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Managing residue, creating the seedbed.

Case IH True-Tandem 330 Turbo.

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OUR MISSION:

To provide you with information about Case IH equipment, trends in agriculture and growers' experiences to help you successfully manage your farm business.

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PLAN TODAY FOR BUYING TOMORROW

We're in unprecedented times for agriculture. Increased prosperity in developing global markets with the accompanying increased demand for improved diets are upon us. A weak U.S. dollar has made our commodities attractive around the world. In addition, the push to include biofuels as a

part of our North American energy supply has greatly increased demand for corn and oilseeds. Steadily increasing commodity prices have followed.

As a result the demand for, and the capability of farmers to afford, new equipment has increased dramatically.

As equipment manufacturers, we're tasked with meeting our customers' needs while at the same time operating consistently efficient manufacturing facilities.

We do this as the number of farmers is decreasing. In fact, North American farm numbers continue their long steady decline. Equipment manufacturers have to size their production capacity to this long-term reality.

At the same time, we recognize the potential for ag commodity price upturns to drive equipment demand for short periods, which is where we're at today.

To meet this demand, we're encouraging Case IH dealers to work with their customers to identify and confirm their equipment purchase intentions in advance of their actual needs, so that we can get the orders scheduled.

If you anticipate buying new equipment to use next year, in 2009, we encourage you to talk with your Case IH dealer now. They'll help you identify the best way to make sure you'll have the equipment when you need it.

Prior to meeting with your dealer, you can preview your planned purchase online using the Machine Builder application at www.caseih.com. Use Machine Builder to choose the specifications and price the equipment you're interested in. Then you can confirm details and pricing with your dealer, and discuss delivery.

While the days of buying the new equipment you need off the dealer's lot may be difficult for now, there's ample opportunity to get the Case IH equipment that will help you be a more productive, lower cost producer. A bit of planning now will help make sure that happens.

Jim Walker
Vice President
North American Case IH
Agricultural Business



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RISING FUEL COSTS MAKE EVEN SMALL SAVINGS WORTHWHILE

MAKE EVERY DROP COUNT

Once again, fuel costs have spiked upward, becoming a bigger expense in your operating budgets and a bigger drag on profitability.

Those big bills from your fuel supplier are a good reminder to look at ways to reduce fuel consumption. If history is any indicator, fuel prices aren't likely to fall significantly. The upside is that even the smallest fuel economy gains can be worthwhile.

Case IH tractor specialist Roger Lewno now refers to practices that can save even a quart of fuel per hour. "Spread over a day, a quart per hour will save you \$4 or \$5," he notes.

Because equipment and farming practices have improved, significant fuel efficiency gains are harder to find today compared to years past. Bigger diesel-powered equipment is covering more acres per gallon. Power-intensive tillage practices are more focused now; chances are you're performing tillage for specific and quantifiable soil management or plant vigor reasons, rather than simply doing it for tradition.

In spite of these strides, there's always the opportunity to squeeze more productivity out of every gallon – or quart – of fuel.

Tuneups still count. Older or higher-hour equipment diesel engines can benefit from tuneups to adjust variables including timing, valve lash and injector performance, depending on the engine.

Clean filters of the proper size and capacity play a key role in efficient diesel engine performance. Replace fuel filters

ENGINE

- Run at lower engine speed that will still allow power reserve.
- Use Constant Engine Speed function.
- Keep radiators clean to reduce fan running time.
- Keep fuel and air filters clean.
- Avoid extended idling.

GUIDANCE SYSTEMS

- Use a guidance system to reduce overlap with tillage tools.



TIRES AND BALLAST

- Carry the least amount of weight needed to keep wheel slip in the 8 to 15 percent range.
- Inflate tires to the minimum recommended pressures for the tractor's weight.
- Use iron weights rather than liquid ballast.

based on the recommended change intervals, and change them more frequently if fuel quality is suspect.

Most air filters have restriction gauges; check the gauges regularly and change air filters based on the restriction gauge readings.

On tractors, proper tire

pressure is related more to gaining maximum traction and reducing compaction, rather than reducing rolling resistance, as it is on highway vehicles. That's why overinflation, rather than underinflation, of tractor tires is usually the problem. Use the recommended inflation pressure for the amount of weight your

tractor is carrying. For radial tires used as duals, this can be as low as 6 psi.

Manage overall tractor weight for maximum fuel efficiency. You should carry enough weight to keep wheel slip in the 8 to 15 percent range. That's what you need for maximum productivity. If you don't need

the weight for traction or for stable performance with heavy hitch-mounted implements or loaders, remove it. Otherwise, you're using fuel to move weight that's not contributing a thing.

Shift up; throttle back. Running at less-than-rated engine speed

maximum power approximately 200 rpm below rated engine speed," says Lewno. "Lugging the engine isn't bad. But you do need that combination of engine speed and gear selection that will maintain the ground speed with some power reserve."

HYDRAULIC SYSTEMS

- Set hydraulic timers to match the raise/lower cycle times of your implements.



TILLAGE TOOLS

- Have implements set for consistent fore-aft and side-to-side depth.
- Run implements only as deep as needed to do the job.

when loads allow continues to be a good fuel-saving practice. "Current tractors typically develop

Electronic operating controls can help. For example, current Case IH Magnum tractors include

"Constant Engine Speed"

which maintains the engine speed you select for the ground speed you want to run. "Setting a reduced engine speed will save fuel compared to running at maximum rated," Lewno notes.

