

Wheeled Harvesters

Some new introductions among some old favourites in our annual roundup

Gremo

The Gremo 1050H is suited both to thinning and final cutting. The eight-wheel design ensures excellent forward movement and ideal load distribution on both rough and soft ground. In addition tracks can be fitted on all bogies.

The automatically actuated bogie locks increase the stability of the 1050H. Other features include the low centre of gravity and a low turning radius. The 220 hp engine delivers 949 Nm at 1400 rpm, ensuring sufficient hydraulic force even when processing difficult trees.

The 1050H is designed to be service-friendly, and the cab is ergonomically designed with all displays and controls within comfortable reach.

The air-cushioned electrically heated driver's seat is released and locked by the push of a button next to the right-hand boom lever. The seat has various options including seat tilting or electrically/pneumatically adjusted side and seat cushions.

The cab is fitted with a display for the computer and the IQAN Experience control system. Other fittings include radio/CD player with four loudspeakers, rear mirror, first-aid kit, folding sun shade in front, cup holder, heating cabinet and paper holder.

In addition Gremo offer a well established service network.

Gremo 0046 73 442 52 25

HSM

The 405H1, H2 and H3 harvester designs from HSM are all available in both 8 and 6WD versions.

One of the most distinctive

points about the design of HSM harvesters is the ratio of the steering angle compared to the wheelbase dimensions. The 405H has a long wheelbase and a steering angle of 52 degrees giving excellent stability, and with a Loglift crane with a high tilting angle, working downhill as well as uphill is greatly facilitated.

The H1 model is designed for small- and medium-sized timber, ideal for thinnings.

Largest in the range, the H3 is designed for final felling and heavy thinning work.

HSM 0049 7944 91910

John Deere

All models in the John Deere range have now made their UK/Ireland debut. All E-Series machines incorporate off-line hydraulic filtration and an intelligent, fuel efficient reversible fan which maintains the cleanliness of the cooling system whilst also ensuring fuel efficiency.

The 1070E is available with a choice of three heads – the H754 and the new generation H412 and H414 models for increased stem handling and delimiting.

The 1170E represents a completely new size class of harvester and has proved very popular in Ireland in mixed thinnings and clearfell plantations. The machine is equipped with the new Deere CH6 parallel boom and also new axles incorporating a new 24.5 size tyre and wheel. The 1170E also uses the H414 harvesting head, the first of a new generation of Deere harvesting heads, offering a cutting capacity of 620mm and 27kN feeding force. It is likely that the 1170E will replace most of the current



New from Ponsse, the 8WD Fox is an ideal thinnings machine.

1070 population in the UK as well as tempting those customers with 1270 machines who favour thinning operations.

Under the E-Series guise, the 1270 has undergone major changes. Equipped with the new CH7 boom and with increased engine and tractive power John Deere UK feels it is likely that the 1270E will buck the trend of recent years in Britain where contractors have favoured the larger XL size class of harvester.

The 1470E is suited for demanding sites and steep slopes. It boasts a 210kNm lifting force and 55kNm slewing force on its 11m boom, whilst the balanced bogie system enhances access over difficult terrain. Both the 1270E and 1470E harvesters can be equipped with the new H480C harvesting head.

All of the new Deere harvesters incorporate the new E-Cabin, the new control system aligned to the TimberOffice software suite and TimberLink machine monitoring and optimisation software.

John Deere 01228 574055

Logset

The Titan range from Logset consists of three models, able to deal with everything from thinnings to heavy clearfells.

Designed for thinnings and smaller clearfelling, the 5H is now also available with the bigger Loglift L220V.

Weighing 18 tonnes and powered by a Sisu 74 CTA engine, the 6-wheel 8H is a clearfell harvester with sufficient power and stability for demanding conditions. Logset are particularly proud of its good fuel economy.

One of the biggest purpose-built harvesters on the market, the 10H has, say Logset, the strongest crane on the market – a big advantage when cutting big, heavy trees. With the double work pumps and high engine torque it is possible to work using full capacity of both the harvesting head and crane simultaneously.

The high capacity fuel tanks of 550 litres, or 800 litres on the 10H, extends the fuel filling intervals. Low-emission Sisu engines, with electronically controlled fuel injection, optimise the output according to the load. The engine, combined with the efficient hydraulic system, manages fuel consumption very efficiently.

In operation the cabin moves with the front part of the machine allowing the driver a good view over the working area.

