

Time Saving Baron

Contractor says Bale Baron
slashes work time,
labour units



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Time Saving Baron

Contractor says Bale Baron slashes work time, labour units



Photos courtesy of Matte Ford, a local North Canterbury Contractor who also runs the 4245P Bale Baron.

Canterbury agricultural contractor Simon Reed has slashed the time he spends stacking conventional bales for transport by more than 85 percent with his new Bale Baron 4245T bale accumulator.



Simon and his wife Jane's business, Riverfields, is located in central Canterbury. They have bases in Rakaia and Kirwee, and provide specialised agricultural contracting services to the large arable farming community and their markets.

He purchased the Bale Baron 4245 T bale accumulator last October after employing a contractor who had operated one. Prior to that, Simon and his team used an old tow-behind accumulator and stacked all their bales into trucks and trailers by hand.

After seeing another contractor using the Bale Baron, we were impressed with the efficiency of the machine.

"After seeing another contractor using the Bale Baron, we were impressed with the efficiency of the machine" Simon says.

"It is the only method I have come across that handles a large number of small bales accurately in a short time period, and with such a small number of staff involved. That is the key.

"In the past it has always been a battle dealing with large numbers of conventional bales. The Bale Baron has turned that around and brought an efficiency level into the operation that is transport ready. It is directly ready for freight."

Whereas previously, up to four people would spend three-and-a-half hours stacking 800 bales on a truck and trailer, with the 4245 T bale accumulator the same job now takes two staff members just 25 minutes to complete.

"We produce about 40,000 bales per year through the Bale Baron for ourselves and large-scale customers, so it is a huge time saving for all of us," Simon says.

"The other major box it ticks is that our old method was no longer health and safety compliant. Now we meet health and safety standards."

The Bale Baron operates in four main stages designed to improve efficiency, save time and virtually eliminate wasted space inside a truck or trailer.

Each bale is gently lifted in the paddock by vertical rollers, placed on a belt and conveyed to the rotary table, where a perforated turntable rotates each bale into position.

The two-stage injector pushes each bale into the chamber. It gathers three bales into a stack, and then a plunger pushes them into the chamber plunger to form a bundle. The bundle is then tied together and knotted with a plastic twine and using a 4 string Rapspe knoter.



The other major box it ticks is that our old method was no longer health and safety compliant. Now we meet health and safety standards.



Once the bundle is ejected, it can be loaded directly into a truck or trailer. When stacked from floor to ceiling it maximises a trailer load to nearly 800 bales in one shipment. A complete truck-and-trailer unit can be fully loaded in less than an hour without touching a bale.

"We operate a new baler in front of our Bale Baron and we chose the trailed accumulator model as it means one man can go out with a tractor and do the whole job with total control over the standard of processing," Simon says.

"The bales stay airborne right through the process, which is a very important aspect for us, particularly with lucerne, as it keeps the dust and dirt out of the bale."

The Bale Baron is a robust, well-built and simple machine which Simon believes is ideal for processing the large number of bales produced in Canterbury. Those bales are transported all around the country not only by Riverfields, but also its customers. ■

Simon purchased the Bale Baron from NC Equipment in Amberley. Interview shared by the Rural Contractor.

For more information about the Bale Baron machines call **NC Equipment** on **0800 908 908**

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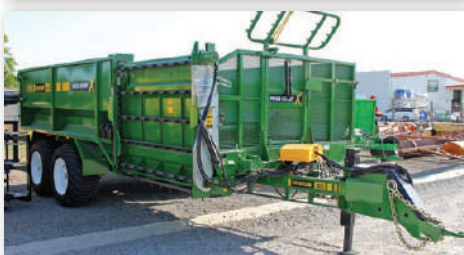
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Team Focus

Meet Leon Webb

Leon joined NC Equipment 3 years ago, taking on a sales role in our parts department and showroom.

He has an extensive knowledge in the automotive and agricultural Industry, having held high level parts sales positions in his past employments. His latest choice of employment has come from being able to be closer to home and his family.



Leon has been a local of Balcairn for several years now along with his wife and son, where he raises sheep and beef on his lifestyle property outside his regular working hours.

Leon's passions include fly-fishing and currently mastering the craft of beer making.

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Agrisem Demo Day

When: 18 - 20 March 2020

Where: TBC

- All Welcome
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When: Saturday 21 March 2020 | 8am - 5pm

Where: The Show Grounds, Hawarden

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When: Saturday 4 April 2020

Where: The Show Grounds, Oxford

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When: Friday 1 May 2020

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