Electronic performance displays in newer tractors can help you fine-tune fuel usage. Lewno says the "Percent of power" display can help you match engine speed, ground speed and load. "Stay close to 100 percent of power," he says. "If you're continually bumping up above 100 percent, you need to increase engine speed or choose a lower gear."

Electronic hydraulic timers are often improperly adjusted, resulting in power – and fuel – wasted. Their role is to make hydraulic systems more efficient by providing hydraulic flow for only as long as it takes to raise or lower an implement.

They should be set to shut off a few seconds beyond the implement cycle time, but Lewno says it's not uncommon for him to see them set for continuous operation. "That pump's always on demand, and always requiring power, even though it's only needed for a few moments at the end of the row," he says. "That can waste a quart or two of fuel per hour."

While not directly related to tractor performance, fuel savings is proving to be a primary advantage of autoguidance systems. The ability to maintain accurate pass-to-pass spacing eliminates wasteful overlap. University and independent studies commonly cite fuel savings of 5 percent from using guidance in tillage operations. n

KEEP ACCURATE FUEL RECORDS

In order to know how to save fuel, you need to know how you're consuming it. If you haven't kept fuel consumption records, now's a good time to start. Record enough detail – fuel use by machine, by operation, by acre, by crop – so that you have accurate information to make good management decisions.



FOR HARVEST, FOCUS ON MACHINE CAPACITY

Grain harvesting operations don't offer as many fuel-savings opportunities as field operations involving tractors do. The goal here, according to Case IH combine specialist Terry Snack, is to run your combine at maximum capacity to get the most output from the fuel you're using.

Rather than shifting up and throttling back, combine engines must run at full rpm to maintain the sieve shake rate for optimum cleaning system performance.

"Watch your percent of engine load," Snack says. "I like to see combines running between 95 and 100 percent. Above that, the governor is opening and you're consuming more fuel."

Snack suggests looking at all the variables in order to make good harvesting decisions. For example, running at a speed that frequently pushes the engine above the 100 percent load range will use more fuel. But your acres per hour or bushels per hour might increase enough to lower your gallons of fuel used per acre, or per bushel. Or maybe not.

"That's why I tell operators to look at fuel used per acre or per bushel. That's a better way to evaluate the efficiency of the combine. If you burn more fuel but get proportionately higher throughput, it's worth it."

As with tractors, autoguidance systems help combines run more efficiently, especially with wider grain heads where autoguidance lets you consistently use the header's entire width.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS ACT PROVIDES INCENTIVES FOR NEW EQUIPMENT PURCHASES



Provisions to stimulate capital goods sales are timely for agriculture

Most news articles about the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 focused on the tax rebates of up to \$600 for individuals and up to \$1,200 for married couples.

There's a bigger story for farmers: The Act includes incentives to invest in new capital equipment.

As with similar tax incentives in prior years, these incentives truly fulfill their objectives. They provide the opportunity for you to invest in equipment that will help you be more productive rather than spend the money in taxes.

In this period where higher commodity prices are raising farm income levels, these provisions are especially timely. You can add equipment that will help reduce your operating costs while at the same time reducing tax liabilities.

Key provisions of the Act for equipment purchased and put into service in 2008 include:

- The Section 179 deduction limit is increased to \$250,000, which is nearly double the prior limit.
- The Section 179 Maximum Investment limitation has increased from \$510,000 to \$800,000. The Section 179 Deduction is phased out for each dollar of purchases exceeding \$800,000.

- There's a first-year 50 percent bonus depreciation allowance.

These new incentives, combined with normal depreciation, can generate substantial depreciation deductions, as the chart shows.

"Using the tax-advantaged opportunities available to you is part of good financial management," explains Tim Biewer, director of marketing for CNH Capital.

"The incentives provided as part of this current Economic Stimulus Act can help you invest in new equipment with dollars that would otherwise be spent for taxes. Encouraging this type of investment is a primary reason for the Act."

Biewer recommends that you meet with your financial advisors several times throughout the year to review cash flow statements and income projections. You can factor in equipment purchases, applying these new incentives, to see how acquiring new equipment will affect your estimated tax exposure. ■

POTENTIAL DEPRECIATION DEDUCTIONS WITH ECONOMIC STIMULUS ACT OF 2008 INCENTIVES		
TOTAL PURCHASES:	\$250,000	
Eligible purchases:	\$250,000	
Section 179 deduction:	\$250,000	
50 percent bonus depreciation:	—	
Normal first-year depreciation:	—	10.71%
Total first-year depreciation deduction:	\$250,000	
TOTAL PURCHASES:	\$500,000	
Eligible purchases:	\$500,000	
Section 179 deduction:	\$250,000	
50 percent bonus depreciation:	\$125,000	
Normal first-year depreciation:	\$ 13,388	10.71%
Total first-year depreciation deduction:	\$388,388	
TOTAL PURCHASES:	\$1,000,000	
Eligible purchases:	\$1,000,000	
Section 179 deduction:	\$ 50,000	
50 percent bonus depreciation:	\$ 475,000	
Normal first-year depreciation:	\$ 50,873	10.71%
Total first-year depreciation deduction:	\$ 575,873	
TOTAL PURCHASES:	\$2,000,000	
Eligible purchases:	\$2,000,000	
Section 179 deduction:	\$ —	
50 percent bonus depreciation:	\$1,000,000	
Normal first-year depreciation:	\$ 107,100	10.71%
Total first-year depreciation deduction:	\$1,107,100	
NOTES:		
These scenarios based on seven-year useful life MACRS depreciation and half-year convention. Some states may not allow the additional deductions under the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008.		
CNH Capital and Case IH dealerships do not provide tax, legal or accounting advice. Customers are strongly encouraged to seek their own professional advice on the proper treatment of these transactions.		

