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CLAYDON

Press Release

New Twin-Tine Wet Weather option for Hybrid drills

Drill specialist Claydon, who lead the way in the development of the strip-seeding drilling system in the UK, has developed a new TWIN-TINE Wet Weather kit for the popular, market leading Hybrid drill. In addition, Claydon has also extended its range of tool bars for the Hybrid drill, giving users a wider range of options to ensure enhanced seed coverage and seed to soil consolidation.

The patented Claydon two-tine drilling system was originally designed to cope with all soil types and conditions, and over the 11 years since Jeff Claydon developed the system, Claydon drills have been successfully used throughout Europe.

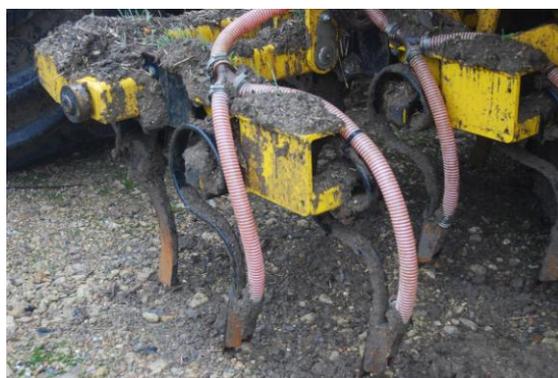
This autumn has proven particularly challenging for all drilling systems, and some have coped better than others. Thanks to the strip-till technique and the fact that the Claydon drill leaves an uncultivated strip between each seed row, this has helped support the tractor and drill and enabled drilling to continue in conditions where other drills have had to be parked up.

The fact that the Hybrid is also fully mounted and has no disc or packer wheels has also proved invaluable as this ensures excellent clearance and avoids the risk of blocking due to the build-up of mud in wet, sticky conditions.

On the Claydons' own heavy clay farm, using a 6.0m Hybrid drill, all 1200ha of cereals were drilled by the end of September in 150 tractor hours, going on to drill a total of 3700ha in around 500 tractor hours.

The new Twin-Tine Wet Weather kit has been introduced as part of the ongoing development of the Hybrid drilling system and to ensure that the Hybrid drill can be adapted to handle all soil types and weather conditions.

The original Dual-Tine system comprises a leading ground breaking tine with the second seeding tine following in line, distributing seed in a band. By comparison, with the new Twin-Tine Wet Weather kit the second seeding tine is replaced by two seeding tines which place the seed in a 30mm wide band running 75mm to each side of the slot created by the leading ground breaking tine.



The two seeding tines can be used over the same range of working depths as the conventional seeding tine and can be used for a wide range of seed types, including beans.

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The advantage of the new Twin-Tine Wet Weather system is that the two tines create a fine tilth to surround the seed, but also create a shelf onto which the seed is placed, ensuring rapid, even germination. Being alongside the central ground breaking slot, this still provides the plant's root system with unimpeded access to freely develop a strong, deep root structure. The narrow tine design ensures that the Twin-Tine Wet kit can operate in wet, heavy soils without smearing or pulling up large clods of soil and by ensuring that the seed slot is closed off, thus helping to reduce slug damage.

The new Twin-Tine Wet Weather kit can be used on all Claydon Hybrid drills and can be quickly and easily fitted to existing drills, so providing current users with complete flexibility.

With many growers also now looking at the option for spring crops, the Hybrid drill fitted with the Twin Tine Wet kit will prove an ideal means of establishment, as it will allow crops to be quickly and cost effectively drilled, without the need for costly cultivations, with a fine tilth created to surround the seed for quick germination and good early growth.

Extended range of tool bar options

In response to customer requests, and to overcome problems highlighted in last autumn's extremely difficult drilling conditions, Claydon has extended the range of tool bar options available for Hybrid drills.

Historically Claydon drills can be fitted with either batter boards to break down clods and provide good seed coverage, or spring harrow tines for wetter conditions.

Because Claydon drills are fully mounted, with no carrying or packer wheels to pick up wet soil and block the drill, this allows the drill to be used in more difficult conditions, especially this autumn.

To provide a wider range of seed covering options when working in more extreme drilling conditions, Claydon now offers the option of a second tool bar. This will allow combinations of seed covering options to be used for even better seed coverage, such as batter boards followed by spring harrow tines, or two sets of spring harrow tines for very wet conditions.

A further option is the availability of press wheels. Whilst Claydon don't recommend these for general soils, they are designed to ensure optimum moisture retention and good soil-to-seed contact on extremely light, sandy soils.

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