



Tomorrow's Technicians Today

There is much press about apprenticeships within the UK at the moment, not just within the agricultural sector but in other industries too.

A common force driving many leading manufacturing companies in our industry is the development of apprenticeship schemes for agricultural engineers. Over the last few years Grimme has pioneered the development of such a scheme designed specifically for young people entering the world of Grimme.

Now, in association with Brooksby Melton College, Grimme's efforts have been rewarded with a recognised Level 4 qualification, which goes beyond those seen at Level 2 and 3.

The emphasis was to create a scheme which balanced practical and theory teaching with the practical learning mainly carried out at Grimme UK's Swineshead headquarters. This provides realistic experience of a true working environment and also allows students the opportunity to see machines working.

Brooksby College has changed the structure of the timetable so students attend college over an increased number of shorter periods, which then allows them to extend time spent with their employer in practical workshop periods.

The ongoing cooperation between manufacturer, dealer and college is a major step in securing the apprenticeships' future.



The newly extended Grimme Stores



Extended practical workshop learning opportunities

Visit the new Grimme UK website at www.grimme.co.uk



Pupils at Gosberton House School

Welcome

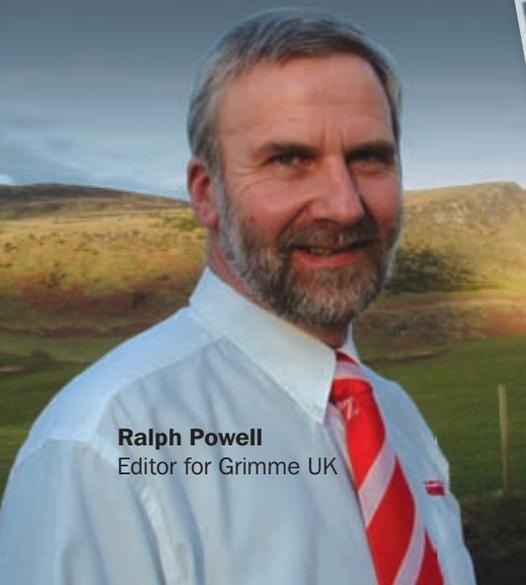
As Autumn bears its teeth after a long dry Summer I am pleased that this edition of *Inform* – it’s our 10th anniversary, covers a number of relevant topics.

It’s often comes as a surprise that many growers are unaware that Grimme is as innovative and active in sugar beet as it is in potatoes & other root crops. We feature news of a number of exciting developments in this area.

Thanks to featured growers Geoff & Will Irwin and Andrew Miller for sharing their experiences with us. Andrew’s take on self propelled vs. trailed harvesting is very interesting as is news of the new Grimme windrower.

Grimme Technica continues to grow and is now the largest show of its kind in Europe. If you haven’t been before, it’s well worth a visit.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a successful harvest with the full support of everyone at Grimme, particularly our burgeoning team of tech professionals.



Ralph Powell
Editor for Grimme UK

Pupils Harvest Some Super Prizes

Children’s ability to learn is always surprising, and this ability was discovered by Dale Houghton from Grimme Swineshead when he judged a Harvest competition at Gosberton House School at the end of 2013.

His wife is a teacher at the school and with Dale’s support of providing class teachers with photos and information about potato, carrot and sugar beet harvesting the children entered the competition.

The result of the competition was exceptional as the entries presented were excellent in terms of content and knowledge of how the various crops were grown and harvested.

Although some children live on farms, none grew these crops, yet the detail from the entries showed the children’s ability to read, look and discuss the information and relate it to each of their entries.

The competition winners received special prizes from Grimme, with the overall winner describing the sugar beet crop and how it is harvested. The remarkable end to this short story is that the competition entrants were all children with special needs.





Walking Shares

News & Events

Tax-man DOUBLES capital allowance!

Although it wasn't widely expected in last April's Budget, the Chancellor introduced a temporary hike in Annual Investment Allowance (AIA) from £250,000 to £500,000. This is available from 1st April 2014 for companies (6th April 2014 for sole traders and partnerships) until 31st December 2015. After this, there is a major reduction to just £25,000.

The AIA enables any business to offset the purchase cost of new machinery and equipment against taxable profits in the year of acquisition. This means a company with a 31st March year end can take advantage of the allowance on up to £500,000 of all qualifying capital expenditure (e.g., plant, machinery, business equipment but not cars) made in the year ending 31st March 2015. This applies equally to "cash" purchases and acquisitions made using hire purchase finance.

However, not all businesses have a March year-end, so there are special arrangements in place to cover year-ends that straddle the start and end dates of this temporary AIA extension period. For example, if a company's accounting year runs from 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2014, the maximum AIA available for the year is reduced to £437,500 comprising 3/12 (Jan – March 2014) @ £250,000 and 9/12 (April – Dec 2014) @ £500,000.