THESE NEW INCENTIVES, COMBINED WITH NORMAL DEPRECIATION, CAN GENERATE SUBSTANTIAL DEDUCTIONS.

This article was developed in cooperation with CNH Capital. CNH Capital provides a comprehensive range of services, including wholesale and retail financing, leasing, insurance, asset management, and revolving lines of credit, for the global marketplace. Building on 50 years' experience in the equipment finance industry, CNH Capital is helping Case IH dealers and well over half a million customers throughout North America, Latin America, Europe and Australia.

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THE LEGEND ROLLS ON

'A TREMENDOUS ADVANTAGE'

Autoguidance, strip till, and a module-building picker solve this Georgia family's soil and labor challenges

Four years ago, Edward Fiveash and his sons, Jared and Ethan, were facing a few challenges in their south Georgia farming operation, known as Nickelback Farms, near Donalsonville.

Soil erosion was a continuing problem on some of their fields.

Their enrollment in government soil management programs gave them detailed information about the situation. "When the soil conservationist told me how many tons of soil we were losing every year, I knew we had to do something," Edward says.

They were also facing a labor

crunch. With about 2,400 acres, mostly in cotton and about 400 acres in peanuts for rotation, getting both crops planted and harvested in a timely manner was becoming a bigger challenge every year.

The solution came in the form of new farming practices and technically advanced equipment.

Strip till cotton, they figured, could be the solution to soil erosion and reducing labor needs. The advent of glyphosate-tolerant cotton and autoguidance systems would make this practice feasible, they figured.

They were right. Their cotton-to-cotton program now consists of chopping stalks after the picker leaves the field, doing a light disking, then planting a cover crop. Come spring, they use a chemical burndown two to three weeks ahead of planting, then make one pass with the strip-till rig, and plant. They count on an over-the-top spray at the fourth leaf stage to handle post-emerge weed control, with additional applications as needed.

"We're in our fourth year now. It's worked out really well," Edward says.

The wholesale move to strip till could not have happened without autoguidance, Edward explains. Indeed, during *Farm Forum's* visit at planting time, the strip till paths were barely visible through the thick rye stand, yet their MX285 tractor equipped with the AFS Accuguide autoguidance system receiving the within-an-inch RTK signal followed the row perfectly.



Edward Fiveash and his son Jared have changed their farming systems to save input costs and labor. A Case IH Module Express 625 picker let them shift labor from dealing with modules to handling the farm's peanut harvest.

So much so, that they were comfortable running a 10-row strip-till rig and a 12-row planter, and planting on a curve to follow their center pivots' wheel tracks.

Another factor in their success with strip till has been the performance of the Case IH Early Riser row unit.

Edward says he's been running red planters since 1988, and is a big fan of the Early Riser row unit's ability to maintain accurate depth in less-than-ideal conditions. "The depth wheels and closing wheels work independently; they're not fighting each other on rough ground, and they maintain a consistent depth, even when we're dealing with big clods," he says.

This season, the Fiveashes added some acreage and wanted to go from an eight-row to a 12-row planter. They traded their ground-drive Case IH 1200 Series Early Riser stackerbar planter for a 12-row 1200 ASM stackerbar planter with the optional hydraulic drive. Driven totally by hydraulic power and controlled by the touch-screen AFS Pro 600 display, this new planter gives the Fiveashes much easier control over populations.

"It's so simple. You don't have all those chains, transmissions and drive wheels. There are no gear changes or sprocket changes. Population is controlled totally by the monitor," Edward says.

Seeding rates can be varied – even on the go – by just a few taps on the monitor screen. For example, the Fiveashes drop seeding rates on the dry irrigation corners, saving costly seed. With its site-specific capabilities, the AFS Pro 600 display with the hydraulic drive planter can be programmed to do those rate changes automatically.

Although Edward says getting the high seed populations required for peanuts weren't a problem with their ground drive planter, this hydraulic drive planter delivers those high rates without taxing any ground drive systems, and by simply tapping the monitor screen.

After making planting much more efficient, the Fiveashes looked at streamlining harvest. "We were running one Case IH CPX610 Cotton Express picker. One morning as har-



vest neared last fall, I realized there's no way I was going to get enough help to handle the cotton and the peanuts," he recalls.

He knew about the Case IH Module Express 625 picker, and talked with his Case IH dealer about trading up to it. "We did a lot of figuring, and looked at the labor savings of not having to hire four men, run the module builders and a boll buggy, plus the general aggravation.

"It didn't take us long to see a \$10,000 savings by running one Module Express picker," he says. "I decided if we could keep the payments similar, I could handle the new machine."

Jared and Ethan ran the Module Express 625 picker over 1,600 acres of cotton last fall. "They did it by themselves. We had no problems whatsoever," Edward says.

Building modules on the go offered the expected productivity gains. To unload, the Fiveashes simply dropped the module wherever it was built, and the gin's truck picked them up in the field. If conditions are wet, they can spot them on the end.

