

2024 AGRO EXPO

THE OFFICIAL SHOW GUIDE



A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO
Michigan Farm News

August 13 & 14, 2024
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GETTING TO 2024 AGRO EXPO



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GET DIRECTIONS

Scan the QR code above for
directions to AgroExpo!

Welcome to the 2024 AgroExpo!

I am very happy to bring you the 2024 AgroExpo! With over 160 exhibitors, equipment demonstrations and educational speakers you're sure to take away valuable and usable information for your operational success.

I encourage you to use the show guide to make the most of your visit. Review the exhibitor list and plan your visit. Be sure to network with fellow growers, attend speaker sessions, walk the aisles, and meet with industry professionals to find solutions to your current operational needs.

Demonstrations featured at this year's AgroExpo include strip-tillage equipment, forage harvesters, wagons, and drone sprayers. We are also hosting farm safety demos from the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety. These include grain bin and manure pit safety. I want to thank all demonstration participants for sharing their knowledge and answering questions about applications for your farm.

With over 100 varieties of soybeans and 100 different corn hybrids on display, there is something for everyone to discover. Visit your seed professional's booth and review the various benefits of their corn and soybean seed selections. And new for 2024, we have a dry bean plot with four varieties.

Equipment, as always, is very popular. You'll find many opportunities to connect with industry leaders representing top brands and showcasing the latest in innovation and technology.

During your visit, make time to join us in the speaker tent and gain insight into problems and solutions facing agriculture. This year we have two keynote speakers. We welcome Kelly Garrett, CEO of Xtreme Ag, and Mike Pearson, broadcast director at Farm Progress. Educational presenters from a variety of industries will cover topics that will impact your operation. CCA credits are available for most.

The show continues to grow and, with your involvement, has become one of the largest agricultural trade shows in the region. We are proud to be a part of that. Our mission to Connect, Discover and Innovate is at the forefront of our planning and steering committee.

I personally want to thank all of you for your loyal participation, and to our team of industry professionals and volunteers who will once again make this AgroExpo a success.

Enjoy the show!

MARNIE SWARTZENDRUBER

AgroExpo Show Coordinator



CONNECT



DISCOVER



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There are a lot of choices out there when it comes to selecting products for your crop nutrition. When you combine the right nutrients at the right time you are going to use less fertilizer and get better results. That's where AgroLiquid comes in.

For more than 40 years AgroLiquid has provided a complete line of effective crop nutrients backed by highly trained staff and retail partners to provide comprehensive recommendations based on your unique soil and crop goals. AgroLiquid has been on a mission to engineer the best plant nutrition products while defending your crops, the soil, and the environment. This has required a relentless passion for research and innovation.

OPTIMIZING CROP POTENTIAL

AgroLiquid removes the guesswork inherently involved in producing a crop by investing in research. AgroLiquid continuously tests our products against other liquid and dry fertilizer products, enabling us to produce more yield with less applied fertilizer. This is done at the North Central Research Station (NCRS), home to the AgroExpo, a private research facility of

more than 1,400 acres. AgroLiquid also contracts and facilitates research across the country in soils and crops not native to our region. Armed with the knowledge and confidence achieved through this extensive research, our agronomists make scientifically based recommendations to economically optimize yield potential.

Part of what makes AgroLiquid products safe, efficient, and effective is our proprietary technology. Our technology has been developed specifically to protect crop nutrients from tie-up in the soil while allowing better plant utilization. This technology allows us to chelate/encapsulate nutrients within the sweet spot – not too loose but not too tight. This helps to ensure a slow and direct release so that nutrients are available when and where plants need them throughout the growing season.

This technology is what also makes AgroLiquid products effective foliar – efficiency in its penetration of the leaf cuticle. Since our chelation is derived from plant sources, it can (1) be broken down over time by soil biology without the worry of adverse effects in soil applications, and (2) be quickly broken down by the plant and used in foliar applications.

KEEP GETTING BETTER

We believe in continuous improvement. Not only are we constantly working on researching and developing, but we also work toward improving our quality, our accountability, our knowledge, our understanding, and our commitment to providing our customers with the best there is to offer in both products and services.

AGRONOMIC EXPERTISE

AgroLiquid's sales, agronomy, and research teams are eager to help. Our business does not exist without financially healthy growers. We want you to succeed. And we want the opportunity to help overcome the challenges you face. The question is not if AgroLiquid products have a place in your operation – it's where. Primary nutrients, secondaries, and micros – we have all the crop nutrients you'll need. From seed-safe, in-furrow options to tissue-safe foliar or soil applications, our application flexibility is unrivaled. Compatibility makes applying balanced nutrition easy, laying the foundation for superior crop performance. Expect more from your fertilizer. Find out more at AgroLiquid.com.

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Celebrating 85 Years in Business

JANSON EQUIPMENT COMPANY

JANSON EQUIPMENT

In 1939, Janson Equipment was founded by Edwin Janson, a farmer in the village of Reese. At the start of World War II, Ed established the business by trading horses for tractors with steel wheels, due to the rubber shortage. He also sold many IH refrigerators and freezers when the appliance line was launched as many farmers had just got electricity.

In 1961, Ed's two sons, Bill and Howard, purchased the company from their father. They notably sold the first Case IH Axial-Flow combine in Michigan in 1976 to a local farmer in Fairgrove. This same farm also purchased the first Steiger tractor in Michigan from Janson Equipment.

In 1989, Howard's son Tom and Bill's son Steve purchased the business. They added two additional locations in 2001 – the former B&W co-op in Breckenridge and Charlotte. For over 20 years now, these two locations have embraced and embodied what Janson Equipment strives for as a dealership. Janson Equipment is the largest Case IH dealer in the state of Michigan with three locations.

Today, Tom continues to lead Janson Equipment with customer-centric policies and procedures that yield proven results. Parts availability, fast service response time, trained and professional personnel, and offering best-in-class product lines are at the forefront of Janson Equipment's operations. Tom works side by side with his son Adam as his VP/CEO. He will partner with his sister, Sarah (Janson) Bierlein, to become fourth generation owners of Janson Equipment Company. In the time of transition, where innovation and tradition intersect, is where you'll find Janson Equipment keeping steadfast in their belief that the customer experience is number one in forging the next chapter of the company.

To be in business for 85 years is something to be thankful for. Janson Equipment would like to thank our customers for achieving this milestone together. We are thankful to serve you and for the opportunity to continually earn your business year after year. Some of our professional relationships have ties all the way back to 1939 when we first opened our doors. We are grateful for your patronage and trust. We look forward



to consistently providing you with the parts, sales, and service you demand.

Janson Equipment would also like to take a moment to thank our staff. Our staff, past and present, has been the cornerstone of 85 years of strong performance in the agricultural machinery market. We have been fortunate to have a team that has always understood our mission, to serve our customers in all their equipment, parts, and service needs.



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Strip tillage 101

The Economic and Agronomic Answer to ‘Climate-Smart’ Agriculture?

FARM NEWS MEDIA; KUHN KRAUSE

In an era of increasing expectations for producers to practice “Climate-Smart” production practices, strip tillage may provide a solution that meets the needs of both producers and champions of sustainability with a focus on carbon capture.

According to Kuhn Krause, which manufactures the Gladiator series of strip till tools, strip tillage is a precision tillage practice where only the band of soil in which the seed will be planted is cultivated and is commonly used for row-crops.

Working only this strip of soil instead of the entire field speeds up the tillage operation, reduces labor requirement, allows precise fertilizer placement in the root growing zone and helps manage moisture. Strip-till systems allow the operator to reduce the number of tillage operations to one pass, reducing the number of man-hours required for seedbed preparation.

Additionally, strip-till conserves moisture because the entire field is not tilled, so evaporative losses are reduced. Conversely, in wet conditions the untilled bands of soil between strips help reduce run-off thereby preventing soil erosion.

Placing nutrients in the strip maximizes efficiency and availability for the plant. Studies have shown significant yield improvement compared to broadcast fertilizer in a conventional tillage or no-till system and the ability to reduce application rates for increased farm profitability.

The strip-tillage toolbar is equipped with row units for preparing the strip. The row units will be on a row spacing that matches the crop to be planted. A good row unit will combine five essential elements:

1. A method for clearing crop residue from the strip ensuring it will not impede seed-soil contact at planting. Often a coulter is combined with floating row cleaners for best residue management.
2. A working element to loosen the soil in the strip. This may be a shank or coulter (often preferred for shallower tillage <6”). Whatever the design of the working element, it must be capable of breaking out all the soil in the strip and removing low levels of soil compaction. The width of the strip should be sufficient for the planter gauge wheels to run on to maximize planting depth consistency, smooth operation for high-speed planters, and twin-row planter application.
3. A method for creating a raised berm over the strip. In fall, this raised surface allows the strip to weather without

becoming a depression, and in spring the berm will warm up and dry out faster than the area between the strips allowing planting to begin more quickly.

