

**Editor's  
Notebook**



**Scott Geyer**  
Editor &  
Publisher

there's still no official word on exactly who's behind the machines, he did include an assessment of what's happening inside them, such as the size and type of the separator fitted.

The first version was a graff harvester where no sieves were fitted, and the grain and chaff were collected together (along the lines of Bob McLeod's harvesters). The newer version is a broadly conventional combine harvester, with about an 86-in. drum width and probably eight straw walkers behind it.

As all the tires are underneath the separator, the whole machine is still just under 10 ft. wide for transport. Clearly, with such a wide drum, one of the design goals was to get more threshing capacity than any other conventional combine while reducing its transport width. That matters on Europe's increasingly busy roads and applies whether carried as a load on a truck or if traveling under its own power. In some parts of Europe, there are strict limits on the maximum width, height and length, plus total and axle weights, of agricultural vehicles on the road.

He also looked at why you might collect the chaff. Chaff collection has quietly been happening in parts of France for a few years, sometimes for cattle feed, sometimes for poultry litter, and sometimes to put in an anaerobic digester to produce methane, which is usable energy that can be sold while maintaining the nutrient cycle.

Energetic use is interesting, as at the average U.K. wheat yield of 8 t/ha (7,142 lbs./acre), around 1 2/3 t/ha (850 lbs.) of chaff might be expected, which could all go to a digester. The calorific value of the methane produced can also be expressed as a quantity of diesel of equal calorific value, such as the number of gallons per acre. Farmers worldwide can easily relate to those units of measure and understand the work they could do with that amount of energy.

In the case he figured, the number was almost 40 gals. (U.S.)/acre of diesel. Most U.K. farms will run much less fuel than that for their entire fieldwork.

He concluded that it could offer energy self-sufficiency for U.K. arable agriculture by using a by-product currently thrown back on the soil. Multiple technologies to achieve it already exist. In addition to anaerobic digestion to produce methane, the same feedstock could, by cellulosic fermentation, produce ethanol. In both cases, it needs to be done locally to minimize the transport costs of a bulky product and retain the necessary local nutrient cycles.

It's an interesting read. The original article can be found in their Harvest 2024 issue and is available for purchase on the Profi website: <https://shop.kelsey.co.uk/profi> or ph 888-777-0275).



**USPS 'Delivers' For Amazon**

Amazon has been using the United States Postal Service (USPS) to deliver a significant portion of its packages, saving millions or even billions of dollars in shipping costs. Their relationship has positioned Amazon as one of, if not the largest, customers of the USPS, substantially boosting the postal service's revenues.

The partnership allows Amazon to offer expedited shipping services at a reduced cost, particularly for its Prime members, who enjoy free 2-day shipping. By utilizing the USPS's extensive network and daily delivery capabilities, Amazon reportedly saves around \$2 to \$4 per package, a huge savings considering the volume of packages shipped each year.

The last mile of delivery is typically the most expensive for any business. Amazon's use of the USPS at discounted rates, including on Sundays, creates an imbalance in USPS revenue compared to expenses.

The USPS has a legal monopoly on mail delivery in the U.S. It's easy to see the result of the USPS shifting to package delivery to fill the void in letter mail. We all pay more and get less, with no real alternative.

This has been a major issue here at FARM SHOW. We use the USPS to send our issues and renewals and to promote our publication. The postage costs are not sustainable and out of control. Our cost to deliver issues is up more than 75 percent in the last 4 to 5 years. So, with a subscription rate increase on the way, we will also offer a reduced rate digital-only option for those who don't want to continue paying the post office. Stay tuned—more on that will come early next year. SG



Photo courtesy of profi.co.uk

**Euro Graff Harvester**

We recently spotted an article in Profi magazine written by longstanding FARM SHOW contributor Andrew Sewell. His report considers a couple of versions of a black 3-axle combine harvester (Vol. 48, No. 4) spotted in Europe. While

used multiple times, and can be rinsed clean in cold water. They're also strong. For example, the Mega Gusset bag holds up to 17 lbs. Soak them in boiling water to dissolve or toss them in the trash when they wear out.

All Solubag products can be made to order and white-labeled. For example, film bags used on ocean cruises can be made to dissolve in cold water, so if they go overboard, they quickly dissolve in the ocean.