Similar transitional arrangements also have to be made for the year ending 31 December 2015 after which the temporary increase to £500,000 is set to reduce to £25,000.

The benefits seem clear. It should pay profitable businesses to bring forward planned investment to ensure they take maximum advantage of this temporary increase in relief. However, before going ahead, you should check how these changes relate to your business with your accountant.

Sugar Beet Systems



Grimme continues to push the boundaries of design and innovation in its fast expanding range of beet machinery. Read more on the next page.

A 6 row walking share lifting option is new for 2014/15 on Rexor 620.

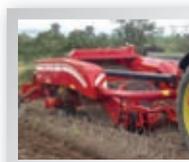
While a new multi shaft chopper now bridges the gap between the traditional scalper and the patented FM front mulcher. It is available on all Grimme self propelled beet harvesters.



The new front mounted FT300 is available in combination with the trailed Rootster while the versatile, trailed BM defoliator is available for either system.

NEW GTM Windrower

enhances potato harvesting performance.



For more information about the Grimme GTM see Page 6



Will Irwin of Westward Farm

Potato Quality Not Compromised

A high output and well designed grader is a key component on a 450 acres crisping potato enterprise in Nottinghamshire where crop quality is a key driver.

Geoff and his son Will Irwin of Westward Farm, North Scarle near Newark ensure every effort is made from planting to grading to achieve crop uniformity along with minimising damage at harvest and while grading.

“Keeping bruising and scuffing of the potato to a minimum is a prerequisite of growing for the crisping market,” says Will. “We used to supply a major pre-packer with salad potatoes but our mostly sandy soils caused some skin finish issues so we couldn’t maintain a consistent sample. We thought switching to crisping grade potatoes would make the job easier but ironically we have to be at least as focused now on quality as before.

“However, by going down the crisping route we are more in control because we get paid on the weighbridge weight rather than on ungraded potatoes straight off the field,” he says. The potato machinery fleet includes two, 3-row Standen cup planters fitted with Quickstart liquid fertiliser applicators;

two Grimme CS1500 destoners/declodders; two triple Jones Engineering bedformers; two Grimme GT trailed harvesters with Multi-Sep; and a new eight foot Grimme 24/60 grader.

The Irwin’s have storage capacity for 2500 tonnes of cold storage and 3000 tonnes of bulk ambient storage. Potatoes are graded both in and out of store.

It is the grading end of the operation where most focus has been recently to try and minimise crop damage at the end of the season, and so last year the farm’s old Squire grader was replaced with a Grimme 24/60 8ft grader.

“We wanted a high output and more reliable grader that would fit into our six week operating window,” says Will. “A machine that would be kind to the crop but not compromise on output was a key objective and Grimme provided the best solution in our opinion.”

The Grimme 24/60 self-emptying receiving hopper can achieve 60t/hr which is more than enough capacity to keep up with both GT harvesters.

From the receiving hopper potatoes go onto a Multi-Sep cleaning unit designed to take out soil and trash followed by PU coils which are individually speed adjustable to remove further trash and take out mid grade potatoes.

“PU coils give us far greater flexibility than having a screen,” says Will. “Switching grades is now achieved with the push of a button rather than having to stop the grader in order to change the screen. We can’t afford the downtime.”

A six person picking off table has been adapted to take eight people by removing the traverse discharge conveyor. From the picking off table potatoes fall gently onto a ‘web sorter’ grading

Grimme with New Innovations for Sugar Beet Harvesting

The development of the Grimme Range of Sugar Beet Harvesters continues for the UK market. The Maxtron Sugar Beet harvester, the first self-propelled harvester on two tracks and rear double wheel steering, was launched introducing Grimme to the market place for Sugar Beet harvesting.

Topping of sugar beet is an essential part of the harvesting process. The demand for topping systems to suit the

removal of top for either feeding or mulching or other requirements needs careful designing as far as Grimme is concerned. The availability of toppers to suit all scenarios are built by Grimme.

The Oppel wheel system of lifting is well known and is successful in its own right. The ability to lift beet in all soil conditions moves lifting systems to other dimensions and the share system forms part of this dimension. Whether this share type be static or walking Grimme offers all these options.

The introduction of the Rexor Beet harvester allows the realisation of all these options and the technological advances within the



Rexor, Maxtron and Rootster working in beet

With High Output

screen which separates into two, three foot lengths side by side and is capable of split grading from 40mm up to 90mm. Oversized potatoes are taken off at the end.

Flow brakes at the end of the conveyors reduce the fall of potatoes and therefore minimise bruising. The Irwin's operate two box fillers or crop can be stored in bulk.

