

Latest New Products From Major Manufacturers

Deere's "Biggest Product Launch Ever"

By Bill Gergen, Senior Editor

FARM SHOW recently traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico, along with other editors and thousands of Deere dealers from all over North America. We were there to get a look at what Deere described as the biggest new product launch in the company's 164-year history.

The new product line includes more than 50 new products, ranging from tractors and tillage equipment to planters, forage harvesters, cotton pickers, telehandlers, and more. You'll see most of them at farm shows and in dealer show rooms this fall.

Following are some observations made by Deere officials during the 2-day event.

- Deere currently has about 60 percent of the market for new tractors and combines sold in North America.

- Deere spends more than any other company on research and development. Last year the company increased spending by an additional 15 percent.

- Sometime next year, Deere is expected to introduce an automatic steering system in the \$10,000 range. Cutting-edge GPS-based automatic steering systems now on the market can cost \$40,000 to \$75,000. All of the company's new 8020 series tractors are engineered to be GreenStar ready.

- "Condition-based maintenance" is coming. That is, your equipment will automatically alert your dealer by wireless technology when it needs service so the parts can be ordered and ready when you need them. Dealer technicians will also be able to alert you to problems while the machine is still in the field.

- Map-based seeding. Deere's new map-based seeding allows you to change planter seeding rates on-the-go, according to a prescribed plan, without touching a button or controller in the tractor. The idea

is to take data from yield maps and soil tests to develop a seeding population map and load the information on a PC data card.

The system is now available for all 1700 series MaxEmerge Plus planters (except the 1780 rigid planter).

- More use of crop-based plastic. Combines delivered for the 2002 season will have body panels made from soy-based plastic.

Here's a brief summary of just-introduced equipment:

- The 9020 series line of 4-WD tractors gets a new high-end model as well as a third tracked machine. Deere says the two new 450 hp models - 9520 and 9520T - are the biggest on the market.

A new 18-speed powershift transmission lets you "bump shift" up two gears at a time when needed. There's also a "wire control" setting that allows you to dial in speed and let the tractor decide when to shift based on load factors.

- The new 8020 series of tractors provide a couple of innovations: The new "Active Seat" (also offered on the 9020 series) and Independent Link Suspension (ILS). The Active Seat system uses sensors to measure seat travel. The sensors are linked to an actuator and when you go over bumps the system automatically reduces excessive vertical movement of the seat. The result is a much smoother ride for the operator, allowing you to travel faster in some field conditions. Editors got a chance to compare the new seat with Deere's standard seat across the same rough terrain, and there was no comparison. The seat is available on wheeled tractors only and has a list price of \$1,850.

The ILS system is a true independent front suspension. This system improves handling



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1. Deere's new 9020 Series 4-WD's let you "bump shift" two gears at a time. 2. New "Active Seat" has electronic sensors that automatically provide a smooth ride. 3. Deere responded to the market by offering this back-to-the-basics 6003 open platform tractor with fewer bells and whistles. With 85 hp, suggested retail is \$30,942. 4. New suspension system in Deere 8020 Series reduces "Power Hop". 5. Deere says the telehandler market is heating up. 6. Deere's new 2100 min-till ripper has stabilizer wheels that ensure straight travel and add support.



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in the field, and significantly reduces power hop so you can cover more acres per day with less power loss. The new 8020 series includes five new models from 170 pto hp to 255 pto hp (Deere claims to offer the highest hp row crop tractor on the market). Each of the models - 8120, 8220, 8320, 8420, and 8520 - is offered in a track version as well.

- A new optional lighting package is also available on both the 9020 and 8020 series tractors that improves night visibility up to 350 percent. FieldVision lighting features high-intensity discharge Xenon bulbs that consume less power, and outlast halogen bulbs.

- Deere revamped its 6000 series line with

its new 6020 models. It also offers a mid-priced 6005 series with two models aimed at producers looking for a cab-equipped tractor at a competitive price. And it will now offer the 6003 series open-station machines for farmers who want a low-priced, basic machine.

The new 6020 series includes four models - 6120, 6220, 6320, and 6420. They range from 65 to 90 pto hp.

- The company also showed a new line of telehandlers. This market segment has been heating up in the last few years with Gehl, New Holland, Caterpillar, JCB, and others offering machines.

Case-IH Launches New Planter

Case-IH brought editors together from all over North America together earlier this summer to show off the company's new planter - the 1200 Advanced Seed Meter (ASM) in 12 and 16-row toolbars.

Geared to high-acreage farmers, the big planter sets a new standard in seed handling, according to the company, thanks to its 11.8-in. dia. vacuum-controlled seed disc that will plant seed of various sizes. "It will consistently and accurately place any size seed corn - even mixed grades," says Alan Forbes, Case-IH marketing manager for planters.

The planter still uses the time-tested Early Riser row units, and it's set up for variable-rate, on-the-go changing of seed population or fertilizer application rates. And because



New ASM planter places seed with Early Riser row units.

it uses three seed singulator spools, the ASM can plant different varieties of crops of similar size seeds with only one seed disc, including corn, beans, cotton, peanuts, sorghum, milo, sugar beets, and sunflowers.

To read more about new Case-IH products, go to www.caseih.com.

Axial Flow Turns 25

The first 300 Axial Flow combines rolled off the assembly line in 1977. Since then, more than 100,000 of the rotaries have been produced and the company plans to stick with the popular machine for the foreseeable future. The new 2300 Series has numerous

refinements including a standard hydraulic feeder reverser, increased fuel capacity (up to 180 gal.), new Kevlar belts and pulleys, fixed knife blades for straw chopper, sieve adjustment on the side of combine, new viewing doors, and many more.

Case-IH And New Holland To Remain Separate

Even though Case-IH and New Holland merged in 1999 to form CNH Global, the head of Case-IH in North America recently confirmed that the two companies will continue to maintain separate dealerships and marketing organizations. Many farmers

- and even some Case-IH dealers - have told FARM SHOW they don't think that will last. But Case-IH officials point out that if the two companies were merged, the net effect might be to weaken both brands.

Latest New Products From Kinze

Kinze Mfg. introduced a new bulk fill hopper for its center fold planters at the recent Farm Fest Show near Redwood Falls, Minn.

The hopper is available in 55-bu. capacity for the 12-row narrow planter and 85-bu. capacity for the 16-row model. Inside the hoppers, nylon-bristled adjustable speed augers slowly move seed to a PVC distribution manifold that runs the length of the hopper. The manifold feeds all rows through molded plastic drop collars. The manifold rotates to shut off distribution to the front rows when planting 30-in. rows. Two centrally-mounted hydraulic motors allow the operator to adjust auger speed to meet seed demand. A 12-row planter equipped with a 55-bu. hopper sells for about \$86,000.

The company also displayed a big, fast-unloading prototype auger wagon that has a capacity of 1,050 bu. It's equipped with a 20-in. dia. auger that can unload the entire wagon in only about two minutes. The Harvest Commander wagon is expected to be on the market by May 2002.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kinze Mfg., Inc., I-80 at Exit 216, Williamsburg,



Kinze's latest planter features a bulk hopper. Prototype grain cart, below, unloads its 1,050-bu. load in just 2 min.



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