

## ***FAST AND EASY: KUHN EUROMIX BOOSTS MANAWATU DAIRY OPERATION***

**PALMERSTON NORTH – (13 March 2008)** – Feilding dairy farmer Bryan Guy did his homework before buying a self-propelled Kuhn Euromix II-SP horizontal auger mixer. Well, perhaps not homework – in fact he travelled to Europe to see the Euromix in action before he took the plunge.

Now, after four years of use, Bryan says the machine has exceeded his expectations. He bought the 14 cubic-metre mixer-feeder to use on his dairy farm, which totals 330 hectares and milks around 670 cows.

Prior to purchasing the Kuhn mixer, Bryan ran a trailed diet feeder but he wanted a self-propelled, self-loading machine to increase efficiency and eliminate the need for an additional tractor. "I'd seen a similar self-propelled diet feeder operating in Holland about 15 years ago so I knew they were around," he says.

"We do quite a bit of cropping for our own use and we were spending a lot of time feeding silage. I went to France and had a look at the Kuhn feeder before we purchased it. It took us quite a while to decide whether to buy it or not. We looked at an Italian machine but we decided to go with the Kuhn.

"A major factor in purchasing the Kuhn was the terrific service we receive from Dan Cosgrove Ltd in Palmerston North. That gave us a lot of confidence in knowing the machine would be well maintained."

Needless to say, Bryan hasn't been disappointed with the machine. "It's better than we expected. One of the things we didn't appreciate at the time was how clean it leaves the face of the silage stack. There's no disturbance on the face of the stack for air to get in eliminating waste," he says.

"The other thing is that it's pretty simple to drive and it's very quick at loading up. It would probably take less than half the time to do a load than it used to." Bryan says while maize silage is particularly easy to load, the Kuhn self loading flail head can pick up anything.

Its high output milling head guarantees an outstanding silage cutting and loading rate. The self-propelled Euromix's chopping capacity allows long-fibre forage to be incorporated into the ration. "It is rated to pick up maize silage at three tonne a minute. We never do that because we have to shift the wagon but we probably do 1.5 tonne a minute, which is pretty quick," Bryan says.

A highly accurate weighing system helps guarantee efficient management of fodder stocks and rational feeding. The electronic weighing system lets you know exactly how much fodder is loaded into the machine and ingested by your animals. Bryan's herd is split into spring and autumn herds, which require different diets.

"It's not often we have the wagon full to the brim, but if we filled it with maize silage we would get six-to-seven tonne on board. The mixer has a really good monitoring system on it. I keep track of what we feed out, as well as the fuel that we use and the hours that we do."

Bryan built a new concrete feed pad for the feeder and says the pad has improved efficiency even more. "Since we built the feed pad the hours per day have been going down and the tonnes per day have been going up as the herd size has increased."

Kuhn Euromix II-SP mixer-feeder wagons stand out because of their robust design, easy loading and unrivalled user-friendly controls. The controls are designed to be compatible with future growth in the size of the holding.

The mixer's Flexidrive system consists of two flexi-plates driving two planetary gear systems and a reversing system as standard. The independent integral frame reduces the stress exerted by the weight of the fodder contained in the body during the transport phase.

The rear drive axle is equipped with a limited slip differential and ensures excellent driveability in all circumstances, with the machine able to tackle slopes up to 29 per cent.

The panoramic cab offers outstanding visibility, laterally through 310 degrees and vertically over the entire height of milling head movements. Optimum comfort and total safety are ensured during loading phases and travel.

Bryan says his Kuhn Euromix II-SP mixer augers have proven to be reliable and versatile. "I think we've put through about 18,000 tonne of wet feed since we've had it, and all we've really had to do is replace the knives."

#### **Images:**

1. [Bryan Guy SP14 001.jpg](#)
2. [Bryan Guy SP14 007.jpg](#)  
caption "Bryan and Scott Guy with their Kuhn Euromix II"
3. [Bryan Guy SP14 0020.jpg](#)
4. [Bryan Guy SP14 0021.jpg](#)

***For More Information Contact Your Local Kuhn Dealer or***

*Kuhn New Zealand  
P O Box 1265  
Palmerston North  
Telephone: (0800) 585-007  
Facsimile: (06) 356-4939*