"Split grading means we can fully utilise the 60t/hr capacity because the two box fillers are 30t capacity each," says Will who adds that potato grading has not moved on much in the last 40 years or so. A big improvement came when Grimme replaced electric motors with hydraulic pumps.

"We can now fix problems ourselves without having to rely on an electrician," he says.

A self emptying receiving hopper is advantageous too because potatoes – especially crispers – must never be left in it over night. "Leaving potatoes in the hopper over night can cause fry colour issues and ultimately lead to rejected loads," points out Will.

He notes that self tracking belts and stainless steel scrapers on the splitter belt are a key feature on the grader because they help reduce blockages as well as dramatically cutting down on uneven wear and tear.

"...A machine that would be kind to the crop but not compromise on output was a key objective and Grimme provided the best solution in our opinion."

An auto clean system 'turbo speed' on the coils also cuts down on blockages and saves on downtime.

"We will be putting about 20,000 tonnes of crop over the grader this season, including 8,000 tonnes off the field plus a further 5,000 tonnes out of store," says Will.

"We will also be grading two crops of red beet grown over 100 acres and about 150 acres of onions. Both red beet and onions are new enterprises since replacing the grader."

The plan is to keep the Grimme grader for 10 years, he says. 2013 was its first so it has not been fully tested yet but Grimme technology gives the Irwin's the confidence that even in difficult conditions and when under pressure it will cope.

"Grimme kit isn't blacksmith made," says Will. "They are designed on a CAD system so they are built with minimum amounts of steel but with maximum strength. The grader is also belt driven so is much easier to work on and creates much less noise than a chain driven machine."



esting Technology

Look out for upcoming Sugar Beet Demonstrations!



Rexor models and the topping options will be demonstrated in the UK later this year. Watch out for the dates and venues, which will be confirmed on the Grimme UK website.

- **The Rexor 620 with walking share and Top Saver Topper**
- **The Maxtron 620**
- **The Rootster trailed harvester**
- **The Kleine RL350 loads from clamps into lorries on the farm track**



Grimme's New Windrower



Andrew Miller with his SV 260 with Multi-Sep Technology

Bunker Trailed Harvester Keeps Trailer

New Windrower Adds to Harvest Performance

Grimme UK Ltd has launched the new GTM Windrower with many innovative features of the acclaimed GT Harvester. A pulled front share lifting system with or without centre share and floating chassis combined with Ridge Pressure Control make up the intake layout. A main web rotary agitation (with the option of an additional rocker agitator) allows for gentle sieving and feeding onto a conventional haulm roller against web combination. The short second web moves the crop onto the second haulm roller system working against a spiral segment roller which in turn feeds the crop over a Multi-Sep separator as a standard format.

A short transfer web gently delivers the crop onto the hydraulically driven cross conveyor, which has many new features. Centrally driven, it removes the need for heavy end sections. The cross conveyor moves left to right to discharge into the space between the next two rows. The left and right sections lower hydraulically to eliminate the drop. A rubber sheet at each end directs the crop into the valley between the rows. Speed control of the cross conveyor is controlled from the cab.

The GTM Windrower has hydraulic lanes adjuster, hydraulic steering with self-centring, hydraulic levelling on the left and right sides and hydraulic control of the agitation as standard features operated through the standard control box.

Options now include Terra Control, VC50 and Joy Stick Control Box System, RS Separator and first haulm roller running against a spiral segment roller.

Grimme will run a demonstration programme during the 2014 harvest.

Why should it make sense to stack several tonnes of potatoes on an implement which, in difficult conditions, might struggle to keep working with just its own weight to manage?

Given some thought, you might start to see that there are some advantages in a system that allows trailers to be filled on the headlands and can be fitted with a powered axle to keep it going.

When Andrew Miller, based at Kellie Castle, Arncroach near St Andrews, Fife, decided to change the self-propelled SF 1700 harvester he had operated for the previous ten years, he considered his options. While it had performed well, one drawback was that it was not a bunker machine and needed trailers to off load into as it worked.

"Having seen the mess loaded trailers can make in a wet, freshly harvested field," he says. "It seemed to me that, ideally, a harvester should be able to work without having a trailer running alongside it."

Mr Miller grows about 160 acres of potatoes each year, as many as crop rotation allows on his own farm but the majority on land he 'swaps' on an annual basis with other farmers in the area – they grow cereals on his land while he grows potatoes on theirs. "We grow varieties which include Rooster, Maris Piper, Vivaldi and Apache," he explains. "And our aim is to grow about a third of the acreage as salads and the rest as main crop for the pre-pack market."

But the more he thought about harvester choice, the more convinced he became that a two-row trailed bunker harvester with a powered axle would suit his needs because it would give him similar output but have a bunker and cost significantly less to purchase than a self propelled.

