Trashcutter offers great solutions

TRASH flow was a major issue for farmer Reece Curwen which has been significantly improved with the K-Line Trashcutter.

That season Mr Curwen’s 10,500 hectare mixed farming operation at South Stirling will involve 7000ha of crop and 19,000 Merinos and Poll Dorset crossbred ewes.

He usually dedicates about 70 per cent of the enterprise to cropping and 30 per cent to sheep.

Mr Curwen bought the Trashcutter from Kojonup Agricultural Supplies three years ago and said it has saved him a great deal of time and stress.

“What we do during harvest is really important when it comes to seeding,” Mr Curwen said.

“Because we are only 30 kilometres from the coast, we are often not harvesting in ideal conditions, so sometimes straw comes out of the header like wise and doesn’t spread well, resulting in some really heavy spots.”

Mr Curwen said these areas of straw were delaying seeding as the seeder kept blocking and after having used the Trashcutter for two seasons, both seeding and harvest are faster and more efficient.

“The Trashcutter provides us with insurance and confidence against bad trash flow at seeding time,” he said.

The advanced design of the Trashcutter lays the stubble to one side as the sharp disc can cut it into short lengths.

When in use, the machine’s weight rests on the discs to ensure sharp cutting and it balances itself according to soil type and turbulence.

Mr Curwen said he has mainly used the Trashcutter on his cereal stubbles.

Another feature of the Trashcutter is that the discs can be angled for shallow working of the soil, encouraging weed germination for spraying and Mr Curwen has found the angled discs to be useful for putting out fines.

The machine is also available for hire in surrounding areas of South Stirling.

For more information about the K-Line Trashcutter, call Kojonup Agricultural Supplies on 9831 1022.

Speedtiller boosts soil quality

KOJONUP grower Mark Blewett was awarded a $5000 travel voucher from K-Line Agriculture after purchasing the K-Line Speedtiller from Kojonup Agricultural Supplies.

Mr Blewett owns 1500 hectares with 50 per cent of his program going to cropping canola, wheat and barley and the other 50 per cent for livestock with 200 head of cattle of mixed breeds and 2500 sheep.

His interest in the Speedtiller was sparked when he started looking for a way to combine straw into his soil to improve the soil quality, as well as seeking an alternative to burning stubble.

“I wanted to incorporate the stubbles into the soils to improve the soils organic matter,” Mr Blewett said.

“I also think you get better water retention with it and it’s a great strategic tool for weed management.”

Before we get the Speedtiller we were mostly burning stubbles, but I try to avoid doing that because it can do more harm than good sometimes, such as increasing non-wetting soils, reducing water infiltration and a loss in nutrients.

Mr Blewett has been using the Speedtiller for about one month with contracting work at Orchard Valley and is looking forward to using it more on his farm.

He also plans to use the Speedtiller to incorporate lime and manure from his feedlot which will speed up the process in getting the lime and other nutrients down to the root zone, saving years of waiting for the lime to kick in.

More information: Call Kojonup Agricultural Supplies on 9831 1022.

K-LINE TRASHCUTTER

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K-LINE SPEEDTILLER POWERFLEX

THE K-LINE SPEEDTILLER POWERFLEX WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT WAGIN WOOLORAMA AT THE KOJONUP AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES SITE

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