

# VALTRA TEAM

VALTRA

+ N113 HiTech  
**Ideal for everything  
from field work to  
game management**  
page 16

+ T Series  
**Ease of use  
and maintenance**  
page 14

+ Farmflo  
**Innovative  
software for  
EU-paperwork**  
page 11

New T Series

# A TRACTOR DESIGNED AROUND THE DRIVER

page 3, 6, 12 and 14



## EDITORIAL



**R**ead any of the farming press at the end of November and early December, or turn the pages of this magazine, and it will become apparent that once again Valtra has launched another range of world beating tractors – The fourth generation T Series of six cylinder machines.

Fourth generation T Series is a new model range from 155hp to 250hp with the familiar yet upgraded Valtra Direct and Versu transmissions. Importantly, responding to your feedback, Valtra has also introduced a new Active transmission range, read further for more information.

Initially, fourth generation T Series arrives on the scene alongside the now familiar third generation T Series giving Valtra a world beating selection of tractors in the six cylinder T Series power bracket. Add this to the six cylinder S Series, the three and four cylinder N Series and the three cylinder A Series and it is easy to see Valtra now has a world beating range of tractors.

First public showing of the new T Series will be at the LAMMA Show in January moving across to Ireland for the FTMTA Farm Machinery Show in early February. We look forward to seeing you at one of these events and showing what this new range of tractors can offer you.

Find out more soon either at your local Valtra dealer or by contacting us at [www.valtra.co.uk](http://www.valtra.co.uk) or by phoning 0044 (0)247 685 1202.

Mark Broom  
NATIONAL SALES MANAGER

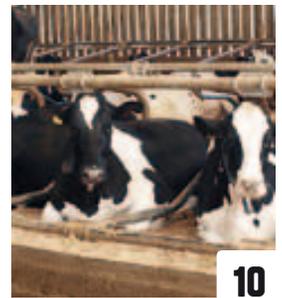


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## SCANDINAVIAN DESIGN JUST GOT SOME BALLS

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## YOUR WORKING MACHINE

Brand new cab for the T Series

Innovation

Window in front of roof

Powerful LED work lights

Front windscreen wiper covers 270 degrees

Electrically heated front and rear screens

Factory-fitted reversing camera

## BEST VISIBILITY EVER

The cab on the new T Series offers the driver unsurpassed visibility. The front and rear screens are electrically heated, keeping them clear in cold weather. The front windscreen is kept clear of rain by a wiper that covers 270 degrees and there are additional wipers on the side and rear windows. A further window in the front of the roof helps when working with front loaders, while

the optional forest cab has a window at the rear of the roof. Working in the dark is facilitated by LED work lights and there is a dimmable display panel. Factory-fitted parking cameras provide additional visibility – one to the rear and one positioned wherever the driver requires to ease the task being performed. •

[valtra.co.uk](http://valtra.co.uk)

# NEWS



The New Valtra is bold and modern, meeting even more customer demands.

## A NEW IMAGE FOR VALTRA

**A**s can be seen elsewhere in this issue of Valtra Team Valtra has created a new brand image. Most obvious are changes in appearance but underneath the skin there are many other important changes. Valtra is now even bolder and more modern, meeting customers requirements even more closely. Valtra's new approach is reflected in everything Valtra does, from product design and manufacturing to the service provided by the local sales organisation.

Valtra's new customer pledge, "Your Working Machine", was launched globally at the unveiling of the new T Series at the beginning of November. "Your" describes Valtra's way of working close to the customer, tailor making each tractor to meet individual customer needs. "Working" describes Valtra's expertise and cus-

tomers support in the toughest working conditions, from the heat of Brazil to the freezing conditions of the far North. "Machine" in turn describes the importance of the tractor itself and its reliability, power and versatility.

The fourth-generation T Series is the first demonstration of Valtra's new product image. By combining the Scandinavian design heritage with this new brand promise, a product has been created that will continue to strengthen Valtra's competitiveness, leading the way for the development of other products.

This fresh, updated corporate image combined with a new approach to communications and operations promotes Valtra as a dynamic, modern company, meeting customer demands and expectations with individual, innovative and reliable solutions. •

### TWO SILVERS IN TRACTOR PULLING

Valtra tractors took silver in the European Tractor Pulling Championships and the Euro Cup. Altogether eight Valtra tractors competed in the Pro Stock class of this year's Euro Cup. A new entry this year was Tyra from Norway.

The Next Sensation team from the Netherlands took silver in the Euro Cup. The European Championships were held at the end of August in Bouconville, France, where Countdown from Sweden took silver. Six of the top ten Pro Stock tractors at the European Tractor Pulling Championships were Valtras.

### SOFTWARE UPGRADES FOR SMALL N SERIES MODELS

Valtra has introduced software upgrades for its three-cylinder N Series models, the N93 and N103. The upgrades improve the tractors' performance in several areas, for example increasing lower end torque considerably by raising the engine speed when pulling off.

In addition, the small N Series models are now available with a front PTO from Valtra's Unlimited Studio.

### PINK CAT GETS ATTENTION

The Young Farmers of Finland showcased at their events a specially equipped N163 Director tractor from Valtra's Unlimited Studio to mark their "passion" theme year. The tractor, dubbed "Pink Cat", features bright pink taping, lots of chrome highlights, red leather upholstery, special LED work lights, a DVD player, a tablet computer, a GPS system and a breath alcohol ignition interlock.

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Valtra is a worldwide brand of AGCO



Gareth Jones, Valtra Regional Manager; Shane Darch, Sales Manager, Alan Snow and Diane Snow.

## NEW VALTRA DEALER FOR SOUTH WEST ENGLAND

TEXT AND PHOTO ROGER THOMAS

Valtra have appointed Alan Snow Agricultural Engineers Ltd of Sutcombe near Holsworthy dealers for North Devon and Cornwall. Established in 1982 by **Alan Snow** in partnership with his wife **Diane** the business moved into their Sutcombe premises in 1989 and later established a branch at Blackwater near Truro. Valtra tractors, along with other AGCO products will be sold from these two outlets.

