



MILL FARM ASHORNE GETS THE BEST FROM ITS NEW FENDT TRACTOR THANKS TO MICHELIN ROADBIBS

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Warwickshire-based Mill Farm Ashorne offers a wide variety of agricultural contracting services – including hedge cutting, seeding and grassland work – to a nationwide customer base.

MICHELIN'S APPROACH

Mill Farm Ashorne has specified MICHELIN RoadBib tyres to get the best from its new Fendt 828 tractor. The decision by owner Chris Gardner followed discussions with Michelin Agricultural Account Manager Robert Shaw, local dealer Farmers Tyre and Fendt supplier Chandlers Farm Equipment.

Gardner opted for the 600/70 R30 and 710/70 R42 RoadBibs that are specifically designed to provide high performance, longevity and traction on farm machines used intensively on the road.

"The nature of our work often means we are travelling quite long distances, doing a small job and then moving to the next site," says Gardner. "We knew the RoadBibs would be ideal for that."

The tyres feature a unique tread design comprising 52 tread blocks to maximise traction, coupled with a central spine. This allows 40 per cent of the tyre to remain in contact with the road surface – a 60 per cent increase versus a traditional Michelin lugged agricultural tyre – whilst increasing driver comfort and extending tyre life.



RESULTS

The decision has proved a shrewd choice with Mill Farm Ashorne getting great results from the RoadBib tyres, according to Gardner.

“They are really smooth on the road, very quiet in comparison to traditional lugged agricultural tyres,” he says. “When you’ve done a long drive, they feel cooler than the tyres we’ve run in the past which says to me they won’t wear as fast. We’ve also seen an early reduction in fuel consumption. They are delivering everything we’d hoped for in that respect.”

The Fendt 828 tractor is equipped with VarioGrip technology that allows the driver to optimise the RoadBib pressures depending on the tractor’s requirements of the tyre, at the touch of a button. This has helped the business unlock other benefits of its new tyres.

“With traditional ag-style tyres, working at the slower speeds required for hedge cutting the tractor can rock from cleat to cleat, and you get a bit of a bounce. A tiny rock in the tractor becomes quite significant at the end of the long arm of the hedge cutter,” he explains. “However, with the pattern on the RoadBibs, when we have them pumped up you’ve essentially got a smooth tyre, which means no bounce and much better finish on the hedge.”

He adds: “In the field, when we drop the pressures down, they don’t chew up the grass as a traditional ag tyre might – on the headlands for example. We’ve also done a little bit of work on cultivated ground and dropping the pressure down gives you excellent grip, with no wallow or slippage. So far, they really are ticking every box.”

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Chris Gardner
Owner of Mill Farm Ashorne

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