S England & Wales 01550 721641

N England/Scotland & Ireland

01228 792500

Ponsse

Ponsse harvesters are suitable for all harvesting, from initial thinning to heavy final felling. Good engine and hydraulic efficiency at low rpm means, among other things, reduced fuel consumption, less



(Left) Gremo's 8WD 1050H is ideal in thinning and final felling. (Right) The 8WD 405H2 from HSM.



(Left) Set to reverse the trend towards larger harvesters? The John Deere 1270E. (Right) The H-10 prototype from Rottne, pictured at last year's Elmia show.

operating noise and better performance in handling larger trees. The optimised balance reduces vibration and ensures a solid and steady feel to the controls. This improves productivity, especially in demanding conditions, such as difficult terrains with big trees.

The efficient hydraulics enable quick and simultaneous harvester head and crane movements, which allow for accelerated handling of small and medium-sized stems. The feed power for large stems is also high when the crane is moving, which makes delimiting more efficient.

The latest additions to the lineup include eight-wheeled harvesters designed for use on demanding terrain – the Fox for thinning sites and soft soil and the Ergo 8W for slopes.

The Bear is ideal for processing large wood or dealing with clearfell harvesting.

The Ergo, fitted with an economical Mercedes-Benz engine and a two-circuit hydraulic system, is straightforward to maintain. The

Ergo 8W can be equipped with balanced bogies. The surface pressure generated by the machine is lower than that of a six-wheel machine, ensuring better carrying capacity on soft soil. It is also more comfortable on slopes and soft terrain.

The Beaver can handle many different harvesting jobs, from the densest thinning to the heaviest final felling. The hydraulic capacity and the crane strength are particularly high for its size class, and combine with the stability provided by the low rigid frame to form a complete package.

The new Fox carries its crane close to the cabin to improve visibility. The eight wheels make the machine solid, and even working on slopes is comfortable. With the machine's low surface pressure, the Fox is also suited for soft logging sites.

Ponsse 01576 203000

Rottne

With three models in their range, and another on the way, Rottne offer a machine for every situation.

Smallest in the range, the H-8

is powered by a highly responsive 4-cylinder tier 3 diesel engine, reducing vibration, noise levels and fuel consumption.

An ideal thinnings machine, the H-8 features a narrow and compact chassis with an overall width of just over 2m and a pendulum arm system that improves the weight distribution and stability of the machine so that felling and processing can be performed at full reach, even to the side. The whole machine weighs just 8.5 tonnes.

The 6WD H-14 has a single rear axle and a front portal bogie that ensures excellent ground clearance. Designed for work in both thinnings and final clearfell, standard reach is 10 metres, with an optional boom extension to 12 metres.

Largest in the range, and designed for heavy final felling, is the H-20. The 6-cylinder engine with 4-valve technology, variable turbocharge and common rail injection ensures high torque, providing excellent response when a rapid power output is required. The load-sensing hydraulic system with large

oil capacity gives the loader and head very smooth and fast movement with a minimum of energy consumption.

All Rottne machines feature spacious operator cabs with large windows, seats with air suspension and well thought out control panels.

An optional rear vision system with a camera mounted on the back of the cab gives the operator a better all-round view. When reversing, pictures from the camera are automatically displayed on the D5 display.

Rottne's latest development, the H-10 harvester which was first seen in prototype form during the Elmia Wood 2009, should be going into full production at some time in 2011. Some notable features include a narrow 8WD chassis, long reach crane and different head options. The H-10 should prove to be a very interesting machine for the UK.

Rottne UK 01556 612233

Silvatec

In comparison with other harvesters, Silvatec's Slepner's reduced height and low centre of gravity make it



(Left) Designed for thinnings and smaller clearfelling, the 5H from Logset. (Right) Silvatec's Slepner is available in four models.



Valmet's light heavyweight, the 931.

stable and easy to manoeuvre in the forest, while still retaining excellent ground clearance.

The Mercedes-Benz 906 engine gives excellent fuel economy combined with long service intervals for maximum utilisation and productivity. Crane technology comes from Loglift, and there are separate hydraulic pumps for both the crane and harvester head. The machine is fitted with 10 gas discharge lamps with reduced power consumption, and increased output supplying optimum working light.

The Sleipner is capable of a variety of different tasks, from first thinning on bogs to large clearfell on steep slopes. Featuring large rounded windows, which give the driver a perfect view through 360°, the spacious cab is an ideal working environment.