Having developed the business from simple beginnings, today Alan oversees service operations at the company's branches while tractor sales are managed by **Shane Darch**. Valtra Sales Support comes from a staff of 17 in-

cluding technicians, parts personnel and apprentices spread over the various branches and Alan's wife Diane oversees business operations in the office.

"We decided to take the Valtra tractor franchise because they have that useful combination of high quality, customer choice and competitive pricing," comments Alan. Valtra also have some unique features useful to farmers in the South West including a wide range of transmissions, TwinTrac, reliable fuel efficient engines and excellent manoeuvrability.

Alan Snow Ltd may be contacted on 01409 261425 (Sutcombe) and 01872 562742 (Truro). •

## AND IN SOUTH WEST SCOTLAND

In West and East Central Scotland Valtra have appointed the Hamilton Ross Group with depots at Renfrewshire, Ayrshire, Argyllshire and Clyde Valley. The Group, are regarded as one of Scotland's leading suppliers of Agricultural, Groundcare, Construction, Garden Power Machinery and Animal Health Products.

"We are all very excited about this development," says Managing Direc-

tor **Eric Gardiner**. "There has been no dedicated Valtra dealer in our West Central Scotland territory for some considerable time. Now we can offer customers a greater choice of prestigious farm machinery, plus give current Valtra tractor owners the level of service and support they deserve".

Established in the 1930's, Hamilton Ross Group employs over 120 staff, and operates from 4 strategically

located depots. The company recently embarked on an ambitious £1 million expansion programme at their Bishopston Headquarters, creating a purpose built 5,000sq ft Agricultural Workshop and Diagnostic Room equipped with state-of-the-art technology, the Group increased their fleet of mobile service vehicles to 16 plus 2 HGV's to further improve customer support. •



### JAMIE WARNER APPOINTED SALES SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Jamie, from a Gloucestershire farming family has been part of the AGCO organisation for almost a year working as a Technical Specialist in Africa, Russia and Ukraine. Prior to the EAME posting Jamie had several years experience working for Jaguar Landover on Sales Support where he was responsible for training and product launches throughout the UK and wider locations.

Jamie will be working closely with Valtra dealers in the UK & Ireland to ensure demonstrations, training, shows, factory visits and product launches are carried out to a high standard. He will also assume management of the Valtra demonstration fleet working closely with Valtra Area Sales Managers and the central demonstration and show fleet at national events.



New T Series

# BUILT AROUND YOU

TEXT TOMMI PITENIUS  
PHOTO VALTRA ARCHIVE

**This new tractor series  
has been designed from  
the ground up on a clean  
sheet of paper.**



**T**he Valtra T Series has now reached its 4th generation, not with a facelift but with a completely new tractor. This new tractor series has been designed from the ground up on a clean sheet of paper.

“Initially we are introducing the Direct, Versu and Active models. The HiTech 5 model will be introduced in the summer of 2015 along with certain features such as the forest cab,” says project manager **Henry Palonen**, who oversaw the design and engineering work on the new T Series.

The most powerful model in the new T Series produces an impressive 1 000 Nm of torque and 250 hp with boost, providing ample power for even more demanding tasks. Still, considering its power, the tractor is agile and relatively light: the turning radius is just 5,25 metres, even with a front loader or linkage. The gross weight with full fuel tanks is 7.3 tonnes. The ground clearance is a tremendous 60 centimetres, while the 2995-millimetre wheelbase provides stability on the road.

Before launching the new T Series has underwent tens of thousands of hours of testing plus countless laboratory tests. For example, the forward-reverse shuttle was operated 10,000 cycles at an engine speed of 1900 rpm. The tractor is reliable, easy to use and inexpensive to operate.

#### **Head-turning cab**

The most striking feature of the 4th generation T Series is its brand new cab. This is stylish, spacious and quiet. Pillars that curve outwards maximise interior space or the driver while keeping the



external dimensions compact and this cab is now 20 centimetres wider at the driver's seat compared to the previous generation.

"The cab has five pillars. This means that visibility to the right is as good as on a cab with four pillars, but the cab is as strong and the door as tight as on a cab with six pillars. A cab with two doors and six pillars will be introduced later along with the HiTech models," Palonen says.

The new cab has an impressive six square metres of windows, providing excellent visibility. There is also a window in the front of the roof to facilitate working with front loaders, while the forest cab will also have a window in the rear section of the roof. Driver comfort has been optimised with excellent LED work lights, a stereo with subwoofer, a cool box and a TwinTrac reverse-drive system that may be adjusted laterally.

### Right-sized engine

The T144 and T154 models are powered by a 6.6-litre AGCO Power engine, while the bigger models have a displacement of 7.4 litres – the optimum size in terms of fuel efficiency, torque, horsepower and engine life.

Exhaust emissions are kept to a minimum by a Tier 4 Final / Stage 4-standard SCR system without the need for a diesel particulate filter, variable geometry turbo or exhaust gas recirculation system. This solution offers both low fuel consumption and low maintenance costs.

The turbocharger on the latest engines features an electronic bypass valve, so the engine responds rapidly and offers excellent torque even at low revs. The fuel injection system operates at up to 2000 bar of pressure to deliver fuel with unprecedented accuracy.

The T174e model has Valtra's EcoPower feature. When the driver presses the Eco button, the engine speed drops to 1800 rpm while torque increases. This reduces fuel consump-



The new cab has an impressive six



T SERIES MODELS	hp/kW/Nm	hp/kW/Nm
	STD	BOOST
<b>T144</b> HiTech, Active, Versu and Direct	155/114/640	170/125/680
<b>T154</b> HiTech, Active, Versu and Direct	165/121/680	180/132/740
<b>T174e</b> HiTech, Active, Versu and Direct	175/129/740(850)*	190/140/780(850)*
<b>T194</b> HiTech, Active, Versu and Direct	195/143,5/800	210/154,5/870
<b>T214</b> HiTech, Active, Versu and Direct	215/158/870	230/169/910
<b>T234</b> HiTech, Active and Versu	235/173/930	250/184/1000

\* With EcoPower



Instagram

#ValtraNewT

valtra.com/NewTSeries



square metres of windows, providing excellent visibility.



tion by approximately 10 percent while also lowering the noise level and extending engine life.