"People want to avoid microplastics and keep them out of the ecosystem," Latham says. "All our clients have sustainability goals, and our products are a perfect fit. We truly believe the time is now, and the technology is here to address the plastic problem we've created."

Some cities have plastic-free initiatives in Florida, where orders are fulfilled. Solubag has fulfilled numerous orders. For example, some cities offer dog waste bags in city parks.

"We have certifications from globally recognized testing agencies on all our products," Latham says. "Our products contain no harmful chemicals or byproducts and are safe to ingest. We're currently performing research and development for several customers and anticipate numerous unique products in 2025. We distribute all over the world."

All products are on the website, and discounts are available for large orders.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Solubag, 317 NW 10th Terrace, Hallandale Beach, Fla. 33009 (ph 305-213-5331; [online@solubagusa.com](mailto:online@solubagusa.com); [www.solubagstore.com](http://www.solubagstore.com)).

**Start 'Em Young**

Jackson Page, East Hampton, N.Y., takes some time to read FARM SHOW while relaxing on a Farmall before getting back to work on his own garden tractor, a 1969 Ford 100 he uses for pulling. He's an avid reader and recently competed at a Long Island Antique Power Association event in Riverhead, N.Y.



**Liberty Quotes**

"Those who have been intoxicated with power, can never willingly abandon it." *Edmund Burke*

"Our society, unlike most in the world, presupposes that freedom and liberty are in a frame of reference that makes the individual, not government, the keeper of his tastes, beliefs and ideas. That is the philosophy of the First Amendment, and it is this article of faith that sets us apart from most of the nations in this world." *Justice William O. Douglas*

"We can guarantee cash benefits as far out and at whatever size you like, but we cannot guarantee their purchasing power." *Alan Greenspan*

"Dare to be honest and fear no labor." *Robert Burns*

"Tolerance is the positive and cordial effort to understand another's beliefs, practices and habits without necessarily sharing or accepting them." *Joshua Liebman*

**Sven and Ole heard so much about ice fishing that they decided to try it.** Just before they got to the frozen lake, they stopped at the bait shop to buy bait and tackle.

Sven said to Ole, "Vere going to need an ice pick." With their supplies, they headed off to the lake. After about two hours, Ole was back at the bait shop. "Vere going to need another dozen of dem ice picks," said Ole.

Ole took the ice picks and headed back to the lake to meet up with Sven. About an hour later, Ole and Sven both showed up back at the bait store. "Vere going to need all da ice picks you've got." The bait shop owner asked, "How are you fellas doing out there?"

"Not too good. We haven't even got da boat in da vater yet," said Sven.

**Ole walked into his bosses office and asked for a raise.** His boss told Ole that the markets are down, prices are up for materials and insurance, and that business overall was not good right now. "Vell, just so you know, der are three udder companies that really vant tew get dare hands on me," said Ole.

His boss, not wanting to lose Ole as an employee, says, "Ok, Ole I'll give you a 6 percent raise and one extra week of vacation per year. How does that sound?" Ole replies, "Tanks boss, dat sounds good."

As Ole was leaving the office his boss asked, "Just out of curiosity, who are the three companies that want to get their hands on you?" Ole replied, "Da electric company, mortgage company and da credit card company."



**Fabric bags come in different styles and sizes, can be used multiple times, and can be rinsed clean in cold water.**

**Eco-Friendly Bags Dissolve in Water and Landfills**

By Dee Goerge, Contributing Editor

Solubag® offers a solution for replacing plastic bags that crowd our landfills. Its products, such as dog waste bags, utilize a patented technology that allows them to dissolve in water, a landfill or a compost facility.

"There are no plastics or microplastics in any of our products," says Mike Latham, CEO of Solubag. "You don't have to change your behavior; you can throw the bag in the trash, and it'll dissolve harmlessly in the landfill. You can put our pet waste bags in a compost facility or landfill and be assured the bag breaks down in almost any environment."

Ordinary plastic bags take thousands of years to decompose and leave microplastics behind.

The four co-founders of Solubag first developed the patented technology in Chile. Today, Solubag sells detergent sheets, film bags, non-woven fabric bags and rigid components, all of which degrade in landfills or water.

The fabric bags come in different styles and sizes, can be