

## “We find the new S10s very easy to set-up and use”

Stuart Meeson | **Limestone Farming Company** | 1,950ha | Lincolnshire



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Stuart Meeson, Manager

The ability to share A-B lines across all Limestone Farming Company’s main tractors helps ensure efficiency and consistency.

Like many farming businesses, recent years have seen the Limestone Farming Company progress from LASER PILOT on their LEXION, to simple light bar guidance systems on the combine and tractors, to full RTK based highly accurate auto steering.

Based near Caenby Corner in Lincolnshire, Limestone Farming farm 1950ha of which 1200ha is down to combinable crops. There’s 320ha of grassland for a 320 cow suckler herd and various horse enterprises. The farm also has a 0.5MW AD plant using slurry from a large pig unit, and it uses maize grown on the farm and sugar beet pulp.

### AUTO STEERING

“We first started down the auto steering route five years ago as I wanted to get away from LASER PILOT and light bars,” explains manager Stuart Meeson. The first step down this route was to buy a CLAAS S7 terminal when they bought a new LEXION 770 from CLAAS Eastern in 2014. When not being used on the combine, this is swapped over for the rest of the year to their ARION 650 tractor. Three years ago a new AXION 950 was added to the fleet, which

was fitted with an S10 terminal and a further S10 was bought last year for use on a new tracked Challenger 755.

### ONE TERMINAL FOR EASY COMMUNICATION

“By just staying with the one make of terminal across the main tractors, this means they can all share the same information and A-B lines, which works well especially where we have put in beetle banks as part of mid-TIER,” says Stuart. “With different terminals you would lose the ability for the terminals to talk to each other and we find the new S10s very easy to set-up and use.

“We work to a 32m system, but rather than go down the full controlled traffic route, we just try to avoid compaction as far as possible. The farm is roughly a third limestone soils and two-thirds heavier silt. We mainly use a non-inversion system on the heavier land and just plough the lighter ‘Cliff’ land for maize and sugar beet.

“As our main cultivations tractor, the big AXION is fitted with 900 Bridgestone Ultraflex tyres, mainly running at 12 psi, while the Challenger, which does the bulk of the drilling with an 8.0m Vaderstad, has 30inch tracks. The smaller ARION 650 is used with our 6,300 litre Kuhn AGT 6032 boom fertiliser spreader, but during harvest is also on the chaser bin and we also have a small Weaving drill to use behind it.

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