

KUHN OPTIMER ELIMINATES UNNECESSARY GROUND PASSES

PALMERSTON NORTH – (18 August 2009) – South Taranaki contractor Matthew Beattie's new Kuhn Optimer stubble cultivator has significantly improved the efficiency of his operation by eliminating unnecessary ground passes. The Optimer enables him to do three passes in one – cultivating, levelling and rolling.

Matthew operates his contracting business from Alton. He offers a full cultivation service, as well as hay and bulk and baled silage.

"I bought the Kuhn Optimer stubble cultivator about 18 months ago as a finishing tool for light cultivation. They are the first set of Kuhn discs I have owned. "We use them for secondary cultivation or after crop, whereas a big set of discs will go straight into a grass paddock," he says. "The Optimer takes the place of a power harrow. It's a good stubble incorporator. We've never had anything like it before."

The Optimer stubble cultivator is the ideal machine for quality shallow soil cultivation. It facilitates self-seeding, encourages decomposition of organic matter, and prevents soil moisture loss. The Optimer design is robust and allows the discs to operate independently. Depending on the working conditions they can be combined with spiral T-ring or Packliner rollers for soil packing.

"Before we used a big set of discs and then went in with another cultivator afterwards. We don't use the big discs now – I just use the Optimer in secondary cultivation. After the paddock's been ploughed you can go in with one pass and it's ready to sow. You don't need the power harrow." Even going into a paddock of maize stubble, the Optimer only needs to do one pass at a speed of 12-15km/h.

Matthew describes his Kuhn Optimer as an "awesome" machine that is built strong. "There is similar gear out there but I haven't seen anything as compact as this. They are 4m wide and fold up to 2.1m for easy transport," he says. "Being a semi-mounted, trailed set of discs, they follow the ground really well. Once they are set up they're easy to operate.

"My clients are happy with the job they're doing and they're amazed I can do it in just one pass, especially after maize. They take any wheel marks out and weeds out, rather than running back and forth with a power harrow."

In addition to the Kuhn Optimer stubble cultivator, Matthew also owns a Kuhn SD4000 direct drill, which he's had nearly five years. "We're only starting to do the first bit of real maintenance on it now. It's been great. We're very happy with the two machines we've got from Kuhn."

Images:

1. [Kuhn_5295_300dpi\(1\) Optimer.jpg](#)

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