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Machinery Cereals preview

As well as providing a shop window for manufacturers and service providers, the Cereals Event, taking place on 15 and 16 June, also offers a wealth of free advice and information. *CPM* looks at what's on show this year.

By Mick Roberts

Time invested in researching the latest trends and innovations is seldom wasted. So although returns from arable farming may be poor, a visit to Cereals this year could provide the answer to how to increase yields, combat weeds, improve soil fertility and health or find how the latest machines could help improve efficiency.

Cereals remains the UK's premier show, and returns to the familiar site at Chrishall Grange, near Duxford, Cambs. According to the 500 exhibitors likely to attend, there'll be

much to see, and some of this will be for the first time in the UK.

New techniques, such as cover cropping or field-mapping with drones will doubtless dominate many arable farmers' conversations, while others will seek improvements on conventional solutions. Whatever the system, there's still a need to renew or update equipment, and increased accuracy is a sure way to help save money and boost profit.

The new Argus Twin system for the Amazone ZA-TS spreader, for example, provides constant monitoring of the fertiliser distribution pattern using radars above the spinning discs. These check whether the pre-determined throw for the material type, application rate and width is correct and if not, automatically adjusts the settings to compensate.

Kuhn's latest Axis .2 fertiliser spreaders have larger hopper capacities and a new chassis to carry heavier loads. There are four models in the range, providing spreading widths from 28-50m and capacities from 1000 litres to 4200 litres.

All are equipped with EMC (Electronic



Mass Control), which meters fertiliser flow by measuring each spreading disc's drive torque. The fertiliser flow from each disc is constantly measured and automatically adjusted to maintain the correct application rate across the machine's entire spreading width.

Wider row setting

Mzuri will be exhibiting its recently updated Pro-Til Select 6T, 6m wide strip-till drill, which can be operated at both 35cm and 70cm row widths. This, says the firm, enables users to select the wider row setting to maximise light penetration through the crop, which it adds, results in healthier and bushier plants with higher yields.

The latest Select 6T and the Pro-Til 4T models at Cereals will also be fitted with the