4. A method for applying anhydrous, liquid, or dry fertilizer in the strip. Row units will usually be able to place two types of fertilizer simultaneously in one pass across the field.
5. A conditioning attachment which will size clods and provide a surface suitable for planting.

WHEN TO STRIP-TILL

Strip-till often takes place in the fall, giving the strips time to mellow over the winter ahead of planting. However, where field conditions are not suitable for fall strip tilling, strips may be made in the spring.

Usually in spring, strip tillage depth is shallower to avoid bringing cold, wet soil to the surface, whereas in fall it will be deeper to have a greater volume of worked soil in the seedbed.

Regardless of fall or winter strip tillage, creating a strip with a raised berm is an advantage. After fall tillage, the raised strip can weather over winter reducing the risk that the strip becomes a depression by spring.

After spring tillage, the raised strip will dry out and warm up faster than the area between the strips, allowing planting to take place sooner while improving seed germination and emergence.

HOW TO SWITCH TO STRIP TILLAGE?

Making the transition to strip tillage requires careful planning and many growers choose to have a custom operator strip-till a couple of fields before making the change themselves. The strategy to make the change is going to vary depending on whether a grower is changing from a no-till or more conventional tillage system.

In either situation, almost all customers find it necessary to utilize GPS guidance for strip-till as the same maps created by the strip-till operation will be used by the following planting operation for precise placement of the seed in the strips.

Field condition should be evaluated, and compaction issues must be resolved — the strip-till unit is not a ripper. The strip tillage system is going to replace all other tillage operations across the field, so consideration should be given to residue management and how a good seedbed will be created in a single pass.

Most prospective strip-till operators will



evaluate multiple strip-till toolbars before deciding which will work best for them. The overall crop nutrient strategy also needs to be considered.

Strip tillage provides the opportunity to begin splitting fertilizer applications and “spoon feeding” the crop rather than fewer larger applications of nutrient.

STRIP TILLAGE VS. VERTICAL TILLAGE

Strip tillage is not necessarily better than vertical tillage, they are both environmental tillage systems with their respective agronomic and economic benefits and attributes. Both can manage residue, create good seedbeds, incorporate nutrients, manage moisture, and provide agronomically sound growing conditions for crops.

The contrast is largely the different management styles associated with each. Vertical tillage equipment like the Kuhn Krause Excelerator is broad-acre focused with limited opportunity for variable fertilizer placement.

Strip tillage equipment is more precision acre focused with many opportunities for variable rate fertilizer placement on every acre. Farmers can be successful with both methods, but each requires a slightly unique style of management.

Strip tillage has proven to provide yield increases compared to no-till crop production, particularly in corn. Numerous studies have also shown that plant utilization of nutrients is improved by precise banding in the root zone, and that it can be possible to reduce overall fertilizer application to reduce crop production cost and improve profitability.

2018-23 CORN TILLAGE ECONOMIC STUDY

Strip-till allows precision tillage on 1/3 of the land while retaining all residue between the strips. This improves moisture infiltration into the strip and reduces rainfall runoff from the field, while providing a warm seedbed for early season planting.

Residue between the strips helps retain moisture during dry times of the growing season while suppressing weed growth.

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HUTSON INC.

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The 9700, 9800, and 9900 models are equipped with a highly efficient 24.2 L Liebherr V12 engine, powering the machine with up to 956 hp. The 9600 features a John Deere PowerTech™ PSS engine with 13.5 L displacement. Mounted longitudinally, both engines feature perfect cooling efficiency with minimal fan requirements. Plus, they offer excellent serviceability and weight distribution. The bottom line: improved fuel efficiency, cleaner emissions, and a massive amount of power at your disposal.

The ProStream crop flow is designed with extra heavy-duty components for even higher engine horsepower outputs and a throughput capacity of more than

400 tons per hour. The smooth, gentle arc of the channel minimizes resistance for an even crop flow stream and lower wear. The unique design of the knife holders creates a more uniform and bundled crop stream. They also optimize the point of exit for the crop, helping to reduce the overall power demand of the crop flow. When you're chopping nonstop, day after day, that adds up to significant fuel savings.

According to Hutson's director of precision ag, Kevin Shelle, "When you take the productivity, efficiency, and quality of production that the 9000 series forage harvester provides and add the proven John Deere technology stack, you have a machine that can transform your business."

The HarvestLab 3000 sensor mounts to the top of the discharge spout and takes accurate dry matter and ingredient readings (more than 4000 measurements per second) of the crop through the sapphire glass lens as the crop passes through the spout. This is the same technology that forage labs use to measure dry matter. HarvestLab 3000 with John Deere Constituent Sensing measures dry matter and constituents like sugar, starch, acid detergent fiber (ADF), neutral detergent



fiber (NDF), crude fiber, crude ash, crude protein, crude fat, metabolic energy, and ELOS, depending on the crop. In addition, the HarvestLab 3000 sensor can also be used as a stationary unit.

When HarvestLab 3000 is used in conjunction with the Harvest Monitor system, a wealth of important information becomes available to the operator, including productivity in acres per hour, throughput in tons per hour, total area harvested, total crop mass harvested, yields, and dry matter. To measure and document the constituents, a G5Plus Universal Display is required. All data documented on the G5Plus Universal Display is shown in the John Deere Operations Center.

When the HarvestLab 3000 is used in conjunction with an 8000 or 9000 Series Self-Propelled Forage Harvester (SPFH) and a GreenStar display, AutoLoc (Auto Length of Cut) functionality is now available for use. AutoLoc automatically varies the length of cut according to the desired crop-dry matter correlation settings based on the dry matter readings from the HarvestLab 3000 sensor. With the AutoLoc adjustment, bunk density is improved, and a high forage quality is reached.

Your 9000 Series SPFH comes with a Hutson, Inc. dealer network that is there for you 100%, with answers, parts, and services that will make sure that you get the very best from your machine. John Deere Connected Support™ is a suite of telematics systems that enables Hutson to better support you. With a JDLink connected machine, you can check in on work in progress. You can also grant Hutson access to monitor machine alerts, diagnose problems, and push software updates remotely. The technology behind these systems is advanced, but the benefits are simple: John Deere Connected Support saves you time and money.

As technology like the 9000 Series evolves, and as your business evolves, you can count on one thing: we're there when you need us — for advice, to solve a problem, or for a part. Reach out; we'll be there with technicians who are factory-trained and ready to go to work for you using only genuine John Deere parts and products.



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Capello — Innovate Harvesting

CAPPELLO

Since 1965, Capello has been widely known in the European market for offering the most innovative harvesting solutions to producers across the world. The Capello family brought their products to the United States to offer American farmers the same agronomic benefits that their customers in Europe have experienced.

Through continuous research and development, the QUASAR model is where Capello got their start in 1965. First to the market with chopping (1986) and folding (1992) technology, Capello has forged the way for corn head innovation. This model includes features such as reversible knives for longer life cycle, segmented hex shafts for ease of maintenance, and innovative chain and idler sprocket design to ensure crop is collected in adverse conditions. Available in a wide range of spacings, from 20", 22", 30", 36" and 38", the QUASAR harvesting technology can be utilized on any operation. Each unit is outfitted with the patent protected chopper design, each row unit can independently be engaged or disengaged at any time. This system continues to provide superior residue management with minimal horsepower requirement, resulting in reduced wear on the combine.

Newest to the Capello product line, and leading the industry in corn head technology, is the DIAMANT. Offering many of the tried-and-true mechanics of the QUASAR, this new model boasts industry-leading features such as dual hydraulic deck plates making harvesting precision unmatched thanks to their synchronized movement, maintaining the stalk position in the exact center of the row unit. New to this model are the poly design features; from the impact protecting breakaway snouts to the quick release bonnet system that allows removal without the use of tools.

All Capello products are designed with the farmer in mind. Protecting investment is a harvester's first priority on any operation. Ineffective harvesting equipment can be detrimental to a farm's bottom-line, and with input costs on the rise, yield retention is more critical than ever. Capello corn heads provide the means to efficiently maximize harvest season and reduce preventable crop loss. Engineered for adverse conditions, Capello products ensure low-input maintenance, minimal combine wear, and improve soil health with innovative residue management.

New for the 2024-25 season, Capello has partnered with AgroExpo and the North Central Research Station in St. Johns, MI. In the fall of 2023, the research team set out to create trials where corn head



performance can be evaluated against competitors, displaying the long term affects harvesting equipment can pose on the soil, crop health, and ultimately yield. Following these plots to planting season, these aspects will be monitored, and data collected to educate farmers about what to look for when diagnosing header efficiency problems. Growers often ask about chopping vs non-chopping where unplanned residue movement is concerned. In cases like the one shown below, poorly processed non-chopped material not only affects emergence, but nutrient values come planting season. Chopping crop material can not only prevent build up like this but

will allow residue to decompose sooner. To learn more on Capello research plots, stop by booth 302 at the show in August.