His new two row Grimme SV 260 trailed harvester has a bunker, its intake employs spring mounted disc coulters and two haulm feed-in wheels, plus an option for a system to reduce the weight on the diablo rollers when there is a lot of soil on the main web.

"I am assured that this intake will not only handle the ridged potatoes but also the salads which we are growing in three-row beds this year," says Mr Miller.

Lifted potatoes are taken up into the harvester by a long, low incline main web – for tougher conditions an additional intake web having agitation can be employed. The main area of separation takes place at the double Multi-Sep unit –





Trailers Off Field

“It seemed to me that, ideally, a harvester should be able to work without having a trailer running alongside it.”

“Which should allow us to use smaller webs and prevent small potatoes falling through onto the ground and cause volunteer problems in following crops,” he says.

Although the SV 260 has a spacious picking table – up to six people – so far Mr Miller prefers to grade the potatoes in the yard.

Bunker capacity is six tonnes fed by a web which initially delivers the crop at floor level and then rises progressively as the bunker fills. “The harvester weighs about 12 tonnes before there are any potatoes on board,” he says. “So I am pleased I opted for hydrostatic drive”

The ability to off load on the headlands and avoid trailers running all over the field is a real advantage, although in ideal ground conditions it is possible to unload on the move and increase output accordingly.

The self-propelled needed a minimum of three tractors and trailers to keep it on the move. However, thanks to its bunker, the SV 260 manages with two. “That in itself is a big saving in labour, fuel and machinery,” he says. “But having a bunker also means I can set out by myself to lift a few tonnes of say, salad potatoes I have an order for without having to organise any other labour.”

“I have to confess I kept hold of the self-propelled until the end of our first season with the SV 260 – until I was absolutely sure we had made the right decision,” he says. “But I am now convinced we have a harvester which has a similar output, can produce a first rate sample and, with the bunker, is able to minimise field damage and reduce harvesting costs.”

MultiSep

Grimme Innovation

Innovation Beyond The Spiral

Grimme's unique PU spiral segments and contra rotating plain rubber rollers are at the heart of our Multi-Sep system. It is these designs that are now trusted by thousands of users worldwide to safely harvest their valuable crops.

An idea that began back in 1995, it took Grimme nearly 4 years and an investment of over £1.2 million to develop the perfect, innovative segments. To create the perfect segment, that cleans thoroughly while being gentle to tubers and tough enough to withstand abrasive conditions is no simple matter. Grimme actually tested ten different designs before finding the ideal solution:

One Piece Injection Moulding: High pressure injection into a single mould means there are no rough edges to damage crop and no material joins, air pockets or deformation to weaken the structure.

Quality inside and out. Look inside the Grimme Segment, and see the Genuine benefits our designs bring to your harvest.



Unique Spiral Support: The internal support is spiralled to follow the external profile exactly. This keeps an even pressure on the lip at all times. The unique pocketed design which provides different levels of support and compression to the spiral lip, depending on crop type, provides optimum separation.

Exclusive: Grimme only produces Genuine Replacement PU Segments for Grimme machines. Only the highest quality materials are used - manufactured to a unique specification, to ensure Grimme customers benefit from our innovation, our full parts warranty and the lowest overall cost.

NEW FOR 2015 - 6 LIP SEGMENT

Six PU cleaning lips working in conjunction with supported air pockets providing very gentle extraction for use when harvesting small tubers.



40 JAHRE SELBSTFAHRENDE ERNTETECHNIK

40 Years of Self Propelled Harvesting

Grimme Worldwide



European Events

Interpom Primeurs 2014

Date: Sun 23 to Thur 25
November
09.00 - 18.00



Location: Kortrijk - Belgium

Website: www.interpom.be

LAMMA 2015

Date: Wed 21 January
07.30 - 17.00
Thur 22 January
07.30 - 16.30



Location: East of England Showground,
Peterborough

Website: www.lammashow.com

SIMA 2015

Date: Sun 22 to
Thur 26 February
08.30 - 18.30



Location: Parc des Expositions de
Paris-Nord Villepinte

Website: en.simaonline.com

PLUS! A Reminder

Watch out for sugar beet demo
dates and venues.

Details will be
published
shortly at

www.grimme.co.uk



Grimme Technica 2014

Date: 11 – 14 November 2014 **Location:** Damme

Grimme Technica is to be held again this November. The factory will open its doors on Tuesday 11th to Friday 14th November 2014. Planned visits by Grimme UK are in place and the opportunity to visit Grimme is available.

For further information please contact your local Grimme dealer.

In addition to the "Innovations Show", there will be an opportunity to visit the new factories which were under construction during the 2012 Grimme Technica. A free bus shuttle will be provide transport between the factories.

GRIMME
TECHNICA



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