They saw other savings. "Getting the Module Express ready in the morning is a lot easier because it's a cleaner machine," Jared says. "There's not all that cotton flying around."

They say it's a fast machine, running at 4.7 to 4.8 mph in cot-

ton yielding up to three bales, and fuel efficiency is on par with their 610 picker.

Placing tarps over the 16-foot-long bales was easy, they say. "Jared would pick all day, and whenever we had a break, we'd put the short tarps in the pickup, drive alongside the bales, and cover them," Edward says.

"This Module Express has been a major step forward for us. We're saving on labor and equipment, and we can pick when the crop is ready. We're not losing a grade because we can get to it earlier," he adds.

With their added acreage, the Fiveashes were considering adding a second machine, but the added capacity of the Module Express 625 made up the difference.

Along with the improved planting and harvesting systems, the Fiveashes are making other changes aimed at lower costs or producing a better crop.

This year, they drilled their rye cover crop, rather than broadcasting and disking it. The advantage was seed rate nearly halved, faster emergence and a better stand.

They run their own spray rig, a Case IH Patriot SPX3200 sprayer, to make timely spray applications of herbicides, fungicides and foliar fertilizers. "We couldn't do the strip till without the sprayer. I spend a lot of time in it during the summer. I've sprayed up to 800

The Fiveashes' Case IH 1200 Series ASM planter plants cotton into strip-till zones made in a rye cover crop that was treated with a chemical burn-down about two weeks prior. All seed rate adjustments on the hydraulic drive planter are made through the in-cab AFS Pro 600 display. The hydraulic drive is especially suited to the high seeding rates of their peanut crop.

acres a day," Jared says.

The Fiveashes have been longtime Case IH owners, and even today use the 806 tractor Edward's father bought, along with an 856, an MX110, an MX170 and the pair of MX285 tractors.

They say they've had excellent dealer support all along, and appreciate new services, such as the extended-term promotions for parts and service periodically available through CNH Capital Revolving Accounts. Jared says they've used the promotion for parts purchases during harvest. "It's a big help when money's tight at the end of the year," he says.

The Fiveashes are seeing the benefits of their investments in equipment and technology. "The guidance system, the planter and the picker give us a tremendous advantage," Edward says. "The more we can do in one day, the better." ■

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INVESTING FOR GROWTH

Illinois brothers add capacity and technology to handle more acres

You'd think brothers Jeff and Andy Jacobs would be a bit antsy in late April. Cool wet weather kept their corn planter parked as the calendar started moving deep into the optimum planting dates.

They weren't. To describe why, they pointed to a new 24-row planter they were prepping outside their garage, and a new high-capacity combine sitting in the shed. "We jumped into a lot of modernization over the past two years," says Jeff Jacobs. "And now, we're seeing the benefits."

From the time they could start doing chores, Andy and Jeff Jacobs of Stanford, Illinois, have been hands-on with the family farm started by their grandfather, Paul Koehn. Fresh out of high school, they took the reins

from him, their father, Neil, who helps as needed and runs a small trucking company, and their mother, Mary, who handles the farm's accounting.

They counted themselves fortunate to take over the family's 1,300 acres, but they knew that wasn't enough land to meet their income needs. Expansion options were tough: Good Illinois farmland is tough to come by and expensive to rent.

Because they were young, energetic, and "didn't sleep a lot," Andy says, neighbors, who no longer wanted to invest in new equipment or seek hired labor, sought the brothers' help for planting and harvesting.

The brothers realized that performing for-hire planting and harvesting services could be a good

alternative to competing for cash rent acres. Seeing the potential for custom farming services gave them the confidence to upgrade to new technically advanced equipment that would easily handle their acreage with ample capacity to meet customers' needs.

Jeff and Andy have structured their operation to make the most of their own skills, interests and local opportunities. Both share an interest in new technologies, with Jeff focusing on equipment and Andy looking after the agronomics.

They were among the first in their area to have a combine equipped with a site-specific yield monitor, which was included on the 2166 Axial-Flow combine their grandfather purchased in 1995.

With it, they began making ac-

Andy and Jeff Jacobs say having ample planting and harvesting capacity helps them gain custom farming work.



curate yield maps that have helped them with hybrid selections. "With a color yield map, you can see how one hybrid that performs well on high ground might drop 30 bushels of yield on lighter soils. Another hybrid might be more consistent. Seeing that performance, on these maps, has helped a lot," Andy says.

In the mid-1990s, as GMO beans entered the market, the brothers saw good premiums for non-GMO beans from a nearby buyer. They focused on them, and used their farm's numerous smaller bins to keep the crops segregated. Now they see the higher yields and lower production costs of glyphosate tolerant ready beans pulling ahead of the conventional beans, and are switching to them. They still see opportunities to grow trait-specific crops such as low linolenic soybeans, using their crop segregation skills.

The yield monitor's ability to accurately report yield results helped the brothers track all costs in their operation by seeing what inputs and

practices provide a payback.

"I'm the bookworm," Andy says. "We have to pay attention to the details."

Along with hybrid selections, Jeff and Andy have employed the yield maps and soil tests to make fertility levels more consistent, using their fertilizer dealer's variable-rate application capabilities.

They added another level of technology with an autoguidance system on the STX480 Steiger tractor they purchased a few years ago. For anhydrous applications, they say eliminating the overlap helped them deliver their target rates for nitrogen. "In the past, we'd usually be a bit over," Andy says.