#### **Power for pulling and lifting**

At the rear of the tractor there is an upgraded linkage that can lift up to 9.5 tonnes, including a minimum of 8.6 tonnes through the entire lift range. The front linkage, in turn, is integrated with the chassis and has a lift capacity of 5.1 tonnes.

Three different speeds in five modes can now be selected simultaneously for the PTO: 1000, 1000E, 540, 540E and ground speed PTO.

The new hydraulic couplings are also easy to connect and are all located on the same side of the tractor. The hydraulic oil level is also easy to check through the sight glass on the side of the tank.

#### **Comfortable working conditions**

The new T Series features the latest version of Valtra's Aires+ front axle suspension. The pneumatic front suspension smoothes out bumps, improves tractions and enables faster working. The Aires+ suspension operates together with AutoComfort

cab suspension. The new Aires+ system offers 30 percent more suspension travel and a 40% greater tilt angle than the previous version.

Naturally, the new T Series is also available with both AutoGuide steering assist system and AgCommand telemetry. AutoGuide uses satellite and correction signals to steer the tractor accurately to within a centimetre. The AgCommand remote monitoring system allows the owner to monitor tractor use, anticipate servicing needs and compile work data that may, for example be used by contractors for invoicing purposes. •

Bill Higgins.



# ONE OF THE BEST

Award-winning UK farm runs two Valtra T Series tractors.

TEXT AND PHOTO ROGER THOMAS



Andrew Higgins with the Valtra T150.

In 2013 Wilderley Hall Farm in Shrewsbury, England, was awarded the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers' Gold Cup, distinguishing it as among the best dairy farms in the UK. "This was our second attempt in the competition. The first time we came second, which I felt showed we were on the right road," comments **Bill Higgins**, who relies on his two Valtra T Series tractors to get things done.

Wilderley Hall Farm was started by husband and wife Bill and **Margaret Higgins** back in 1993 with 130 milking cows on a simple management system. Today the business has intensified and is run by Bill and Margaret's sons, **Bill** and **Andrew**. The herd size has risen to 360 pedigree Holstein cows plus 290 followers and is still increasing.

The Wilderly herd is closed and heifers first calf at 24 months with sexed semen used on the maiden heifers. Thereafter semen is unsexed with Charolais used on cows with undesirable characteristics. These cross-bred calves find a ready private market for beef. At calving the cow and calf are penned together allowing



↑↑ Young heifer calves are grouped in kennels.

↑ Newly calved cows are kept separate for a few days after calving.

the cow to mother the calf and eat and drink in comfort while avoiding problems associated with surrogate mothers. At the next appropriate milking the calf is taken to a hutch while the cow joins the post-calving group where she stays for a little over a week. After that she moves to one of the main milking groups.

### Cow welfare a priority

The cows are served around 70 days after calving with a conception rate of 38 percent at first service. The calving interval is currently 416 days but some barren cows continue for over 600 days at over 40 kgs milk daily.

Cow welfare is a priority, and today most cows are housed in cubicle buildings that are currently being extended and upgraded and where sand is used for bedding. Cows are fed a total mixed diet through a mixer wagon in the cubical buildings with nothing fed in the parlour. Only two rations are mixed: one for dry cows and one for milkers consisting, in different measures, of grass and maize silage, chopped straw, Trafford Gold (a moist feed based

on human food industry waste), bread, beat pulp, high protein soya, soya hulls, rape meal and finally fats, minerals and yeast.

### T120 and T150

Wilderley Hall Farm runs two tractors: a 150-horsepower Valtra T150 with 6,800 hours on the clock and a 120-horsepower T120 that has clocked up 10,300 hours. The T120 is permanently connected to the mixer and feeder wagon. Loaded by one of the farm's two telehandlers, it is in use for much of the day.

The T150 is much more of a general workhorse; it drives the straw chopper and undertakes a mixture of field work including muck and slurry spreading; most of the grassland gets a dressing of slurry after each silage cut, and some muck is sold off the farm.

With limited acreage available what is the likely limit to cow numbers?

"We're not there yet," comments Bill, "and as things in this industry are constantly changing, we're flexible and we'll see." •

# AM I IN YOUR BLIND SPOT



The DVD illustrates problems from both the tractor drivers' and motorcyclist point of view.

To outline the problems for tractor drivers and motorcyclists the Cheshire Constabulary, with assistance from Valtra dealer John Bownes Ltd of Winsford has produced a DVD Introduced by Sergeant Rick Weaver, and pamphlet outlining the dangers should they encounter each other on the public highway.

Both the DVD and pamphlet explain the tractor driver's vision to the rear may be obstructed by the implement or a load, while a rider may not fully appreciate the behaviour of the load or implement when the tractor turns left or right. Put at it's simplest a load of straw may obscure the rear view through mirrors for the tractor driver, while a motor cyclist may not appreciate that a long mounted plough swings in the opposite direction to that taken by the tractor when the tractor turns left or right, often blocking both carriageways. The DVD also explains the advantages of 'blind spot' mirrors and the enhanced view they provide.

The DVD, Am I in your Blind Spot was produced using tractors and equipment supplied by Valtra dealers John Bownes Ltd. and is aimed at farmers, tractor drivers and motorcyclists. They are distributed to the agricultural community along with blind spot mirrors by the Cheshire Constabulary at agricultural shows, YFC and farmers meetings and road safety presentations. Motorcyclists are also given copies at road safety presentations and shows, through the Bike Safe program. John Bownes has also supplied a Valtra tractor and equipment for the Police Road Safety stand at various shows throughout Cheshire. •

### Active transmission

# ACTIVE MODELS SIMULATE STEPLESS DRIVING

TEXT TOMMI PITENIUS PHOTO MOVYA

**A** new Active model series is being introduced with the 4th generation T Series. The Active models are a response to customer wishes and combine an advanced five-step powershift transmission with mechanical lever-operated hydraulics.