Distributed out of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and supported by the U.S. dealer network and dedicated sales and support staff located across the corn belt, the product line was introduced to the U.S. market in 2010. Recently, Capello USA debuted their new Training and Distribution Facility in Sioux Falls, SD. The new 23,250 square foot facility offers extensive warehousing, a full product showroom, product education facilities, and final assembly shop. To learn more about Capello products, visit www.capellousa.com.



CAPTURE YIELD HARVEST EXPERIENCE

Protecting investment is a harvester's first priority on any operation. Ineffective harvesting equipment can be detrimental to a farm's bottom-line, and with input costs on the rise, yield retention is more critical than ever. Capello corn heads provide the means to efficiently maximize harvest season and reduce preventable crop loss. Engineered for adverse conditions, Capello products ensure low-input maintenance, minimal combine wear, and improve soil health with innovative residue management.



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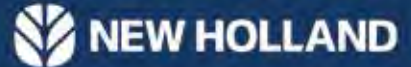


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Bringing Soil Back to Life: Tools for Optimizing the Biology in Your Field

8/13 | 9 AM | SPEAKER TENT

This session will dig into the core principles of soil health, and why it is important for the longevity of your farm. We will review the roles and benefits of biology as "the livestock under your feet," exposing the microscopic powerhouse that is ready to team with you and your crops for optimum performance. And finally, we will discuss tools for placing biological products. Not only is there variability from one farm to the next, but also from one product to the next. Come to this session to understand how to benchmark the biology on your farm and make management decisions with that information.

SPONSORED BY: BIOME MAKERS



With Biome Makers'

Sunny Kaercher

Sunny Kaercher is a strong advocate for soil health as a path and indicator for planetary and human health. She encourages innovation and industry collaboration and brings inspiration from natural systems into her role as an account manager at Biome Makers. Her diverse background in environmental policy, urban planning, natural resource management, and soil ecology, allows her to zoom in and out with fluidity.

Effortless Precision: Making Variable-Rate Fertilizer Work for You

8/13 | 10 AM | SPEAKER TENT

While technology has promised better nutrient management for farmers, it's often too complex and hasn't delivered on those promises. However, with user-friendly tools like smartphones and online software, implementing variable-rate fertilizer (applying fertilizer at different rates depending on field needs) is becoming easier than ever. This presentation will explore how to leverage these new tools to decide if variable-rate fertilizer is right for your operation and how to integrate it into your nutrient management plan.

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With VRAFY's

Joe Sinkula

Joe Sinkula brings nearly 15 years of experience in precision agriculture. He started working at a John Deere dealership as a precision agriculture consultant and finished as their integrated solutions manager. There, he witnessed first-hand the rapid growth of precision agriculture and the importance of equipment and data working together. He most recently worked on agronomy for a dairy and crop farm in northeast Wisconsin, focused on soil sampling, building variable rate prescriptions, making the equipment work with those prescriptions, and operating the equipment itself. Joe resides in the Green Bay, Wisconsin, area with his wife, Stacey, and their children, Isaac and Morgan.

Regenerative Agriculture Practices: Past, Present & Future

8/13 | 11 AM | SPEAKER TENT

Discussing the transition from synthetic methods to more nature-aligned approaches in agriculture, particularly concerning the balance of nutrients, is a significant topic. You'll hear my personal journey and experiences that led me to explore this path, the observations or realizations that prompted me to reevaluate conventional agricultural practices, the importance of balancing nutrients and their impact on crops, the transition to nature-aligned methods, and practical strategies.

We'll talk about the success stories of farmers who have successfully moved to regenerative methods and the challenges and opportunities they faced.

Learn about XtremeAg, the Soil Health Initiative, and finding new ways to accomplish soil health, nitrogen reduction and carbon sequestration, all while maintaining ROI.

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With XtremeAg's

Kelly Garrett

Kelly Garrett is an Iowan farmer known for his no-till operation spanning 7,000 acres. His farm specializes in growing corn, soybeans, and winter wheat, utilizing innovative techniques to prioritize soil conservation and yield stability. Garrett's dedication to excellence has earned him numerous accolades, including top yield honors in no-till irrigated farming from NCGA, placing nationally in 2019, 2021, and 2023, and praise in 2024 as a finalist for the Top Producer of the Year. In 2022 he was named Farmer of the Year by Field to Market, an organization focused on advancing sustainable agriculture.

Driven by a passion for sharing knowledge and fostering innovation within the farming community, Garrett co-founded XtremeAg, a platform for progressive farmers across the nation, facilitating the exchange of ideas and strategies to enhance agricultural practices. Through this initiative, Garrett aims to further promote soil health practices and advance the adoption of regenerative agricultural techniques among farmers nationwide.

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AGROEXPO

Speakers

Optimizing Disease Management

8/13 | 1:15 PM | SPEAKER TENT

In his presentation, Dr. Chilvers will discuss current disease issues of the season and management solutions. Bring your questions to stump the chump.

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*With
MSU's*

**Marty
Chilvers,
Ph. D.**

Marty Chilvers earned his Bachelor's of Agricultural Science degree with honors and Ph.D. from the University of Tasmania, Australia, with subsequent post-doctoral training at Washington State University. Dr. Chilvers' began his position with Michigan State University in 2008 where he leads a field crop pathology program, researching plant diseases and management solutions.

Understanding How Solar Can Work on Your Farm

8/13 | 2:15 PM | SPEAKER TENT

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*With
Harvest Solar's*

**Allen
Bonthuis**

Allen Bonthuis is a Michigan native and farmer in Muskegon and Ottawa counties. For the past 20 years he has been a sales consultant in the agricultural field. He believes that helping his customers make or save money is his primary objective and key to his success. Since joining Harvest Solar as a technical solar consultant, he has continued to specialize in rural businesses with a particular interest in programs to help business owners install solar and save money on their inputs.

Corn Silage Production is Not Just About High Yield

8/14 | 9 AM | SPEAKER TENT

Corn silage production is not just about high yields. It is about producing high quality forage that provides the best nutrition possible for the animals in your herd. This presentation will discuss how proper crop nutrition can improve corn silage yields and forage quality, and how that can impact the milk production efficiency in dairy cattle.

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With

AgroLiquid's
John Leif

John Leif is a Regional Sales Agronomist for AgroLiquid Fertilizer Company. Leif is a Nebraska native, having grown up on a crop and livestock farm. He received a bachelors and master's degree from the University of Nebraska in agronomy and field crop weed control.

Leif's career started with American Cyanamid and BASF in their crop protection product development group. Leif conducted product development research on new herbicides, insecticides and fungicides, and did some sales/tech support for those products.

In 2003 Leif joined the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in their Plant Materials Program. Leif conducted research and demonstration plots on how to use plants to address natural resources conservation issues. He was the research agronomist for the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center in East Lansing for one year and was the manager of the Center for 10 years. During that time the Plant Materials Center provided training and technical tools in the areas of vegetation for erosion control and snow management; tree and shrub establishment; native pollinator habitat improvement; and soil health.

Speakers

Hot Legal Topics Facing Ag Producers

8/14 | 10 AM | SPEAKER TENT

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With Foster Swift's
Mike Zahrt

Mike is a business and estate planning lawyer in the Grand Rapids office of Foster Swift and is the current leader of the firm's Agri-Business sub-practice group.

His area of expertise is business succession planning, helping businesses to transition to the next generation of ownership, serving as outside general counsel to the business and estate planning for owners and former owners.

Zahrt received his undergraduate degree from Calvin University and his Juris Doctorate from MSU's College of Law. He attended on a full tuition scholarship, graduated summa cum laude, was a Dean King Honors Scholar and was an active member of the MSU Law Review for two years.

The Four Megatrends in Agriculture

8/14 | 11 AM | SPEAKER TENT

Mike Pearson takes an in-depth look at the way agriculture will be changing in the next 20 years. The past century has been one of non-stop progress in efficiency, technology, and yield, and Mike pulls together his wide-ranging reports on the industry to analyze the four biggest trends driving agriculture forward: analytics, robotics, biotechnology and structure.

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With Farm Progress'
Mike Pearson

Mike Pearson was born and raised in Iowa where he grew to love agriculture on his family's hog and cattle farm.

After graduating from Simpson College, Pearson moved to Grinnell, Iowa where he had the chance to build his own cow herd in addition to working as an agricultural lender.

Over the next 10 years, Pearson left the world of finance and entered the world of media. He's previously hosted "Market to Market" on Public Television, the AgNews Daily podcast, and currently, viewers can find him behind the anchor desk as the host of "This Week in Agribusiness" on RFD-TV.