The guidance system also made the job easier. "It's a big help when dust and debris are blowing the same speed as the tractor," he adds.

The capabilities of the larger equipment and guidance systems helped the brothers realize they could easily handle their own farm, plus custom work, without hiring ad-

tage at 3 to 5 bushels of soybeans gained per acre, and more when it's dry.

"The draper header is an investment that saves money for us and our customers," Jeff says.

"Because it feeds more evenly, it makes the combine more productive. I'd encourage anyone to demo one; they'll be impressed," Andy adds.

They didn't hesitate to get the AFS AccuGuide autoguidance system for their newest tractor, the Magnum 305. "With the size of equipment we're running, and the price of diesel fuel, we know the autoguidance system will save us money. There's definitely a payback," Andy says.

The new planter took more discussion. They knew it was time to upgrade; their previous 16-row Cyclo planter needed work, and they wanted the improved accuracy of the 1200 Series metering system. But would going bigger – to 24 rows – make sense? They decided the cost of the additional eight row units wasn't that much more, and would be justified by improved efficiency.

"We'll get more acres covered with the same engine hours," Jeff notes. They also see the big planter fitting all their customers' needs. "Some customers have six-row corn heads; some have eight. A 24-row planter, especially with guidance, will match up to most corn heads," Andy says.

They've used CNH Capital financing dating back to their first equipment purchases, and say having it available has aided their recent equipment purchases. "It's competitive, and convenient. We don't have to chase around for financing," Andy explains.

With new key pieces of equipment, current technologies, and a desire to improve accuracy and efficiency in every field operation, the brothers are optimistic about the future of their own operation, and advantages they can bring to their customers.

"This is what we've wanted to do, from the time we were little kids," Jeff says. "This is a great opportunity our family has provided, and it's our responsibility to make it all work." n



The brothers designed a planter tender based on an enclosed trailer to stay out of the wind and weather when mixing talc or graphite with seed. The 102-inch-wide trailer handles two pallets side by side. They empty bagged seed into two bulk hoppers mounted in the front of the trailer; a grain vac system delivers the seed to the planter hopper.

ditional help. That confidence led to several more equipment purchases, including a Case IH Axial-Flow 7010 combine with a 12-row corn head, a Magnum 305 tractor and a 24-row Early Riser 1250 planter. They kept the 30-foot draper head from their previous 2388 Axial-Flow combine.

Each of these pieces advances their capabilities. Not only does the 7010 combine have greater capacity compared to their 2388, they say it's a more user-friendly machine, thanks to the AFS Pro 600 monitor. "I think it's a stouter machine," Andy says. "It looks like it's built to run more acres."

The draper header is more expensive than an auger header, but the brothers peg the advan-

MAX SERVICE PROVIDES ROUND-THE-CLOCK PRODUCT SUPPORT

A NEW CASE IH PROGRAM HELPS DEALERS RESPOND TO URGENT REQUESTS



If a piece of Case IH equipment breaks down, your Case IH dealer is always your first source for support. Getting your equipment running again is their priority.

Now, a new Case IH program is in place to help your dealer respond to situations when equipment is down at critical times.

Called Max Service, this new program is an owner's support network that ensures maximum productivity for every step of your operation.

The Max Service team works with your Case IH dealer to respond to urgent requests. This includes:

- Checking and documenting all activities related to the situation.
- Providing updates about the status of your repair or part order.
- Assuring that your equipment is handled by factory trained Case IH dealer technicians using premium quality genuine Case IH parts.

The Max Service program includes the toll-free number (877) 4CaseIH (877-422-7344) that leads you to two service options.

Option 1 provides answers during normal business hours about the Case IH dealer network and general product information.

Option 2 activates special 24/7 Emergency Breakdown Assistance for in-warranty Magnum and Steiger tractors, Axial-Flow combines, and Module Express 625 pickers. This option, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, takes top priority at Case IH service centers. The representatives there will work directly with your Case IH dealer to make sure you receive the parts and repairs needed to get your machine working again.

The Max Service program has been developed to help you minimize downtime for increased productivity and return on investment of your Case IH equipment. Your Case IH dealer continues to be your first point of contact, should a problem arise. Max Service provides another level of support to help assure your complete satisfaction with Case IH equipment. **n**



**The Max Service toll-free number
(877) 4CaseIH (877-422-7344)
leads you to two service options.**



If you're running a late-model higher-horsepower tractor, you've noticed that you're not exerting as much effort as you used to. You shift gears by nudging a rocker switch. You change directions with the flick of a lever. You raise and lower implements with your fingertips.

Hydraulics may do the heavy work, but it's electricity, rather than mechanical linkages, that's transmitting your inputs.

There's more. Chances are you're pretty comfortable in that cab, with air-conditioned or heated air circulating throughout. Several electronic displays give you a lot of performance information about your tractor and the implement. You might even be watching a screen showing your position in the field as an autoguidance system steers you to the end. There, another tap of a switch starts a sequence of events to automatically raise your implement, stops its operation, then returns it to the ground, with the electronically controlled three-point maintaining precisely the depth you've selected.

Evening comes. You turn on a selection of lights that illuminate the entire working area. You turn on the heated seat because it feels good on your back. You change the CD in the stereo, check with your wife on the two-way radio and turn on the windshield wipers, hoping those sprinkles don't turn into a downpour.

Electricity makes all this happen. Electrical systems on tractors have evolved from simply keeping the batteries charged for starting and lights to making virtually every operation possible.