The new Active models offer many new features that make working simple and efficient. Some of the new features are firsts in the tractor industry. Despite the number of features, learning how to use them is easy. Operating an Active model is as straightforward as driving a tractor with a stepless transmission.

The clutch only needs to be used when starting the engine and in any possible emergency situations. Valtra's AutoTraction function is always activated but without any rpm limit. This allows the driver to begin driving simply by pressing the accelerator pedal and to stop just by pressing the brake pedal – without having to use the clutch. This simplifies all tasks that require repeated stopping and starting, such as balancing and transporting.

#### Shift powershift gears using the accelerator pedal

For the first time the tractor's powershift gears can be shifted using the accelerator pedal in order to adjust the driving speed. The driver can select from various driving modes: manual, the factory preset Auto 1, programmable Auto 2 and PTO mode. In PTO mode the driver can set the engine speed using the rpm cruise function. The driver can then adjust the powershift gears and speed with the accelerator pedal. Pressing the pedal all the way to the floor selects powershift five and the corresponding speed, while lifting off the pedal completely selects powershift one. This frees up the driver's hands for steering the tractor and controlling the implement.

Another unique feature is the hydraulics assistant, which can also be used when driving the tractor. If the hydraulics are loaded when driving, the transmission automatically shifts to a lower powershift gear and increases the engine speed without affecting



the driving speed. This provides the hydraulics with sufficient output without the driver having to adjust the driving speed. In the lowest powershift gear, of course, the hydraulics assistant is not used.

The transmission has five powershift gears and four ranges for a total of 20 gears. In addition, there are two creeper ranges with five powershift gears each, adding up to

# Powershift Revolution



30 gears altogether. Both 40 and 50 km/h versions of the transmission are available. The Active transmission also features a useful hill hold function. •

## TECHNICAL FEATURES

Five-step powershift transmission

30 forward and reverse gears

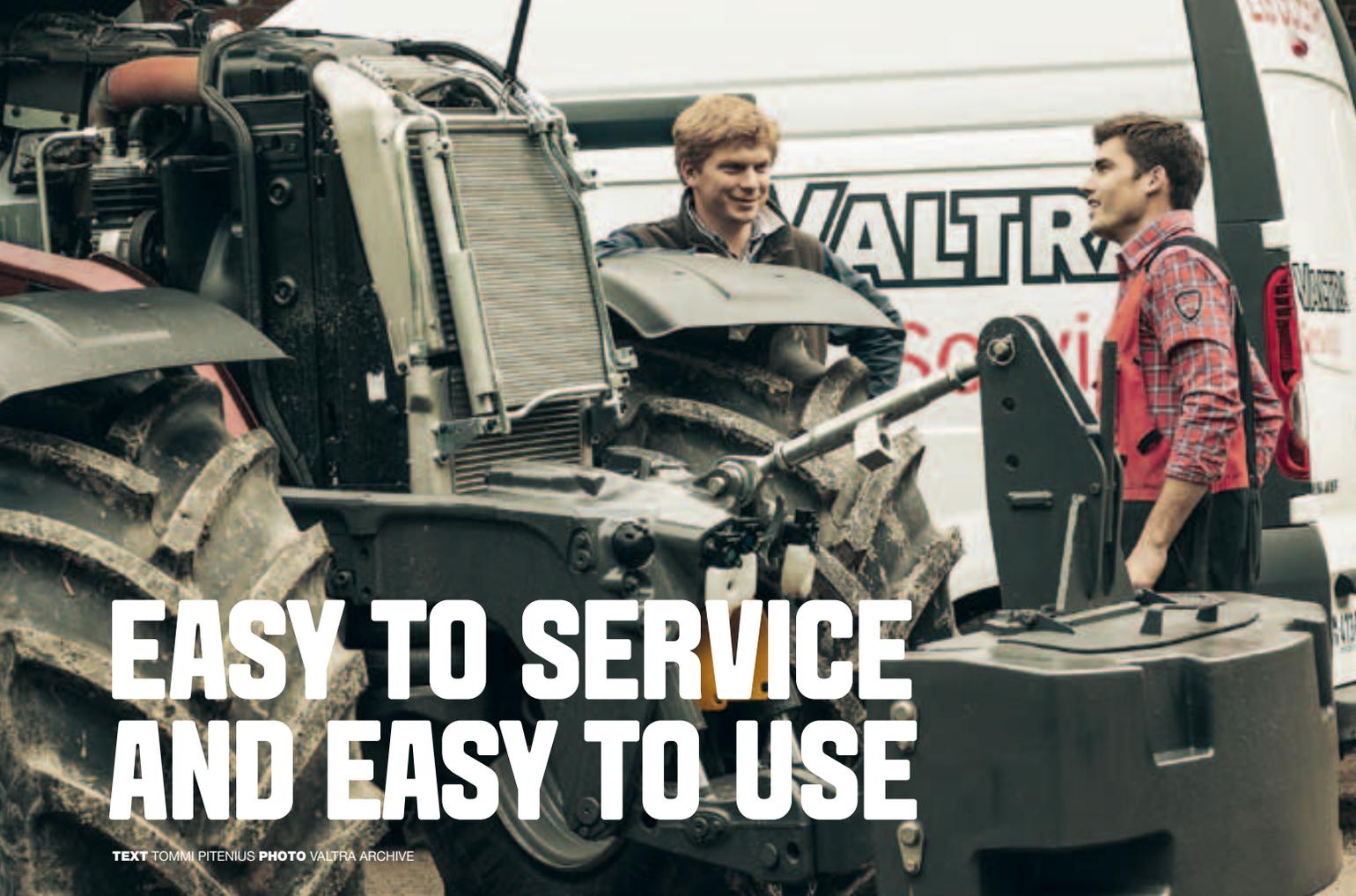
Load-sensing 115 or 160 l/min hydraulics

Mechanically operated hydraulics

Three PTO speeds

## ACTIVE MODELS

MODEL	MAX. HP/NM
T144	170/680
T154	180/740
T174 Eco	190/900
T194	210/870
T214	230/910
T234	250/1000



# EASY TO SERVICE AND EASY TO USE

TEXT TOMMI PITENIUS PHOTO VALTRA ARCHIVE

**T**he 4th generation T Series has been designed to be easy and inexpensive to maintain for both owners and service technicians.