Succession & Estate Planning Tax Traps & Strategies to Minimize Tax Liability

8/14 | 1 PM | SPEAKER TENT

Discussion of the tax consequences of implementing Succession Plan and Estate Plan transfers and impact of the loss of the current \$13,610,000 tax exemption in 2025. Strategies to minimize tax liability. Issues addressed include: The tax consequences of the transfer of business control, land, and equipment, your tax liability for the transfer of debt to your Successor, the loss of the current \$13,610,000 lifetime estate tax exemption for the transfer of assets to the next generation, and what you need to do now to minimize tax liability.

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With Fraleigh Law's
Michael Fraleigh, JD

Michael Fraleigh specializes in farm business and succession planning, estate & trust planning, and asset protection.

Fraleigh grew up on a fourth-generation family farm and has a unique understanding of the financial and legal issues farmers and their families face.

Drawing on more than 36 years of experience, Fraleigh provides clients with solutions that ensure their business and succession goals are achieved while protecting their farms and their families. Fraleigh has a Master of Law in Taxation which enables him to provide clients with tax efficient solutions.

Fraleigh is a member of several professional organizations including American Agricultural Law Association; Estate Planning & Administration for Business Owners, Farmers & Ranchers; Michigan Bar Association Agricultural Law Section; Business Law; and Elder Law & Disability Rights.



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7 - 8 AM

Michigan Agri-Business Association Breakfast
(Invitation Only)

8:30 AM

Show Opens to Attendees

9 - 9:45 AM

Speaker **SUNNY KAERCHER, BIOME MAKERS**
at Speaker Tent **SPONSORED BY BIOME MAKERS**

9:15 - 9:30 AM

Sprayer Demo **ACUSPRAY & AG PRO FARM SERVICES**
at Demo Plot South

9:30 - 10 AM

Chopper Demo
at Demo Plot South

9:45 - 10:15 AM

Farm Safety Demo, Manure Pit Safety **DAN NEENAN**
at Booth E010

10 - 10:45 AM

Speaker **JOE SINKULA, VRAFY**
at Speaker Tent **SPONSORED BY ACRESTV**

11 AM - 12 PM

Keynote Speaker **KELLY GARRET, XTREME AG**
at Speaker Tent **SPONSORED BY AGROEXPO**

12:30 - 1 PM

Farm Safety Demo, Grain Bin Safety **DAN NEENAN**
at Booth E010

1:15 - 2 PM

Speaker **MARTIN CHILVERS, PH.D., MSU**
at Speaker Tent **SPONSORED BY HUTSON INC.**

2 - 2:30 PM

Farm Safety Demo, Manure Pit Safety **DAN NEENAN**
at Booth E010

2:15 - 3:30 PM

Speaker **ALLEN BONTHUIS, HARVEST SOLAR**
at Speaker Tent **SPONSORED BY HARVEST SOLAR**

2:45 - 3:15 PM

Farm Safety Demo, Grain Bin Safety **DAN NEENAN**
at Booth E010

3:15 - 3:30 PM

Sprayer Demo
at Demo Plot South

3:30 - 4 PM

Strip-Till Demo
at Demo Plot South

4:00 PM

Show Closes

8 AM - 12 PM	<p>FFA Tractor Driving Contest <i>at Dining Tent + Course (see map, page 27)</i></p>
8:30 AM	<p>Show Opens to Attendees</p>
9 - 9:45 AM	<p>Speaker JOHN LEIF, AGROLIQUID <i>at Speaker Tent</i> SPONSORED BY AGROLIQUID</p>
9:15 - 9:30 AM	<p>Drone Sprayer Demo ACUSPRAY & AG PRO FARM SERVICES <i>at Demo Plot North</i></p>
9:30 - 10 AM	<p>Chopper Demo <i>at Demo Plot North</i></p>
9:30 - 10 AM	<p>Farm Safety Demo, Manure Pit Safety DAN NEENAN <i>at Booth E010</i></p>
10 - 10:45 AM	<p>Speaker MIKE ZHART, FOSTER SWIFT <i>at Speaker Tent</i> SPONSORED BY FOSTER SWIFT</p>
10:30 - 11 AM	<p>Farm Safety Demo, Grain Bin Safety DAN NEENAN <i>at Booth E010</i></p>
11 AM - 12 PM	<p>Keynote Speaker MIKE PEARSON, FARM PROGRESS <i>at Speaker Tent</i> SPONSORED BY AGROEXPO</p>
12 - 12:30 PM	<p>FFA Crop Management Challenge Luncheon (Invitation Only – Sponsors and FFA) <i>at Dining Tent</i> SPONSORED BY AGROEXPO</p>
12:15 - 12:45 PM	<p>Farm Safety Demo, Manure Pit Safety DAN NEENAN <i>at Booth E010</i></p>
1 - 1:45 PM	<p>Speaker MIKE FRALEIGH, FRALIGH LAW <i>at Speaker Tent</i> SPONSORED BY FRALEIGH LAW</p>
2 - 2:30 PM	<p>Farm Safety Demo, Grain Bin Safety DAN NEENAN <i>at Booth E010</i></p>
2:15 - 3 PM	<p>Strip-Till Demo <i>at Demo Plot North</i></p>
3 PM	<p>Show Closes</p>

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Show Map

WELCOME TENT
 RESTROOMS

OUTDOOR BOOTHS
 OUTDOOR BOOTHS WITH PLOTS

GRAIN STORAGE & HANDLING AREA



INDOOR BOOTHS DETAILED MAP

11	13	22	23	32	33	42	43	52	1
12	14	21	24	31	34	41	44	51	2
	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	
	16	19	26	29	36	39	46	49	
	17	18	27	28	37	38	47	48	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	

Show Office

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Exhibitors List

COMPANY	Lot #
2L Providers	E001, 9
3G Seeds	P109-110, P209-210



AcresTV	P423
Acuspray	E809
ADM	E807A
Ag Pro Farm Services.....	E1005-1006
Ag-1 Crop Solutions LLC	E911
Agri Spray Kruithoff Drone	E801
AgriTuf	3



AgroEco Power	E815-816
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AgroLiquid	P308-310
Aim4G LLC.....	36



AIS Equipment	E101-103, E201-203
Alamo Valley Ag	E915-916
Alderman's Inc.....	E1003, E1103
Arrow Ag Services.....	E910
Beck's Trailer.....	E810-811



Big Buck Leasing	10
Biome Makers	P107
Brown Dairy Equipment.....	E1007A
Bullydog Ag	P118, P218



Burnips Equipment	E1008-1010, E1108-1110
Byron Seed	P422
C&S Electric	26



Capello	E302-E303
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Consumers Energy.....	E1104B
Consus Ag Consulting, LLC.....	E1207B



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Crary Industries	E908
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DeKalb Asgrow Bayer Crop Science.....	P313-314, P413-414
DF Seeds.....	P120, P220
DigiFarm VBN	28



Ellens Equipment	E1212-1213, E1313
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Farm Bureau Insurance	E1013
Farm Depot	E1114-1116
Farm Safety Demos.....	E010



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Flying Acres Ag, LLC	E009



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Hutson Inc.	E1214-1216, E1314-1316, E1414-1416, E1514-1516, E1614-1616
Ina Store Inc.	E901-902
Indian Creek Acres Inc.....	E1205



Janson Equipment	E1001-1002, E1101-1102
Jim's Amish Structures	Info Booth
Johnston Elevator	E002
K&B Heating and Cooling.....	4
KAEB Sales Inc.	E1209-E1210
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Legend Seeds Inc.	P119, P219
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Michigan Agricultural Commodities	E804B
Michigan Biosolids Team	P123
Michigan CAT	E1312
Michigan Crop Improvement Association	P306