An IQAN central control computer can be used to access control of the complete machine including the crane.

The Sleipner can be fitted with either Silvatec's 450 harvesting head for thinnings and premature clearfells, or the 560 harvesting head for clearfells and thinning in bigger trees. Both heads are equipped with the Parker IP saw motor for optimum cutting speed with no over-revving of the motor.

The machine is fitted with a Windows based measuring system, TM 2200, which, with the triangular measuring of the diameter, gives high accuracy.

The Sleipner is available in four variations – Light, Standard, Mountaineer, and BOSS. The BOSS, an acronym for Bogie Optimised Stability System, is a unique system where each of the four bogies has a hydraulic cylinder, electronically controlled by the IQAN system. The system has a separate valve block for each bogie, and each bogie can be individually controlled if required.

This gives the BOSS extreme hill climbing capabilities.

Ronnie Curran 07825 894768

Tigercat

In late 2009 Tigercat completed the prototype 1135 harvester, shipping it to Sweden where it underwent intensive product testing throughout the winter with a number of harvesting contractors. After a successful round of testing and machine demonstrations, Tigercat AB, based in Hede, Sweden, has retained the machine.

The 1135, powered by a 170 kW (228 hp) Mercedes 906 engine with dedicated pumps for the drive, harvesting head and crane functions, replaces the Tigercat H09, falling into a specialised harvester class. According to CTL product manager Jon Cooper, the 8-wheel drive machine, "Is specifically designed to manoeuvre between forwarding rows in tightly spaced first thinning stands, dramatically increasing forwarder row spacing and residual stand quality."

In order to achieve this the

machine has powerful steer cylinders, a tight turn radius, perfect wheel tracking, bogie lift and ample ground clearance.

The Tigercat-designed and built parallel linkage crane has a 9.3m reach achieved with a 2m telescope. The crane base is equipped with fore/aft levelling to maintain powerful slewing capability in uneven terrain and also has a side tilt function that allows the operator to reach around standing trees.

The curved windscreen of the operator's cab provides unimpeded upward visibility and extended side and rear windows create a clear sight line to the wheels and the ground, all important when operating in-stand. All controls are ergonomically positioned to minimise operator fatigue. Constant temperature climate control and isolation mounting further contribute to the working environment. The 270° rotating seat provides ease of entry and exit.

The cooling system uses a hydraulically driven, automatic, variable speed fan for optimal fuel efficiency in cold operating environments.

Treetop Forestry 07768 613036

Valmet

Smallest in the range from Valmet, the 901.4 is available in 4WD and 6WD options and is ideal in thinnings. The 66 CTA 6-cylinder engine develops 800Nm at 1500 rpm.

Launched late in 2009, the 901TX (Thinnings eXpert) is, say Valmet, among the lightest thinning harvesters on the market. This low weight, combined with its high ground clearance and low ground pressure, makes for a very manoeuvrable machine that leaves little impact on the environment. Other features include Valmet's unique

Comfort bogie, larger size tyres and a choice of either a 10- or 11-metre boom.

Also launched in 2009, the 6WD 931 uses 4-valve engine technology to provide increased power and improved fuel economy. The CRH22 boom allows precise movement even at full reach. Other features include a heavy-duty rear axle design, soft-sealed couplings throughout and spacious and extremely quiet operator cab.

For thinning or final logging the 6WD 911.4 offers 22% more tractive effort than its predecessor, which, combined with the Comfort bogie, delivers optimum performance and manoeuvrability in steep terrain and on soft or wet ground. The unique boom placement near the cab means the operator always has a perfect view of the head directly in front and the best possible overview of the work area.

Largest in the range, the 941.1 has been designed to handle final felling in dense forests. Much of the 941's muscle comes from its powerful 84 CTA common rail turbo-diesel engine. Maximum torque is reached at a low engine speed – 1300Nm at 1500 rpm – ensuring both high performance and fuel economy. The heavy-duty boom and head are proportioned to take on large diameter stems in difficult conditions and, despite their size, are surprisingly easy to manoeuvre.

All models in the range feature MaxiXplorer, Komatsu's integrated system for machine and head control with operator-specific settings for head, boom and machine functions, and all offer new and larger cabs with better visibility and much more headroom.

Komatsu Forest 01228 792018



The new 8WD 1135 from Tigercat.