“We focused on serviceability using 3D images before the first prototype was even manufactured. Serviceability was a design priority from the start,” says Field Service Manager **Jyrki Lampinen**.

Special attention has been paid to easy everyday use and maintenance. For example, the fuel and AdBlue tanks can be filled up easily at chest level when standing beside the tractor. The radiator package also opens easily for cleaning. The hydraulic oil level may be checked through a sight glass in the side of the tank each time the driver climbs the steps into the cab. The transmission oil level may also be checked through a sight glass at the rear of the tractor. The dipstick for checking engine oil is located by the steps to the cab and easily reached.

“Other less regular maintenance jobs are also simple: All grease points are easily accessible though some still require climbing under the tractor. The battery is service-free. The engine air filter can be changed while standing beside the tractor, and the cab air filter can be changed by standing on the steps. Topping up engine oil, coolant and windshield washer fluid is also very easy,” Lampinen states.

Routine servicing by professionals ensures that the tractor is available when needed while also retaining the tractor’s resale value. This routine servicing, including adjusting engine valves, can now be performed more quickly than ever. Other professional servicing including changing the urea filter, has also been designed to be quick and easy, saving the customer both time and money. •

- 600-hour service intervals
- The transmission and hydraulic oil levels can be checked through inspection site glasses
- The cab air filter is accessible from the steps with one hand
- The radiator can be opened easily for cleaning
- The tool box has plenty of room for carrying the owner’s own tools and items like a 10-litre bottle of AdBlue
- The windshield washer fluid level is easy to check through the transparent container
- Clean the engine air filter by hand, shaking it, and not with compressed air



The FARMFLO offices are located in the CoLab building at Letterkenny's Institute of Technology and employs a staff of eight.



Gareth enjoys driving the N163Valtra when he's preparing the ground and planting cereals or managing grassland.

# ALL ABOUT COMPLIANCE

Innovative Irish family creates new software to facilitate EU paperwork.

TEXT AND PHOTO ROGER THOMAS

**A**fter studying at Greenmount Agricultural College, **Gareth Devenney** returned to work on his family farm.

While sorting compliance-related paperwork, for inspection by Bord Bia, the Irish Food Board, he felt there must be an easier way. Brother **Jason**, who had studied IT technology at Kingston University in the UK some years earlier, provided the answer, and FARMFLO, a cloud-based farm management software, was born.

Their system allows data to be input either via a smart phone in the field or direct into the computer. Press the relevant phone key and the information is transferred to the computer. No phone signal? No problem. The system automatically waits until one is established and then uploads the information.

**Interest from private investors**  
Initially Gareth gave FARMFLO to

friends who liked it. From this small beginning the system grew quickly; it was picked up by Enterprise Ireland and there then followed a rash of feasibility studies and presentations to funding bodies with the system going out to 200 test farmers.

Today the FARMFLO business operates from offices in CoLab at Letterkenny's Institute of Technology and employs a staff of eight. Interestingly all staff have a farming background of some type. It means that whoever is talking to farmers or dealing with the farming industry in general, they understand the business.

The company has also attracted the attention of two private investors, which has allowed Jason plus others on contract to develop new systems. They plan to split and develop the beef and dairy cattle programme into separate entities and to develop systems for sheep and poultry farmers.

## First Valtra tractors in Donegal

While Jason is developing new systems, Gareth spends many hours on the road visiting shows, farmers meetings and the like promoting the system. Gareth also runs the family farms with the help of one sister.

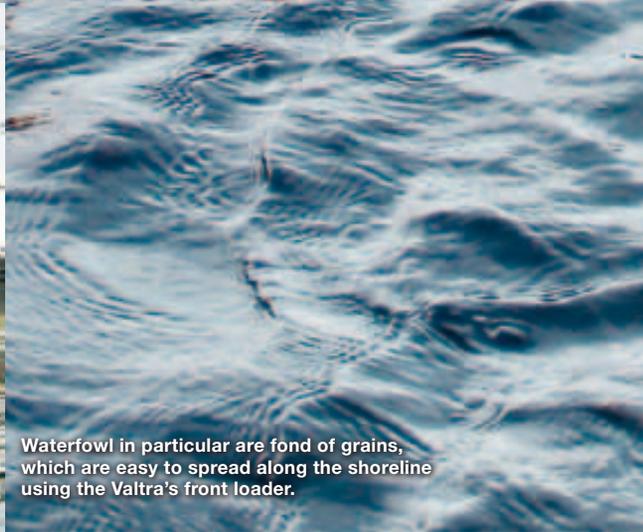
On the farm Gareth relies on Valtra tractors. The first on the farm, and in Donegal, was a 100-horsepower 6400 purchased in 1996. This was exchanged for an 8050 in 2001 and a T130 in 2006. Last year Gareth invested in four cylinders and an N143 with 160 horsepower.

Gareth likes driving Valtras when he's preparing the ground and planting cereals or managing the grassland. Alongside grass, the farm grows winter barley and oats plus spring barley – three different crops are required by the EU. To be compliant the Devenney's have to prove it, which is now that much easier thanks to their own innovation, FARMFLO. •

# VALTRA N113 HITECH AIDS GAME MANAGE- MENT IN FINLAND

The Korhonen farm in Tervo, Finland, uses a Valtra N113 HiTech to maintain its forests and fields for game management. Nature is everything to this family's active hunters, who manage their farm with respect for the environment. In this they rely on their Valtra.

TEXT PANU KANTOSALO PHOTO PANU KANTOSALO AND ELINA / 123RF STOCK PHOTO



Waterfowl in particular are fond of grains, which are easy to spread along the shoreline using the Valtra's front loader.