Michigan Farm BureauE1013



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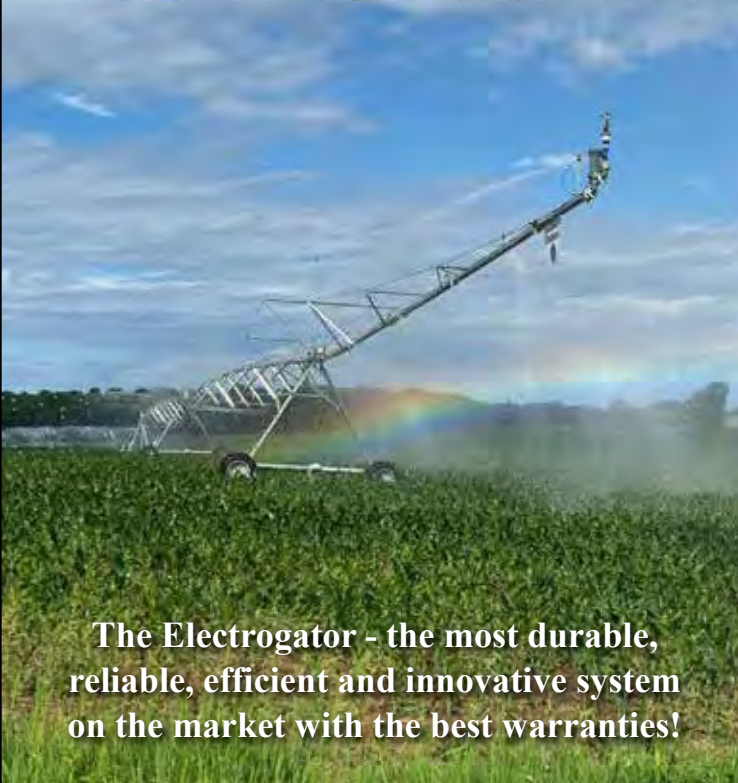
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2024 RX-30, manual depth control, ringflex roller. **\$140,000**



2022 Horsch RX-20, Manual depth control, ringflex roller, like new condition, NAP. **\$90,000**



2022 Elmer's 2000 bu., Tracks, Righthand auger unload, scales, joy stick controls, auto-unload, used on our farm, like new. **\$165,000**

Orthman's 1tRIPr II Joins Strip-Till Field Demos

DENNIS RUDAT, FARM NEWS MEDIA

Unverferth Manufacturing will be bringing the Orthman 1tRIPr II to the 2024 AgroExpo strip-till field demonstrations, showcasing the company's latest improvements to answer the biggest question among crop producers considering a switch to strip-till, "Shanks or coulters?"

According to Orthman Lead Agronomist Mike Petersen, the answer is, "both."

The Orthman 1tRIPr II Row Unit is engineered so each individual component works in unison to perform ideal seedbed preparation, precision nutrient placement and optimal root zone conditioning in a single pass.

When all of these precision tillage principles are combined, the result is a perfect environment to maximize crop yields while minimizing inputs, according to Petersen.

"Our wavy coulters system which runs immediately behind each side of the shank, are cambered and cast to do just that pinch and close effect," Petersen said. "At operating ground speed, the wavy coulters are mixing the soil in a wave pattern, if you will, between the two of the them since they ride parallel to one another."

The action distributes dry, anhydrous or

liquid products, according to Petersen, with many producers using both Montag and Salford dry fertilizer carts that are blowing anywhere from 40 to 600 pounds of dry products right behind the shank.

PARALLEL LINKAGE

Parallel Linkage with the all-new casted linkage and greaseless bushings, maintains consistent depth and fertilizer placement in uneven field conditions. To go from heavy corn residue or cover crops straight to seed-ready beds in a single pass requires rugged, intelligently designed equipment to stand up to the rigors of strip tillage.

Orthman's innovative parallel linkage design allows 8" of vertical travel, allowing you to maintain a consistent depth and fertilizer placement regardless of the field terrain.

DEPTH BAND COULTER

Orthman utilizes a rugged 22" depth band coulters to achieve and maintain ideal seed bed depth, while easily slicing through surface and sub-surface residue to eliminate interference with the shank.

ROW CLEANER OPTIONS

Following the leading coulters, Orthman offers the option of rigid or floating row

cleaners, both with wrench-free adjustment. The rigid row cleaners feature rugged 16" notched disc blades to remove residue, while the floating row cleaner features a 13" shark tooth design to respond instantly to changing field conditions and moving even the toughest residue to leave behind a clear path for your planter to follow.

PRECISION TILLAGE SHANK

Rugged 1" x 4" precision tillage shanks, with adjustable depth control up to 11" helps to shatter yield-limiting compaction with optimum root zone conditioning to promote vigorous root growth with the all-new patented point that rolls and lifts soil to reduce voids creating the perfect seedbed.

When wet ground conditions prohibit use of shanks, the dual 18" vertical Shallow Tillage Coulters can be used to create a well-prepared seedbed, dry out wet soils or freshen up strips up to 6.5" deep.

SINGLE OR DUAL FERTILIZER TUBES

Because crop roots are the pathway for nutrient absorption, the Orthman 1tRIPr is designed so that the roots can easily access the nutrient source both at the time of germination and during root development.

The single- or dual-tube fertilizer placement system is completely adjustable independent of the shank depth, allowing producers to achieve accurate fertilizer placement for different crops and soil conditions. The liquid, dry, and NH3 fertilizer tubes are all depth adjustable independent of the shank.

POSITIVE DEPTH WAVY COULTERS

The floating coulters found on some strip-till systems only act as a soil-capturing device, allowing ground conditions to determine their tillage abilities.

Orthman's positive-depth 18" wavy coulters work with the shank to break up layers side to side in a "lift and pinch" motion that creates consistent depth and soil conditions. This consistent tillage depth in all conditions sets up the seedbed for the perfect planter pass.

ROLLING BASKETS & OPTIONS

Properly finishing off the strip is the key to the perfect seedbed. The 1tRIPr II's rolling basket features adjustable down pressure to help break up any remaining clods and ensure smooth planter operation, which in turn helps guarantee better seed depth control.

Five roller options are available, including standard, narrow standard and a new berm-promoting roller to create the ideal berm shape. For sandier soils where wind erosion may be a problem, a pneumatic tire roller produces minimal soil disturbance and firms light soils for better moisture retention.

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Farmers for Soil Health provides cover crop cost-share opportunity in Michigan

The Corn Marketing Program of Michigan, the Michigan Soybean Committee, and the Michigan Pork Producers Association are working together to bring Farmers for Soil Health to Michigan. The project goal is to accelerate wide-scale and long-term adoption of cover crops across the state to enhance soil health and farmer profitability.

Cover crops have many agronomic and environmental benefits, and the program supports farmers who adopt this practice by providing financial incentives and dedicated technical advisors to help with the transition.

Enrolled farmers will receive \$50 per acre over a three-year period to help cover the start up costs of cover crops. Cover crops must be planted on enrolled acreage for three consecutive years and corn or soybeans must be part of the rotation to qualify. Acreage cannot simultaneously be enrolled in federal or state cover crop cost-share programs.

Stop by booth P419 at the 2024 Agro Expo to learn more and see if you qualify. Learn more and enroll online at FarmersForSoilHealth.com.

“Farmers for Soil Health provides a financial incentive opportunity outside of the typical suite of available conservation programs at NRCS,” said John Burk, a Bay County farmer who is enrolled in the program. “This program utilizes an easy-to-use online enrollment platform and offers a marketplace option for farmers interested in pursuing that avenue for greater profitability. By also offering farmer outreach and education on cover crop adoption, participating farmers will be equipped with the tools necessary to successfully implement cover crops on their farms.”



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See the ETS Soil Warrior in Action

DENNIS RUDAT, FARM NEWS MEDIA

Environmental Tillage Systems (ETS), a leader in the strip-till equipment industry, is celebrating the 20th anniversary of the ETS SoilWarrior in 2024.

Better yet, producers attending AgroExpo field demos will have the opportunity to see why the SoilWarrior has such a die-hard allegiance among crop producers who have already made the switch to strip-till.

What started as a solution to one farm's challenge in Southeastern Minnesota has continued and evolved over those 20 years as a solution for tillage and precision nutrient application for many farmers.

Following a series of field trials in 2003, the first ETS Soil Warrior strip tillage system with dry fertilizer capabilities was introduced in 2004. Since then, ETS has been dedicated solely to developing and refining a strip till systems that set the standard for in-field performance, machine durability, and ease of operation, according to ETS CEO Kevin Born.

"Since day one, we have had the passion to make a difference in our customers' operations. It is not enough to simply manufacture a piece of equipment," Born said. "We continually listen and strive to improve our products and services to enhance our customer experience."

With a commitment to quality, durability, innovation, and customer satisfaction, ETS has continually raised the bar, setting industry standards for customers in the U.S. and internationally.

Whether you're considering strip-tillage, or you've already experienced its benefits, SoilWarrior should be at the top of your list, according to Born.

The SoilWarrior is built tough enough to handle the heaviest soils and crop residue, prepares perfectly tilled zones, variable rates nutrients and blends them evenly throughout the zone at speeds of up to 10 miles per hour.

Nutrient efficiency is vastly improved since fertilizer is placed precisely in tilled zones instead of broadcast on the soil surface. Precise fertilizer application is where the SoilWarrior shines across all tillage types because its unique coulters design mixes nutrients evenly throughout the strip for optimal growth.

MULTIPLE ROW UNIT OPTIONS

Sean Arthur isn't just a regional sales manager for Environmental Tillage Systems. He's also a farmer. With so many different row unit configuration options available, potential customers often seek his expertise on which option would work best.



