



PRESS RELEASE

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NEW STANDEN-PEARSON 'SP Series' POTATO PLANTER

An all new range of STANDEN-PEARSON single-bed planters is announced this week by ELY manufacturer Standen Engineering Ltd. Identified as the 'SP Series', the new planters feature many enhancements aimed at improving planting performance, with even gentler seed handling, simplified operation and maintenance.

Standen design and development engineers, consulting with growers across the UK, have completed final testing and refinement of the SP planter during 2005 under a variety of conditions with excellent results. SP Series planters will be available for 2006 planting, as 2-row, 3-row and 4-row Quad models.

Upper rollers on cup belt drives are much larger diameter, reducing the speed at which cups change direction on their journey to the openers, lessening the associated 'flicking' action and possible chit breakage.

SP planters will also feature a new 'Auto-Depth' system for more accurate planting depth control. With geometry offering an ideal 1-1 movement ratio between the hydraulic ram and furrow opener depth, the new system offers smoother operation, increased sensitivity (adjustable), and a more consistent planting depth across the field.

Moving hopper floors (for gentle chit handling) are a popular STANDEN planter hallmark, these will again be part of the specification. The SP Series planters do away with electric clutch drive engagement, replaced by sensor activated hydraulic motor drives for hopper floor belt movement. Reduced maintenance and enhanced long term reliability are envisaged.

A completely new chassis affords greater clearance, enables adjustments to be made more easily, and has allowed engineers to specify bigger wheels. The larger wheels (7.5 x 16) improve clearance and provide a superior rolling radius for planter operation on soft or wet soils.

Soil flow through the planter has been improved with re-designed stainless steel side shields, these are now fully floating and provide enhanced soil retention. Further helping to improve soil distribution in the bed, an adjustable centre divider is an addition to the specification.

At the rear of the planter, there's a new (optional) multi-adjustable stainless steel bed or ridge forming hood. Complete with a new mounting system, the hood is attached by parallel linkage arms to innovative rubber suspension units. Simpler than previous designs, and offering more progressive adjustment with consistent pressure loading, this has proven successful, producing very uniform rows and beds.

With such a broad range of enhanced abilities, the new STANDEN-PEARSON SP Planter range offers growers improvements to every aspect of planter performance. STANDEN has taken their market leading planter and refined a successful formula, offering professional growers the best range of planting abilities available anywhere.

Photograph attached:
(STANDEN-PEARSON SP POTATO PLANTER during final testing)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PRESS RELEASE
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