Mikko and Antti Korhonen consider game management very important. Here food has been brought to a popular spot for pigeons.

**A**ntti Korhonen and his son Mikko are active nature lovers and hunters. Their family farm focuses on game management and supporting activities. Their work consists mainly of forest management, arable farming and snow ploughing, and their Valtra N113 HiTech is used for all suitable tasks.

In addition to routine farming operations and snow ploughing, the Korhonen use their Valtra tractor for game management, including feeding waterfowl, maintaining game fields and winter-feeding.

“We are comprehensively involved in game management in many ways – we do it year-round. We are accustomed to looking after waterfowl and wild game in the forests by feeding and managing the terrain. Our farm affords us excellent opportunities to do both, and the size of our farm provides plenty of security and living space for different species,” says Mikko Korhonen.

The Korhonen begin feeding the waterfowl each year early in spring-time to encourage them to nest and to improve their habitat. The birds are fed by scattering grain grown on

the farm around the islands. Here the birds may nest in safety and it is beneficial once the hunting season begins as the birds remain close to the feeding areas.

“We become very familiar with the bird’s flight paths and landing areas, so it’s easy to plan the best hunting spots since we are on our own land,” Mikko explains.

#### **Ideal tractor**

The Korhonen recently replaced their Valtra 6350 HiTech with a new N113 HiTech.

“Many game management tasks can be handled quite conveniently by tractor, and many farming and forestry tasks are indirectly beneficial for wild game and ecology. The Valtra’s front loader makes it easy to spread grains along the shorelines to feed the waterfowl, and in winter-time the tractor makes it easy to transport hay to the feeding areas in the forest,” Antti Korhonen says.

“Our Valtra is also a big help for maintaining ditches around fields and in general getting about the land,” Mikko adds.

The Korhonen consider their N113 HiTech to be the ideal tractor

Valtra's history as a tractor manufacturer is based on the Finnish arms industry in the Second World War. Valmet continued to manufacture premium military, sports and hunting weapons until the 1980s. Pictured here is a double-barrel 16-calibre Valmet hunting shotgun.

for their needs, combining comfort and ease of use with agility and a powerful engine. Antti specified a front loader, air conditioning and full belly protection for the farm's new Valtra, as well as fully locking differentials, which are essential for forestry work.

"We were able to specify our Valtra with all the features we need for our tasks as a complete tailor-made package. The N113 HiTech is an agile and modern tractor that is ideal for both farming and forestry operations. The availability of servicing and spare parts, as well as sensible pricing, were important criteria when selecting a new tractor," Antti confirms.

"Even though we do a lot of hunting here, our tractor has to handle many other tasks in addition to game management. In these tough working conditions, the new Valtra has proven to be a tough and reliable tractor with great ergonomics," Antti adds. •

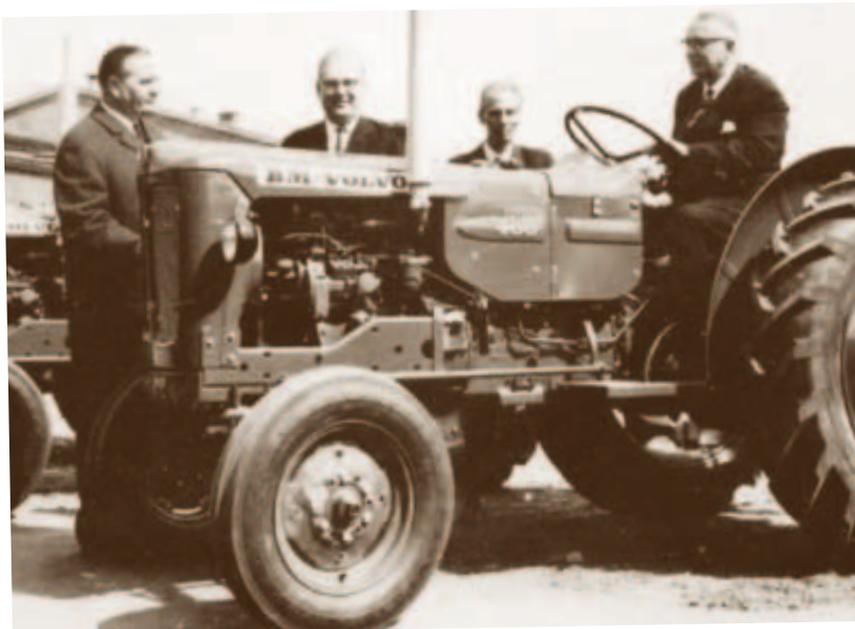


## HOW TO MAINTAIN FIELDS FOR WILD GAME (GAME FIELDS):

1. Select appropriate field in terms of the animals' natural habitats and convenient access. The proximity of water is always a bonus. Visibility is also vital for many animals, so make sure your game field is in a sufficiently open area.
2. Always get the landowner's consent if you are leasing the land.
3. Consider in advance which animals you want to attract and what kind of a field is required for this purpose.
4. Select your crops and the field type according to local animal populations.
5. Begin the summer before seeding by conditioning and fertilising the field. Drainage ditches may also be required.
6. Add fertiliser to the field according to the type of crops you have selected. For example, forage kale requires a lot of nitrogen fertilisers, whereas forage rape requires much less.
7. Next comes planting and drilling. Ideal plants include grains that attract birds, cabbages and peas attract elk. The plants should be planted according to how they grow and how they will be used. For example, cabbages should be planted in rows with grains or peas around them.
8. Lean-to shelters can be built to facilitate feeding in winter-time. Any hides and hunting towers that you require should be constructed when planning your game field.
9. When cultivating grains, leave some areas around the outside or preferably even in the middle unharvested to provide natural winter-feeding areas for wild game especially grouse.