Based on the specific soil types and needs of a producer, he recommends the following guidelines as a starting point:

- **The SoilWarrior X** coulters-based row unit is the most common choice for customers. Coulters cut through field residue, mix the soil about 6 inches deep and create a phenomenal seedbed. They're incredibly flexible and an effective way to blend fertilizer throughout the planting zone. Those looking for deeper tillage can also run a single 30-inch cog to reach a depth of 12 inches and really open the soil. No other company offers this option.
- **The SoilWarrior N** row unit gives growers the opportunity to run a shank and single coulters. Shanks help achieve consistent tillage depth, break through hard soils and seal anhydrous ammonia.
- **The Edge** row unit combines all these options into a highly versatile package that allows growers to switch between coulters and a shank depending on field conditions.

When it comes to determining the right row unit, Arthur says it tends to be less about the soil and more about flexibility.

"Sometimes it's better to use a shank in tight, clay soils but other times it can cause sidewall compaction or smearing," Arthur shares. "Coulters tend to be more forgiving. A lot of new customers are leaning toward the Edge row unit because it gives them the most flexibility and is very durable."

Residue is another factor to consider when selecting a row unit. Those planting corn on corn can have high residue that creates plugging. The coulters-based set up is second to none when handling these field situations.

Once the row unit is selected the conversation turns to fertilizer and whether a complete or three-point mounted system is preferred. Complete ETS SoilWarrior systems are available in several widths with dry granular or liquid fertilizer tank options.

- The 4500 series system offers the widest range of fertilizer application options as well as up to 24 rows of tillage. Growers can choose from a pair of 4-ton bins, a pair of 5-ton bins or three bins (4 tons, 2 tons and 4 tons) to apply up to 10 tons and three different products in a single pass.
- The 3100 series system was designed with the same technology and row unit options but in a more compact design. It offers four to eight rows of tillage along with a single 5-ton granular fertilizer bin for integrated fertilizer application.
- Those applying liquid fertilizer can have a 2,200-gallon tank mounted to their system instead, or add a pair of 300 gallon saddle tanks to a dry system.
- The other option for growers who just want to strip-till or use an existing fertilizer cart is the Edge three-point mounted system. This consists of a toolbar with six to 18 rows of tillage.

ETS SoilWarrior systems are built with ISOBUS technology so they easily plug and play with variable-rate fertilizer, guidance and other precision tech. This makes for a smooth transition no matter which system they choose.

"My goal is to listen, get to know the farm and practices currently being used then customize a machine to fit their needs," Arthur said.

Ellens Equipment Brings New Holland's FR920 Forage Cruiser to Demos

DENNIS RUDAT, FARM NEWS MEDIA

If you have ever wanted to see competing brands and models of forage harvesters running side-by-side, you're in luck. AgroExpo's field demos will give you that opportunity with forage harvesters featured during the show.

Ellens Equipment, with locations in Beal City, Ithaca and McBain, will be bringing New Holland's FR920 Forage Cruiser to the event along with a 12-row head.

Considered the flagship model of the New Holland Forage Cruiser line of self-propelled forage harvesters, the FR920 features an FPT Industrial V20 engine, delivering a massive 911 horsepower and a productivity-boosting 44% torque rise to get through the tough spots.

"The FR920 puts us on a new playing field, providing owners with a massively powerful, yet fuel-efficient engine designed to help them get the job done quickly and economically," said Bret Lieberman, vice president for New Holland North America. "The FR920's throughput and best-in-class chop quality comes with outstanding total cost of ownership."

The in-line concept and direct driveline logic of the FR920 ensures that all the power from the V20 engine is efficiently transmitted to the driven parts and, ultimately, to the ground. The entire driveline and components on the FR920 have been reinforced to manage the greatly increased engine output.

A heavy-duty four-wheel drive system developed to deal with the increased power and traction requirements increases the maximum torque transferred to the wheels by 60% compared to the standard four-wheel drive system, delivering all the traction this powerful machine may need in the toughest field conditions while ensuring field surface preservation.

It features heavy-duty axles and a reinforced steering axle support. The new system also meets the increasing customer demand for being able to mount larger steering tires.

The engagement of the new heavy-duty four-wheel drive on the FR920 is controlled by the standard Terralock feature, which automatically activates and deactivates the four-wheel drive axle depending on the steering angle setting, minimizing damage to the field surface during headland turns and reducing operator fatigue in long harvesting days.

The feedroll module and drive are designed to handle increased feeding rates, featuring more durable components, heavier teeth, more aggressive tooth shapes for feeding improvement and larger bearings and shafts to handle heavier loads.

The FR Forage Cruiser range delivers ultimate crop quality with its unparalleled processing performance. Available with a



choice of three crop processor roll configurations, the FR920 covers the needs of every professional chopping operation.

The DuraCracker system was designed for the FR920 with reinforced frames and an eight-groove belt drive to deliver uniform kernel cracking and outstanding processing performance to match the high throughput of the most powerful model. Its 100/130 tooth rolls work well with traditional lengths of cut.

The DuraShredder adds a further element: 110/138 tooth rolls with additional spiral grooves that shred the stover and deliver more intensive processing the kernels.

The hard chromed rolls of both processors are the widest on the market, reducing the thickness of the crop mat going through to ensure the best possible processing.

For specialized processing requirements, the DuraCracker is also available without rolls to allow for a locally fitted solution.

The FR920's exclusive VariFlow system; HydroLoc technology that ensures constant chop length independently of throughput; and the ActiveLo system that automatically adapts chop lengths to moisture content, deliver the premium forage required to get the most out of your livestock.



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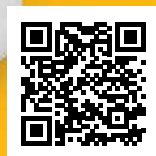
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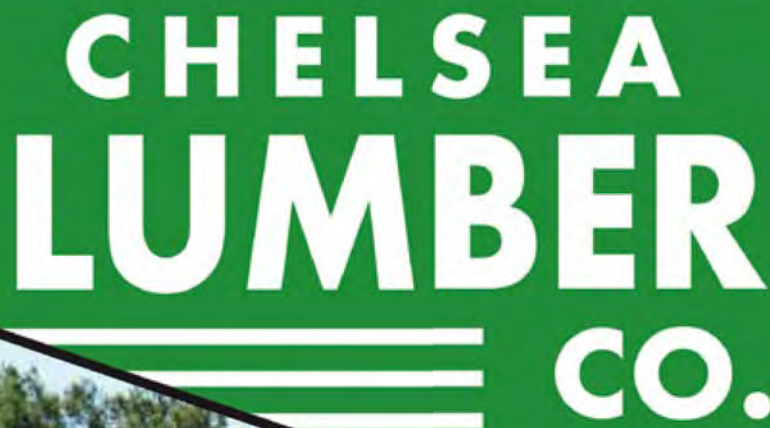


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The logo for Chelsea Lumber Co. is a green, shield-shaped graphic with a black outline. It features the words "CHELSEA" and "LUMBER" in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below "LUMBER" are three horizontal white lines. To the right of these lines, the letters "CO." are written in a smaller, white, bold, sans-serif font. The background of the entire advertisement is a photograph of a large, tan-colored pole barn with a red metal roof, situated in a grassy field with a white fence in the foreground and trees in the background.

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Burnips Equipment to Showcase CLAAS Jaguar 990

DENNIS RUDAT, FARM NEWS MEDIA

Forage harvesters will be front and center during this year's AgroExpo field demos, giving visitors a chance to see competing brands and models running side-by-side.

Burnips Equipment, with locations in Big Rapids, Breckenridge, Coopersville, Dorr, Hudson, Nashville, and Three Rivers, will be bringing the CLAAS Jaguar 990 to the field demos, according to Jeff Litwiller, store manager for the Breckenridge location.

The Jaguar 990 brings the performance of the 925-hp MAN V12 engine to the field to handle the forage volume from an Orbis 900, 30' 12-row head featuring auto contour and row sensing, Litwiller adds.

The ORBIS header also features a folding design that allows the operator to fold and unfold it in 15 seconds for easy transport between fields.

"These Machines have proven to get large quantities of work done while still maintaining fuel efficiency," Litwiller said. "The auto lube and ease of maintenance make these machines the top choice for the serious operators."

The CLAAS 990 design allows optimal crop flow, a major factor in determining the daily output. The crop flows in a straight line through the entire machine without any awkward angles.

The crop is accelerated further at each step and is centered increasingly by the V-shaped arrangement of the knives and accelerator paddles. This results in maximum performance with minimum power consumption and makes for highly reliable operation.

The Cemos Auto Performance feature automatically adjusts horsepower and speed for improved engine efficiency and maximum harvesting capacity. Improvements to engine design and power transfer result in a 10% fuel savings compared to competitive models.