In fact, today's electronically controlled engines demand a lot of electrical power simply to run themselves, as information about load, fuel, temperature and other variables is continually monitored and transmitted to the various operating systems.

"Electrical loads are definitely increasing," confirms Hermann Regep, a Case IH senior project electrical engineer. In addition to the engine operating systems, he cites the many electronic solenoids and controllers that make all that fingertip control possible. Not only do these systems reduce operator effort, they allow for more precise control and

integrated operation, such as transmissions that can upshift or downshift based on engine load.

All this reliance on electricity makes the alternator a vital component. Fortunately, alternators demand little attention in return for the big role they fill. Alternator sizes on new equipment have increased to meet the demand posed by the equipment and a reasonable amount of accessories, notes Regep. For example, current Case IH tractors above 100 hp have alternators ranging from 120 to 175 amps.

Alternator life is more dependent on overall hours of operation rather than output; one that is generating higher amounts of electricity most of the time won't wear out any faster than one that's lightly loaded, Regep says. However, avoid constant loads beyond about 75 percent of the alternator's rated output.

As with anything mechanical, failures can occur. Regep says brush wear, which results in reduced power output, is the most common issue. Failure of one of the windings or an output diode can leave the alternator producing adequate electricity under light load but unable to meet higher demands.

Some of these alternator problems can be tough to diagnose. Regep says to rely on your tractor's gauges which should alert you to signs of low charging rates. Case IH dealers have equipment to test alternator output under varying loads which can help pinpoint problems.

If an alternator needs replacing, Regep says to use one that's the same or very similar in output to the original. It might sound logical to install a larger one to handle more electrical accessories, but the Case IH engineer notes that tractors' overall electrical systems are sized for a certain level of output. Introducing higher levels of electricity can overload the wiring harness, causing harness failure, or can cause fuses and circuit breakers to trip frequently. Some tractors use alternator output for engine rpm information. Incorrect information caused by a different number of poles in the alternator or an improper pulley ratio could lead to poor machine performance.

CNH Original Remanufactured alternators are the most cost-effective replacement option, says Paula Bigonia, Parts Marketing Manager. Megavolt, which is a joint venture company with CNH, remanufactures alternators, starters and generators to meet current-equipment specifications. An Original Remanufactured alternator for a 7130 Magnum tractor, for example, will include any upgrades that improve the alternator's performance or durability compared to the original model.

"Every Original Remanufactured alternator and starter is bench-tested under load before they're shipped," Bigonia says. "They're put through an endurance cycle to prove they will operate as well, or better, than the original component."

Reman electrical test stands are part of the product offering available to Case IH dealers to enhance the total customer service experience, Bigonia adds. "You can have batteries, alternators, generators and starters tested at your Case IH dealer," she says. ■

OVERSTOCK REMAN ELECTRICAL PARTS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Overstock selections of CNH Original Remanufactured electrical components – specifically starters, alternators and generators – are available for purchase and shipping online. Go to www.caseihused.com; then select "parts" in the header bar.

You'll find selected components at overstock pricing for most makes of farm equipment plus truck and marine applications.



CASE IH PRODUCT FOCUS

Case IH equipment can deliver new efficiencies to your farming operation. Here's a look at some new and timely selections.



AXIAL-FLOW COMBINES SIZED FOR EVERY FARM

Case IH currently offers four models of Axial-Flow combines in sizes that cover combine horsepower classes V, VI, VII and VIII.

These four models are based on two distinct platforms. The Axial-Flow 2577 and 2588 are the value and productivity leaders in classes V and VI, with horsepower ratings of 265 and 305, respectively.

The 7010 and 8010 deliver greater levels of harvesting performance with full electronic control and systems designed for maximum crop throughput. The Axial-Flow 7010 is the Class VII machine rated at 360 hp. Case IH's highest capacity combine, the Class VIII 8010, is rated at 400 hp.

The 2577 and 2588 combines maintain the philosophy of continuous improvement that has marked model changes in the Axial-Flow combine line from their introduction more than 30 years – and 140,000 combines – ago. These two models have more than 20 changes compared to the models they replaced to maintain “matched capacity” in all the machines' systems. Notable improvements include larger grain tanks, faster unloading, stronger driveline components and larger standard tires.

The 7010 and 8010 models represent the newest technology in combine harvesting systems. The proven and highly effective Axial-Flow rotor is surrounded by electronically monitored and managed systems that maximize crop throughput and give the operator full information and control.

Their industry-exclusive Power-Plus drive systems use continuously variable transmission (CVT) drives for the rotor and feeder, replacing most belts and chains. There are only five belts and three chains on the entire machine. Time-consuming daily lubrication points are eliminated; both models are designed for 50-hour maintenance intervals.

Even the crop residue can be easily managed. A three-position residue management system can be adjusted without tools to meet your specific residue management requirements, including wind-

rowing straw and spreading chaff.

All Case IH Axial-Flow combines use the proven AFX rotor for gentle multiple-pass grain-on-grain threshing. The AFX rotor delivers maximum crop throughput, especially in tough crop harvesting conditions, as it maintains control of the crop throughout the threshing and separating process.

AFX rotor configurations for the Axial-Flow 2577 and 2588 include grain, corn, rice and extended wear. Choices for the Axial-Flow 7010 and 8010 are corn and grain, and extended wear.

