, sharing information with Case IH designers and engineers to deliver customer-driven improvements.

"The Pro Harvest teams keep our operation running," states Shawn Johnson of Johnson Harvesting in Evansville, Minnesota, a family-owned business that operates nine Axial-Flows. Whether it's technical or mechanical,

Johnson Harvesting trucks with Axial-Flow combines



A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE



Calum Spink from Dunham on Trent, England, joined custom harvester Rick Farris from Edson, Kansas, as a combine operator/truck driver after graduating in agricultural engineering from Askham Bryan College, where he heard about the opportunity from a visiting Ohio State University professor.



Brian Carter, from West Meath, Ireland, also joined Farris Brothers. Born on a dairy and beef farm he's studying agricultural mechanisation at Pallaskenry Agricultural College and decided to join a custom harvesting crew as a work placement.

they have the knowledge and experience to handle any problem. We might be 200 miles away, but they'll come over if that's what it takes to keep us moving."

Operating large, late-model harvesting equipment and trucks throughout America's Great Plains appeals to people from countries where agriculture is generally on a smaller scale and technology less advanced, providing a 'once-in-a-lifetime' experience.

Johnson Harvesting's 2018 crew includes agriculture graduate Jacob Olsen from Gelsted, Denmark, who wanted to work in America and was put in touch with the company through a farming friend in Montana.

"Danish people like to go harvesting in the United States, Canada or Australia because it's very different!"

"I grew up on a beef and arable farm but had never operated a large combine, so it was great to learn about the Axial-Flow and AFS Pro 700 from Case IH product specialists. The safety messages highlighted what can happen and how quickly things can change."

"The Axial-Flows and Peterbilt trucks are so big they were scary at first, but I like driving them. The presentations at the Pro Harvest Kickoff event were especially helpful."



CASE IH SUPPORTS CUSTOM HARVESTERS

The Pro Harvest initiative was established in 1985 to provide prompt service and technical advice to custom harvesters with Case IH equipment. Every wheat harvest, Case IH dispatches two teams comprising Axial-Flow specialists and trucks filled

with Case IH spare parts to support this sector's unique requirements. Starting in Southern Texas, they run along the eastern and western corridors of the harvest trail, stopping at Case IH dealers where harvesting activity is centred.



AXIAL-FLOW® 140 SERIES

FITTED WITH ADVANCED CROSS-FLOW
CLEANING SYSTEM.



The Axial-Flow® 140 series combine fitted with the advanced Cross-Flow Cleaning System ensures productivity while working on hillsides; it automatically compensates to changes in your field conditions – from flat land all the way to 12° slopes. The Cross-Flow Cleaning System will always deliver you optimum performance – it will even save you fuel by automatically disengaging during stationary unloading or during headlands turning.



www.caseih.com

CASE IH
AGRICULTURE
FOR THOSE WHO DEMAND MORE