The JAGUAR sets the standard for reliability with 30% stronger feedroll cabinet allowing for smoother crop flow, more consistent chop quality and the highest reliability on the market. Premium line wear plates, knives, and a hard metal shearbar offer best-in-class service life.

In addition, a larger fuel tank and LED service lights minimize downtime for refueling or maintenance.



All JAGUAR forage harvesters include convenience features such as a large CEBIS color monitor with touchscreen. The touchscreen monitor not only makes setting adjustments easier but also integrates multiple monitors into the single screen to help eliminate cab clutter.

The CEBIS touchscreen also features a "Quick Key" and shortcut functions to help operators save and access frequent commands for easier use.

The 990, available with TERRA TRAC, is the first forage harvester to offer the feature for a more comfortable ride, reduced soil compaction, and increased stability. CLAAS developed the TERRA TRAC drive concept with patented geometry for effective soil protection.

TERRA TRAC drive systems that provide up to 25 mph (40 km/h) road speeds, a much smoother ride, reduced soil compaction, and added stability and traction on slopes and all soil conditions. A headland protection function helps protect the ground from shearing while turning.

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Hutson Inc. to Feature John Deere's 9900 Forage Harvester

DENNIS RUDAT, FARM NEWS MEDIA

If you're in the market to upgrade forage harvesters – you're in luck. AgroExpo's field demos will give you a front-row seat to watch competing brands and models running side-by-side during the event's forage harvester demonstrations.

Hutson Inc. will be bringing John Deere's wide-body 9900 forage harvester, equipped with a 12-row head to the show.

Following a series of acquisitions, Huston Inc. now has 19 locations throughout Michigan, including Alpena, Big Rapids, Charlotte, Corunna, Ellsworth, Gaylord, Howell, Lake City, Linwood, Mason, Portland, Rosebush, South Lyon, St. Louis, Tecumseh, West Branch, Williamsburg, Williamston, and Woodhaven.

According to Chase Milem, marketing manager with John Deere, the 9900 is equipped with the Liebherr 24L engine, generating 956 maximum horsepower to provide improved performance, maximize machine uptime and reduced cost of operation.

"The ideal performance characteristics of the John Deere engine decrease fuel consumption and are perfectly aligned

and synchronized for outstanding crop flow through the machine," Milem said.

"This is partly due to our industry exclusive HarvestMotion Plus engine technology. HarvestMotion Plus provides a unique torque-rise curve and extra power at low engine rpm, which increase power so operators can push through tough conditions while maintaining crop-harvesting quality."

John Deere rotary corn heads are built for reliable and powerful feeding of high-capacity forage harvesters. Two fundamental designs are available to match all producer needs. The 600plus Series Headers are the universal solution for different crops up to 13 feet tall. The 700plus Series Headers are the perfect solution for high-yielding crops.

John Deere's 9900 sets a new standard in kernel processing performance as well and can be operated with or without the kernel processing unit in position. When not in use, a crop transition chute, standard on the 9900, swings into position with a few turns of a crank.

The 9900 model comes equipped with Deere's XStream KP kernel processor as the heavy-duty solution for high throughput and high-horsepower machines and stands



for extreme processing at any length of cut in any crop and any conditions.

The XStream KP rolls are manufactured by Scherer Inc., located in South Dakota, and features automatic pressurized oil lubrication. Scherer Inc. has a strong focus on dairy forage production and is the leading company in kernel processor roll designs and manufacturing since 1999.

In addition, the 9900 comes equipped with a spout that provides better operator visibility and boosts machine reliability compared to previous models. Thanks to the addition of more clean-outs and a change in the geometry of the spout, customers can run in "sticky" crop conditions for longer periods of time without plugging.

"Contractors and custom harvesters will appreciate the constant maximum throughput these forage harvesters provide, along with a cab that features enhanced operator visibility and comfort," Milem said.

"Reliability, low cost of operation, increased quality of completed work, minimized daily maintenance requirements and reduced total fluid consumption were key improvements John Deere made that will benefit customers," he adds.

John Deere offers integrated technology for self-propelled forage harvesters, with fully integrated AutoTrac RowSense guidance, Active Fill Control with rear unloading, and the Generation 4 Universal Display. John Deere's HarvestLab 3000, provides on-the-go constituent sensing and documentation.

"Customers have told us for years how much they appreciate the versatility of HarvestLab 3000," Milem said. "It can be used as a manure sensing tool and as a stand-alone stationary test unit that can analyze up to seven constituents. These constituents include NDF, crude protein, moisture, sugar, starch, crude fiber, ash and ADF."

Using the documented information, farmers can quickly analyze data from worked fields, adjust fertilizer use, select optimal varieties for the upcoming season, and improve water management.

When it comes to staying connected to their forage harvesters, Milem said John Deere makes it easy by including JD-Link hardware in base equipment on the 9900. A JDLink connection allows field and machine data from the cab to be sent wirelessly to Operations Center. Having access to this data can support operators, saving owners time and money.



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AcuSpray to Demo Newly Released DJI Agras T50 Drone at AgroExpo

DENNIS RUDAT, FARM NEWS MEDIA

Agricultural drone enthusiast will be thrilled to know that AcuSpray will be bringing the DJI Agras T50 to the AgroExpo field demos. DJI, the world leader in civilian drones and creative camera technology, launched the Agras T50 this past April.

Building on the popular Agras drone line, the T50 offers unmatched efficiency for larger-scale growing operations. DJI has also announced the T50 is compatible with the upgraded SmartFarm app which offers powerful features for comprehensive aerial application management.

Blissfield-based AcuSpray, a leader in precision farming technology, specializing in advanced drone technology, offers a range of services including targeted spraying, multispectral imaging, and precise fertilizer application.

AcuSpray was recognized in December 2023 as the Top Precision Farming Solution Provider by Agri-Business Review for their commitment to innovative agricultural solutions and its significant impact on modern farming practices.



In addition to providing drone services, AcuSpray also provides training and sales of drones and kits, including the DJI Agras T50 through an online ordering platform. The company received their first shipment of the new drones on May 31.

The company recently launched a franchise program, offering entrepreneurs and businesses an opportunity to participate in the drone services market – a market currently estimated at \$3.3 billion dollars with projections to grow 22% by 2032, according to AcuSpray CEO Jeff Bickley.

“We're thrilled to announce that AcuSpray's franchising opportunities are now

available in 34 states, with more coming soon,” Bickley said. “Our franchisees benefit from access to our proprietary trailers and specially engineered equipment.”

In addition to custom designed trailers, AcuSpray's turn-key franchise package also includes comprehensive in-house insurance solutions covering all aspects of asset and liability, along with marketing services.

The DJI Agras T50 will figure prominently in the future of crop spraying and spreading and related agricultural drone services. Considered the flagship of efficiency and stability to meet the demands of large-scale farming, it comes equipped with a coaxial dual-rotor design and 54-inch propellers.

Capable of carrying 88-pound payloads for spraying and 110-pound payloads for spreading allows for efficient spraying of up to 40 acres per hour. The T50's dual atomization spraying system, with an increased flow rate of up to 4.2 gallons per minute with two sprinklers and adjustable-sized spray droplets, is ideal for a variety of applications from fields to orchards.

Easily converted to its spreading configuration, the T50 can carry 110 pounds of dry granules and spread at a flow rate of up to 1.5 tons per hour.

T50 features dual Active Phased Array Radars and binocular vision sensors. These work together to accurately reconstruct the T50's surroundings and detect nearby obstacles, for intelligent obstacle sensing and bypassing, and Terrain Following over slopes.

The T50 is powered by a DB1560 Intelligent Flight Battery, with a capacity of up to 30 Ah and 1500 charge cycles. The D12000IEP Multifunctional Inverter Generator paired with the Air-Cooled Heat Sink provides an impressive rapid 9-minute ultra-fast charging allowing for continuous operations with two batteries.

A new anodic oxidation and acrylic composite coating on core components and crucial load-bearing parts on the T50 provides superior corrosion protection from fertilizers and pesticides, key to durability and reliability.



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Zimmerman Manufacturing's Contour King ST Coming to Field Demos

DENNIS RUDAT, FARM NEWS MEDIA

Zimmerman Manufacturing LLC (ZML), a relative newcomer to the strip till market, will be showcasing its Contour King ST as part of the 2024 AgroExpo field demonstrations, Aug. 13 and 14.

ZML, based in Cantril, Iowa, is owned and operated by Raymond Zimmerman. In 2018, Raymond's nephew Raymond Clair Zimmerman became a partner in the company.

Zimmerman grew up on a farm and has been farming his own ground since 1990. That background proved valuable in developing industry-leading innovations in manure application and injection tool-bars, offering custom-made equipment to client-specific needs and requirements since 2008.