## ABC OF GAME MANAGEMENT ON FARMS:

- Respect nature and the natural behaviour of animals when farming.
- Plan farming and forest management to support animal populations.
- Continue feeding the animals even in wintertime.
- When clearing forests, leave enough trees for birds to perch on in their natural habitats.
- By maintaining wetlands in addition to game fields on your land, you can support waterfowl and enrich the natural biotopes in your surroundings. These game management activities are eligible for EU subsidies in most countries.
- Leave unharvested areas along the edges of fields to foster wintering animals.
- When planning fields and ditches, consider ways in which they can be used best for hunting. This includes hiding places, paths and feedings areas.



The first “Finnish” BM-Volvo Busters were manufactured in May 1966. The event was attended by dignitaries including, from left to right, Hans Perttula, Director of the Maatilahallitus agricultural agency, Bror Wahlroos, Deputy Managing Director of Fiskars, John Engellau, Managing Director of AB Volvo, and Lars Ljungberg, Managing Director of the Finnish importer Volvo-Auto.

## FIRST BM-VOLVO TRACTORS MADE IN FINLAND

This was the headline on page 12 of the second issue of Volvo Viesti magazine in 1966 and it marked Volvo’s response to Valmet and Rosenlew, which had established the sales company Maskinköp AB in Uppsala, Sweden, in 1964. In Finland, Volvo had chosen Fiskars as its partner to assemble tractors from components sent from Eskilstuna, Sweden.

The article points out that AB Volvo purchased components from Finland. These included special steels from Imatra, springs from Fiskars, forged components from Tampella plus many other smaller parts for cars. Finland also provided AB Volvo with a substantial labour force for the car factory in Gothenburg and tractor factory in Eskilstuna.

Volvo chose Fiskars, which has a long history in Finnish industry, as the company wanted to bring their tractors closer to Finland. Fiskars

had sufficient capacity in its Porvoo factory where assembly of the BM-Volvo T 400 Buster, the model considered most suitable for Finland was produced.

Plans were to manufacture over 300 Busters in 1966, increasing to 1500 units a year, numbers which would result in a market share in Finland of almost 15 percent. However, production of Busters in Porvoo is thought to have reached a total production of 600 units.

The T 400 Buster had tough competition in the form of the Valmet 565 which, at 1850 kg, weighed the same, had similar ground clearance, and featured an adjustable linkage with TerraTrol draft control.

Although the Valmet had 6+2R gears compared with the Buster’s 8+2R, some of the Valmet’s gears were synchronised. However, the biggest difference was in the engines with the Buster powered by a 2.5 litre 3-cylinder Perkins engine

producing 47 horsepower, while the Valmet was powered by their own 310B engine producing 52 horsepower.

Although BM-Volvo’s tractor assembly operations in Finland lasted only a couple of years, it prepared the ground for the introduction of the first Volvo BM Valmet tractors in the early 1980s. •



Bror Wahlroos hands over the first tractors to the importer Lars Ljungberg on behalf of Fiskars.



Kim Parsons believes that his Valtra N101 is just right – punchy and manoeuvrable.

The flexible team behind AGRECO

# A MAN WHO CAN

Five years ago, Kim Parsons set up his own contracting company in the West Midlands of England with one tractor, a forestry mulcher and a post driver. Today AGRECO is firmly established and involved in a wide range of projects both within urban areas and out in the countryside. The secret to his success has been flexibility – both in the services he offers and the machinery he uses to get the job done.

TEXT AND PHOTO ROGER THOMAS

**A**s a young man with an agricultural degree and some very varied experience behind him, **Kim Parsons** was not entirely sure what he wanted from life, but he did know what he didn't want to do.

"The conventional contracting scene is over subscribed – it certainly is where I live in Herefordshire," says Kim.

While working on the London Gateway development project it quickly became apparent to Kim that there was a niche in the market for someone that understood agricultural and forestry machinery within the development sector.

#### **A real specialist**

Kim's company AGRECO is involved

in all the stages of a project: planning, site clearance right through to the final finished work. Schemes include Entry Level Stewardship (ELS) and Higher Level Stewardship (HLS), often operating within Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) areas.

"We are involved with habitat creation, stewardship schemes leading to improving areas of the country-

side, and encouraging wildlife,” Kim explains.

One area that has developed over the past five years is the use of low ground pressure kit on wet or steep ground. AGRECO has also undertaken road reclamation and stabilisation contracts.

“I mainly work alone,” Kim says. “Staff are an expensive overhead, and with our very varied work it is better to take on a specialist for the period of the contract.”

### **Finding the right tractor**

So, with only Kim working for AGRECO full time but at the same time taking on a wide range of jobs, what sort of equipment does he use? His first tractor was a six-cylinder model that experience showed was somewhat clumsy in woodland. On occasions Kim also hired in tractors for specific operations, which taught him a lot.

“Woodland is a tough place to operate, and many tractors have all sorts of bits and pieces that catch on stumps and the like and get broken off – fuel pipes and filters are one and electrical wiring is another. Damaging these in woodland can be expensive both to replace and in down time. If spilt diesel is involved, it can be very problematical.”

The quest for the “right tractor” led eventually to Valtra.

“I wanted a punchy tractor and couldn’t find quite what I wanted on the used market. Then I came across an MF 4455, which is really a rebadged Valtra A95. That machine proved right for my type of work: compact yet powerful for its size.”

Today his 4455 is fitted with a Botex skidding grab and Stoll loader with timber forks. The 4455 also proved that four-cylinder tractors provided the right degree of manoeuvrability and could be powerful enough to drive some of his power sapping machinery, including the



TwinTrac broadens Kim’s options while the forest cab helps protect his valuable asset.

mulcher. The next step was to find a more powerful four-cylinder Valtra machine.

“I eventually came across two and chose the N101 with 108 horsepower as the best buy – the other option was an N111e with 124 horsepower.”

In addition to being in excellent condition, the N101 was fitted with a forest cab and TwinTrac reverse drive.

“With experience I’ve found the forest cab with the roof window and protective bars useful, as is the TwinTrac for certain jobs. It gives me flexibility.”

Now with many hours behind him, Kim remains certain he made the right choice. The excellent ground clearance and flat belly of the Valtra relieves him of many worries in woodland undergrowth where stumps are hard to see. The N101 is also punchy, compact and highly manoeuvrable.

