

New sugarcane harvester comes precision farming ready

As all sectors of the world economy have been compelled to seek greater efficiency in all phases of production, the release of the new Case IH Austoft 8000 series harvester could not be more timely. The new machine incorporates a range of improvements to increase productivity, maximise uptime and reduce maintenance during harvest.

Precision farming ready

Technology innovations include the first factory-installed data logger available in a cane harvester. All 8000 series harvesters are fitted with software to monitor and record harvesting parameters, and can be linked to specific operators, fields and varieties. The information can be downloaded to a flash card, allowing farmers to review and refine their harvesting practices.

“The AFS Pro 600 Monitor is standard equipment, allowing the operator to monitor and control the machines using a touch screen. It logs fuel use and displays engine load percentage, ensuring that the

machines can be kept at top productivity levels at all times,” says Stuart. “The monitor is portable, so you can use it across a range of Case IH Puma and later model Magnum and Steiger tractors as a performance monitor, ISO monitor and for guidance control.”

The harvesters are also AccuGuide ready. This means guidance can be controlled via a single monitor and planting guidance patterns can be transferred to the harvester for simple operation.

The latest Case IH auto guidance system will allow operators to set guidance paths from Google Earth Coordinates. This means the machine need not be in the field when the guidance lines are set up. Farmers and contractors can set up their guidance lines from their living rooms and they have the option of running multiple machines on the same guidance pattern.

Operator friendly

Increased productivity is to do with the output of both the machine and the op-

erator. The cab has been completely redesigned to offer improved visibility and reduced sound levels. It also offers new control technology to make the operator’s life that much easier.

“New left hand joystick control of steering and transmission speed on both wheel and track machines increases operator productivity, while the new cruise control feature will enable the operator to concentrate on the cane cutting much more closely,” says Stuart Brown, Case IH Marketing Manager. “The cab is also much bigger and we’ve even been able to include an instructor’s seat.”

The 8000 series’ simplified mechanics deliver more power and productivity while minimising maintenance. For example, the new cooling package removes trash caught in the screen and ejects it away from the harvester, further reducing maintenance requirements.

For more information contact your Case IH dealer. The 8000 series cane harvesters are available to order now. ■



You can't manage it until you can measure it – data loggers help growers to review and refine their harvest practices.