That innovative approach, combined with practical manufacturing experience, led ZML to introduce the Contour King ST in 2021 as a solution for managing residue in strip till.

Distributed in Michigan through KAEB Sales Inc., with locations in Bad Axe, Jonesville and Wayland, the Contour King

ST eliminates the challenges of compaction and high-residue environments that result in uneven seedling emergence.

ZML offers in-cab control to adjust row units hydraulically and Precision Planting clean sweep control on the row cleaners. The shank point used by ZML in combination with the in-cab control flexibility sets them ahead of the competition, according to ZML Business Development Director Dan Guenther.

A patented swivel design on each row unit is the most unique feature on ZML's Contour King, according to Guenther, which allows each row unit to swivel 30 degrees side to side.

"Where that's really important is if you're doing any kind of contours, it really works well," Guenther said. "It follows that contour without putting a lot of stress on your bar without putting a lot of stress on the units."

In rocky field conditions, the swivel design allows each individual row unit to swivel independently. The shanks are also equipped with an automatic rock reset feature. Shank depth is controlled hydraulically from the cab and can be adjusted on the

go if needed for high-traffic areas of a field.

The shanks on the Contour King, normally used in the fall, can easily be swapped out with a two-coulter system for spring freshening passes, according to Guenther.

Leading coulters on the Contour King are equipped with a depth ring to help manage and size residue followed by two 14" row cleaners. The row cleaners are equipped with Precision Planting air cylinders providing both down pressure for fall tillage and up pressure for spring freshening passes.

Following the shank, notched closing wheels are designed to help capture fractured soil to build a berm. Spring-tensioned rolling baskets, along with adjustable height brackets provide the final touch to building the perfect berm.

The rolling baskets, said Guenther, are open-ended, meaning they won't plug.

"They mold a really nice berm and they really do break up the clouds well," he said. "With that open-end we can go through a lot of moisture and a lot of stuff without plugging them up."



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Janson Equipment to Demo KUHN Krause's Gladiator 1210M Strip-Till Tool

DENNIS RUDAT, FARM NEWS MEDIA

With the growing interest in various carbon credit programs, heavily reliant on no-till and conservation tillage practices, many producers are seeking a middle ground – literally.

Strip till, sometime referred to as zone till, provides the best of both worlds with a tilled seedbed while leaving the middle of the row undisturbed.

Interested producers will be glad to know strip tillage tools will be in focus as part of the 2024 AgroExpo field demonstrations.

Janson Equipment, with locations in Breckenridge, Charlotte and Reese, will be bringing the KUHN Krause Gladiator 1210M three-point mounted strip-tillage tool to the event.

Available in four- to 16-row configurations with 30" to 40" spacing, the innovative folding toolbar on the wider units increases transport stability and reduces folded dimensions.

The ST-PRO II row units are the heart of the Kuhn Gladiator and can easily be adjusted without tools in a matter of minutes. The row units have no grease zerks,

minimizing daily maintenance and improving daily productivity.

The innovative fixed-frame toolbar and ST-PRO II row units are designed to contour to the ground's surface conditions allowing the shanks to consistently operate at your predetermined depth.

The Gladiator product line features one of the most complete fertilizer application offerings in the industry. The systems are easy to operate and provide precision nutrient placement options for growers with the desire to apply dry or liquid fertilizer with or without anhydrous ammonia.

Gladiator 1210M three-point mounted models are available with either 1700-gallon or nine-ton (eight- to 16-row models) and 1200-gallon or six-ton (six- to 16-row models) tanks mounted on steerable carts and pulled behind the toolbar.

Trail hitches are also available on Montag steerable carts for maximum fertilizer flexibility, including Montag's Gen II twin-tank system which is compatible with GPS variable rate and section control. Producers can use their mapping system for variable rate application



of either fertilizer product, minimizing over-application and waste on point rows.

Additional KUHN Krause Gladiator 1210M features include:

COULTERS

- 25" independent coulters for continuous residue cutting
- Adjustable down pressure from 460 pounds to 660 pounds
- Adjustable coulters scrapers remove sticky soil from the coulters blade
- Simplified adjustment of coulters alignment to correct machine tracking
- Floating row cleaners
- Floating 16" notched disc blades consistently clear residue from the strip
- Automatically adjusts to the contour of the field eliminating the need for field-to-field adjustment
- Weights can be added or removed to ensure consistent residue management and flow

SHANK & POINT

- Wrench-free depth adjustment
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- Drop Zone nutrient placement system
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Ag Pro Farm Services Bringing the 'XAG P100 Pro Agricultural Drone' to AgroExpo

DENNIS RUDAT, FARM NEWS MEDIA

Corunna-based Ag Pro Farm Services, owned and operated by Brian Martindale, will be showcasing the industry-leading XAG P100 Pro Agricultural Drone during the AgroExpo field demonstrations.

Released to the U.S. market in July 2023, the P100 Pro is a fully autonomous, foldable quadcopter with a 110-pound payload designed for spraying, spreading, and field mapping. Adopting the foldable quadcopter structure, XAG P100 Pro reduces its folded dimensions by 62% for easy transport from field to field.

The XAG P100 Pro, the latest generation of XAG Agricultural Drones, is a proven way to lower production costs and mitigate climate risks with innovative features, including RTK centimeter-level navigation, automatic obstacle avoidance, rotary atomization spraying, and App route planning, elevated precision, efficiency and safety to new heights.

Designed for precise seeding, crop spraying, fertilizer spreading and field mapping the XAG P100 Pro combines a flying platform and different payload systems to



achieve multiple functions. While the technology is not a new concept, it's an upgraded version of its predecessors.

Equipped with the XAG RevoSpray-3 system and a 13.2-gallon smart liquid tank, it can spray at a maximum flow rate of 5.8 gallons per minute. Its crop protection efficiency reaches up to 70 acres per hour, at 2 gallons per acre application rate for open fields, and 5 acres per hour for orchards.

As for seeding and fertilizer spreading, P100 Pro excels with the RevoCast-3 system and a 21-gallon container, capable of spreading 110 pounds of fertilizer in just 20 seconds.

The drone broadcasts vertically from the air and against the wind, so that seeds or fertilizers are distributed accurately and evenly across the fields. Adding convenience, the XAG One App further simplifies farmwork by allowing fully autonomous operation on a smartphone.

The launch of XAG P100 Pro Agricultural Drone caters to the market demand for a more efficient yet flexible farming tool. As the adoption of drones in production agriculture becomes widespread, it opens up greater access to diverse career opportunities for the next generation of farmers.

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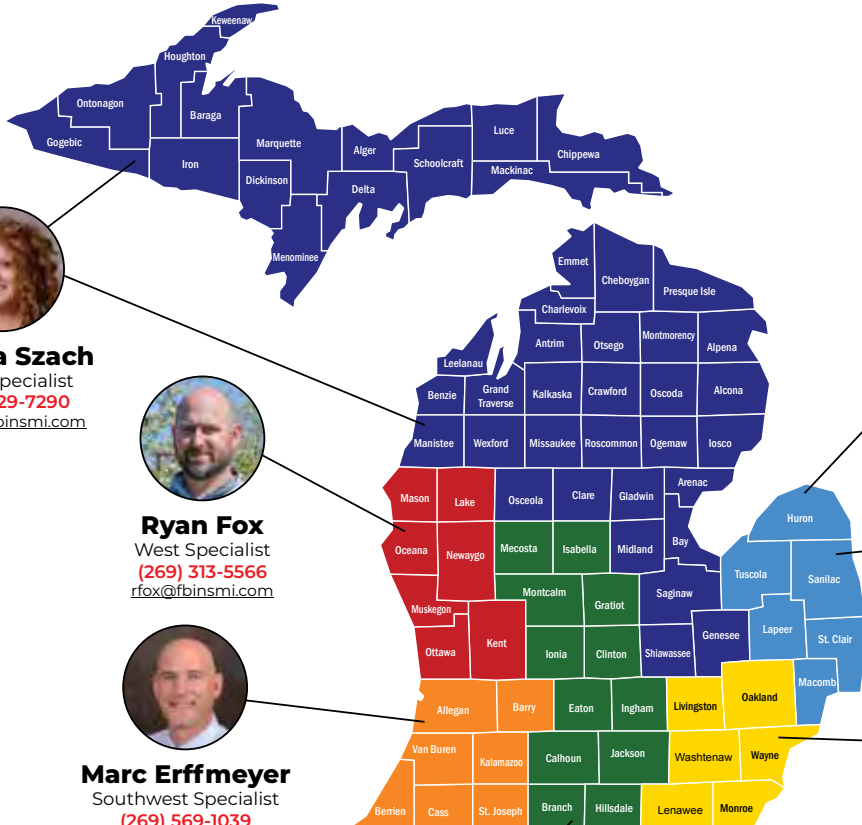
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