Axial-Flow Model	Class	Engine hp	Maximum hp	Grain bin capacity (bu)	Unloading rate (bu/sec)
2577	V	265	290	230	2.4
2588	VI	305	325	290	2.4
7010	VII	360	403	315	3.2
8010	VIII	400	450	350	3.2



Match Case IH Axial-Flow combines to a full range of crop-saving heads. Grain heads include rigid models from 20 to 30 feet wide and flex head models from 17.5 to 35 feet. Choose draper heads for maximum crop saving and smooth crop flow, in widths from 25 to 45 feet (rigid) and 30 to 40 feet (flex). Belt-type or rake-up pickup heads are offered in 14- and 16-foot widths, plus the 12- and 14-foot grass seed special.

Case IH corn heads, designed for high capacity and reliability, include six-, eight- and 12-row models in row spacings from 20 to 38 inches. Choose the new 2600 Series chopping corn heads to help manage heavy corn residues. They're offered in six-, eight- and 12-row models including the unique eight-row folding model.

SIMPLE AND EFFICIENT EARLY RISER 1250 PLANTERS

The Case IH line of 1200 Series ASM planters has been expanded with the new Early Riser 1250 planter. It's a simple and efficient 24-row planter that delivers the proven seed placement advantages of the Early Riser row unit and the all-sizes accuracy of the Case IH Advanced Seed Meter (ASM). With ample flex – up to 21 degrees up and down, thanks to a flex point every eight rows – it's a good match for hilly terrain and terraced areas. It includes a hitch for trailing implements such as fertilizer tanks or air carts.

Two 60-bushel seed hoppers accessed by a wide fill platform make refills simple and provide ample seeding capacity.

Its front-fold design folds to 11 feet 11 inches for transport. The Early Riser 1250 planter is monitored and controlled by an Early Riser monitor.



NEW FLAIL CONDITIONER FOR GRASS-TYPE HAY CROPS

Case IH DCX rotary disc mower conditioners are now offered with flail conditioning systems for more aggressive conditioning of grass-type hay crops. The free-swinging flails are tapered to be larger at the bottom rather than the top. They pick up the hay as it leaves the rotary discs and rub it together and against the conditioning board. This flail design is less abusive to the hay, and allows it to release at a higher trajectory and fall naturally.

The waxy layer on stems is removed



for faster release of moisture, and the hay sits on top of the stubble for better air-flow around the windrow.

Kits including a slow-speed rotor kit and a textured hood liner kit are offered to help meet specific

crop needs such as gentler or more aggressive crop handling.

The flail conditioning system is available on the DCX101 side-pull rotary disc mower with a 10-foot 4-inch cutting width and the DCX131 center pivot 13-foot model. Both are available with rubber on rubber or steel on steel roll conditioning systems.

PATRIOT 4420 SPRAYER TOP IN PERFORMANCE

An unequalled package of power, balance, product delivery systems and operator comfort combine to make the Case IH Patriot 4420 sprayer a top performer for any application.

The cab forward/rear engine configuration provides a quiet cab and 50/50 weight distribution for optimal traction in all condi-

tions. Its trailing link suspension design handles both vertical and horizontal field loads to maintain a smooth steady ride.

The 290-hp engine and 1,200-gallon product tank gives ample power and capacity to maintain speeds and spend more time spraying between refills.

Boom selections include widths of 90, 100

and 120 feet. All ride on a three-stage suspension system that reduces shock loads to the boom. Optional automatic boom height control helps maintain proper boom height.

Choose the optional AIM Command spray system to deliver the optimum droplet size by holding a constant spray pressure independent of rate and ground speed.



The Case IH Patriot 4420 is a highly productive sprayer. Boom selections include widths up to 120 feet.



Learn more in person or online

See your Case IH dealer for more details on how Case IH equipment can help you be a more efficient producer. You can also find more information and specifications at www.caseih.com.

EARLY RISER PLANTER WINS NO-TILL FARMER 'PRODUCT OF THE YEAR'

No-Till Farmer magazine, a publication written for growers who practice no-till farming methods, asked its readers to nominate the top three products that made the greatest impact in their no-till program in 2007. Nominations were scored on the basis of first-, second- and third-place votes to determine product rankings.

Case IH Early Riser planters earned the 2007 No-Till Product of the Year in the equipment category.

No-till growers report they selected the Case IH Early Riser planter system because it delivers consistent seed spacing, superior depth control and excellent seed-to-soil contact under a wide variety of conditions.

"That combination produces early, even emergence and higher yield potential, and provides real bottom-line advantages for farmers," says Alan Forbes, Case IH product marketing manager for planters.

Mark Vahling, a No-Till Farmer reader who farms near Newton, Illinois, says his Early Riser planter, "worked so well that we've found no need for coulters in front of the row units."

The winning products were announced during the magazine's 16th annual National No-Till Conference in Cincinnati.



Alan Forbes, right, Case IH product manager for planters, accepts the 2007 No-Till Product of the Year award from Darrel Bruggink, managing editor of No-Till Farmer magazine.

ALL THINGS FARMALL



This 85th anniversary year of the Farmall tractor has sparked renewed interest in these tractors that played a key role in the mechanization and expansion of North American agriculture.



There are many excellent resources for enthusiasts and collectors interested in learning more about the history of these special machines.

We've singled out four books, a magazine and a museum as being especially helpful; there are many more sources including the network of International Harvester Collectors Clubs at www.nationalihcollectors.com.