### **Extensive and surprising equipment**

Alongside his two tractors, Kim’s fleet of machinery includes a tracked skid steer loader, as well as an extensive and surprising

range of attachments and equipment.

“We have three mulchers: one for each tractor and one spare in case of accidents.”

One mulcher features fixed teeth, while another has pivoting hammer blades – both have their uses. There is a flail cut and collect systems, also used on Higher Level Stewardship schemes, and, somewhat unusually, a wild flower and grass seed harvester.

“It’s all about niche opportunities,” Kim explains.

AGRECO also has a small Merri stone crusher for track making.

“The Merri does not need a powerful tractor, and it enables us to put in narrower tracks or footpaths. If wider tracks or roads are necessary, I work with other contractors.”

Kim will purchase additional machinery if he sees a need and a return on his investment, otherwise he will hire it.

He also acknowledges that there will come a time when he will have grown to the extent that he has to employ full-time staff. Until then he keeps overheads under control by working with other specialists.

Certainly, his motto appears to be “I know a man who can” – like him! •



# STOP TO ANIMAL DISEASES

TEXT TOMMI PITENIUS PHOTO VALTRA ARCHIVE

**H**ow would it sound if practically a hundred percent of the chickens on farms carried the salmonella bacteria even if they were routinely given antibiotics with their feed? When bacteria develop resistances to antibiotics, it endangers people too as medicines become ineffectual against diseases. Attempts to cope with the resulting problems include rinsing chicken carcasses in chlorous acid after slaughter, as they do in the United States.

Although food safety is generally at a high level in Europe, many other countries are suffering from the

problem described above, for example in both North and South America and in Asia, all of which export food to Europe. Food production in the Nordic countries is particularly clean. Finland, Sweden and Norway stand out in the statistics for their excellent food safety records.

Farmers in the Nordic countries can thank the climate. While the long winters are challenging in terms of efficient farming and building robust animal shelters, they also destroy many pathogens, pests and fungi, thus reducing the need for spraying, for example.

Poultry production in the Nordic

countries is salmonella free. One explanation for this is the “all-in and all-out” principle, according to which the entire stock is slaughtered at the same time and the area thoroughly cleaned in between. Finnish and Swedish authorities also carry out extensive tests on imported animal feed components to prevent the spread of diseases.

One new innovation in this field is a feed additive made from pine resin that helps reduce the use of antibiotics, especially in poultry production. The use of this additive in other types of feed is currently undergoing research. •

Order items from the Valtra Collection for delivery direct to your home by visiting our online store at [www.shop.valtra.com](http://www.shop.valtra.com)  
The Valtra Collection is also available at Valtra dealers (items in stock may vary).

Check out the Valtra Collection: [www.shop.valtra.com](http://www.shop.valtra.com)

**Valtra** Collection



New Valtra Collection now available!



**106 £**

129 €

**PARKA JACKET**

Cotton-lined, hooded winter jacket. Detachable faux fur on hood. Warm quilted lining and water-repellent outer fabric, 100% polyester. Black. Women's sizes: S-XXL, men's sizes: S-XXXL.



**37 £**

45 €

**COLLEGE SHIRT**

Comfortable and versatile jersey made from hardwearing 100% cotton. Men's sizes S-XXXL.



**25.26 £**

32 €

**CHILDREN'S KNITTED FLEECE**

Warm, light fleece manufactured from 100% polyester. Breathable and quick drying. Girls' sizes: 130-160 cm, boys' sizes: 130-160 cm.



**9.87 £**

12 €

**CHILDREN'S HAT**

Warm tractor-pattern knitted hat. 30% wool, 70% acrylic. Cotton lining. Windproof fleece between outer and inner liner. Made in Finland.



**20.56 £**

25 €

**FURRY CAP**

Water and windproof fabric. Comfortable and soft faux fur lining. Made from 100% polyester. Black.



**REFLECTOR**

CE-approved tractor-shaped soft reflector with bright LED light. Fast and convenient lobster clasp fastening.

**3.29 £**

4 €

**18 £**

22 €

**BATH TOWEL**

Jaquard woven towel made from 100% cotton terry cloth with loop on long side for hanging.



**10.28 £**

12.50 €

**LED LENSER KEYCHAIN**

Small but powerful keychain light. Length 6 cm, weight 20 g. 2-year warranty. Batteries included in the package.



See us online: [valtra.co.uk](http://valtra.co.uk)

**Valtra** Models



**A SERIES**

MODEL	MAX. HP/NM
A53	50/196
A63	68/285
A73	78/310
A83 HiTech	88/325
A93 HiTech	101/370



**T SERIES**

MODEL	MAX. HP/NM
T133 HiTech	158/630
T153 HiTech	170/680
T173 HiTech	190/730
T193 HiTech	210/800
T144 Active	170/680
T154 Active	180/740
T174e Active	190/900
T194 Active	210/870
T214 Active	230/910
T234 Active	250/1000
T144 Versu	170/680
T154 Versu	180/740
T174e Versu	190/900
T194 Versu	210/870
T214 Versu	230/910
T234 Versu	250/1000
T144 Direct	170/680
T154 Direct	180/740
T174e Direct	190/900
T194 Direct	210/870
T214 Direct	230/910



**N SERIES**

MODEL	MAX. HP/NM
N93 HiTech	99/430
N103 HiTech	111/465
N113 HiTech	130/530
N123 HiTech	143/560
N143 HiTech	160/600
N93 HiTech 5	99/430
N103 HiTech 5	111/465
N113 HiTech 5	130/530
N123 HiTech 5	143/560
N123 Versu	143/560
N143 Versu	160/600
N163 Versu	171/700
N123 Direct	143/560
N143 Direct	160/600
N163 Direct	171/700

ISO 14396



**S SERIES**

MODEL	MAX. HP/NM
S274	300/1300
S294	325/1390
S324	350/1500
S354	380/1590
S374	400/1600

**YOUR  
WORKING  
MACHINE**