

ACCURACY AND CONSISTENCY THE PAYOFF WITH KUHN DIRECT DRILLS

PALMERSTON NORTH – (26th February 2008) – It is probably no coincidence that Manawatu farmer Brendan Williams has enjoyed excellent germination and higher yields this year, after he traded in an old grain drill for a Kuhn SD3000 direct drill.

He says the things he likes best about his 3.0m Kuhn SD are its accuracy and consistent seeding depth as well as the ability it gives him to go straight into a paddock after the crop has been removed.

“The beauty of it is we can drill grass into maize or cereal stubble the day of harvest. Before, we had to cultivate it first with the power harrow. Now we can drill in a matter of hours after the crop comes off.”

Brendan Williams runs a mixed cropping – wheat, maize silage and potatoes – and stock operation near Marton. He used the SD3000 to plant about 40 hectares of wheat on his own farm this year and another 40-50 hectares on neighbouring farms.

“We’ve never had a Kuhn drill before but we have had Kuhn grass gear, and it was bloody good. That was one of the reasons, we went with the SD. That and the service we get from the local dealer.

The drill has been great for cereals,” Brendan Williams says. “It was a good growing season this year but I am sure the drill helped us get higher yields. Now we are using it to plant Italian ryegrass into the cereal stubble. It just rockets through anything.”

Kuhn NZ Product and Service Manager Chris Bruce says the key to the performance of Kuhn SD direct drills is their triple disc system. The triple disc system features a central pivot point that ensures ‘in-line’ drilling and places the grain directly into an environment that optimises seed germination. This is what gives Kuhn SD drills the ability to deliver high strike rates even with high levels of vegetation present.

“The SD drills’ triple disc system uses a front opener disc followed by a double disc assembly. The opener disc works up a fine tilth in the slot it cuts, and the central pivot system ensures this seedbed is always exactly in line with the rear drilling discs.

A pivot is situated exactly mid-way between the opener discs and the drilling discs. This means that when turning or negotiating an obstacle, the drilling discs will always follow the line of the opener discs.”

Chris Bruce says the opener discs can be specified as either serrated or wavy. The serrated discs are generally fitted as standard. They are 430mm in diameter and work a narrow strip of land. They suit hard and/or stony soils or situations where there is a lot of crop debris. The wavy discs are 460mm in diameter. They cut a wider slot and work the soil more than the serrated discs.

“Drilling discs have a diameter of 400mm. They work in combination with a depth wheel to deliver a regular sowing depth, even in undulating ground or where large amounts of debris are present. The drilling discs are assembled onto a parallelogram. This design allows each element to work independently. Again, this gives excellent ground following and even sowing depth across the width of the machine” he says.

Both opener discs and drilling disc units have a ground penetration capacity of 250kg with a mechanical spring safety system.

The three models in the SD range include the SD3000, SD4000, and the SD6000. They have working widths of 3.0m, 4.0m and 6.0m respectively and are capable of working at speeds of 7 to 15 km/hr.

All three models have a seed hopper capacity of 2000 litres and they use the fan-driven Venta seed distribution system. The big capacity of the seed hopper gives you good working autonomy – you can plant 10 ha at 150 kg wheat/ha with an SD4000, Chris Bruce says.

Images:

1. [Brendan Williams SD3000.jpg](#)
2. [Brendan Williams SD3000 Pic 2.jpg](#)

For More Information Contact Your Local Kuhn Dealer or

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