Four hardcover books rich in Farmall tractor photography and model details include *International Harvester Tractors 1955-1985* by Kenneth Updike (MBI Publishing), and three books from Voyageur Press: *Farmall, the Red Tractor that Revolutionized Farming* by Randy Leffingwell; *Farmall Regular and F-Series* by Oscar H. Will III and Todd Markle; and *The Field Guide to Farmall Tractors* by Robert Pripps.

Red Power Magazine is published bimonthly with the mission of covering all products and information related to International Harvester. Learn more at www.redpowermagazine.com.

Older tractors that were produced and/or any tractor without ROPS installed must not be used unless they are fitted with a Case IH approved ROPS. Contact your local dealer for information regarding availability and installation of approved ROPS on your tractor. Your life may depend on it.

Farmall-Land USA

Farmall tractor fans should put Farmall-Land USA on their "must see" list. After longtime Case IH dealer Jerry Mez sold his Avoca, Iowa dealership to the Titan organization in early 2008, he fulfilled his dream of turning his extensive tractor collection into a museum.

The result is more than 100 beautifully restored tractors, primarily Farmall models, displayed in a neat-as-a-pin indoor museum.

The many unique Farmall tractors include high clearance and industrial models, the rare 4300 four-wheel drive tractor, and 1468 and 1568 V8-powered tractors. Jerry's favorites are his three perfectly restored 1206 Farmalls. There's plenty of IH memorabilia and nearly 50 pedal tractors. Jerry's wife, Joyce, has her doll collection displayed in "The Tractor Widow's Lounge."

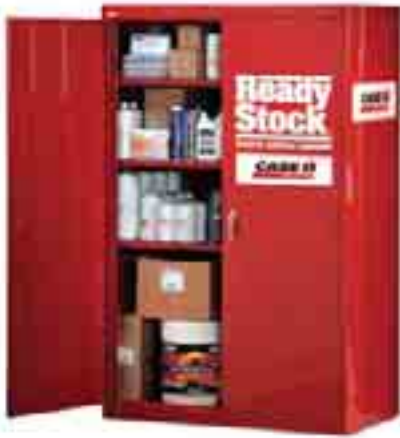


More than 100 restored Farmall tractors are displayed indoors at Farmall-Land USA in Avoca, Iowa.

Farmall-Land USA is near the intersection of Interstate 80 and Iowa Route 59 in Avoca, Iowa. It's open from April 12 through October 12. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday (closed Mondays). Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 5 to 12, children under 5 are free.

For more information call (712) 307-6806 or visit www.farmall-land-usa.com.





NEW READY STOCK PROGRAM PUTS CASE IH PARTS INVENTORY IN YOUR SHOP

A new Case IH program gives you the convenience of having an inventory of genuine Case IH parts in your shop and ready to use, saving you the time and the fuel expense of a parts run to your dealer.

Called the Ready Stock parts supply program, it features a red Ready Stock locker that resides in your shop. Your Case IH dealer will help you customize an inventory of filters, fluid and other parts and consumables to store in the locker, based on your equipment, your crops and the season.

Your dealer will periodically restock the locker to maintain adequate inventories. Payment terms can be customized to your needs, including paying when the items are consumed.



FARM FORUM ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

FIRST OWNER REPORT

A NEW VERTICAL TILLAGE TOOL MANAGES RESIDUES, PREPARES SEEDBED

Corn growers are facing new challenges. Accompanying the strong corn prices and high yields are record fuel and input costs, and massive amounts of tough hard-to-manage crop residues. This situation has farmers such as Orval and Reid Johnson of Prophetstown, Illinois, looking for new ways to maintain high yields while cutting input costs.

They're among the first growers to use a new Case IH soil management tool called the True-Tandem 330 Turbo. It's a unique new "vertical tillage" implement that uses Case IH-exclusive turbo vane blades that lift, size and mix soil and residues. Rolling basket crumblers level and firm the seedbed. Horsepower requirements are lower than more aggressive tools – 5 to 7 PTO hp per foot of width – and productivity is higher, thanks to recommended operating speeds of 8 to 10 mph.

The Johnsons, who farm with David Thormahlen as T&J Farms, put the True-Tandem 330 Turbo to work this spring. "It's taking weeds out better than we thought it would, and it incorporates soil and residues well," Orval reports. They see it playing a role in their move to a strip-till planting system.

You can read more about their experiences with this new vertical tillage soil management tool online at www.caseih.com/farmforum.



Reid and Orval Johnson.



Shallow-concavity turbo vane blades size and mix residues.



COMPARE CASE IH STEIGER TRACTORS AGAINST DEERE

Growers in the market for a new high-horsepower four-wheel drive tractor can see how Case IH Steiger tractors compare to Deere models in similar horsepower ranges in a new microsite. Go to www.advantagecaseih.com to see detailed comparison of all the current four-wheel drive tractors from Case IH and Deere. As the Web site name implies, the Steiger tractors have a lot to offer.

DOWNLOAD CASE IH IMAGES

In response to the many requests we had for the vintage Farmall tractor on the cover of the Winter 2008 issue of *Farm Forum*, we're offering that image as the first in a new series of downloadable images on www.caseih.com/farmforum. You can use these images however you wish.

Watch for more new features as the www.caseih.com/farmforum site evolves. As always, go to www.caseih.com for complete information about Case IH products and services.



You can download these two images at www.caseih.com/farmforum.



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