



HIGH OUTPUT LEXION 8700

**2019 LEXION 8700,
Tom Pearson and
Michael Cotton, Norfolk**

Having just completed its third harvest, Raynham Farms' LEXION 8700 has proved itself to be more than capable. Tasked with clearing in excess of 800ha (1976 acres), the high output Hybrid's appetite hasn't disappointed, regularly clearing 45-50ha a day.

But it's not all about capacity. The technology and ability to produce an ultra-clean sample add up to make it a versatile performer capable of getting crops in whilst retaining quality, particularly with growing a large area of spring malting barley.

"Having gone from a single rotor machine four years ago to the LEXION Hybrid threshing system we've seen the job made easier and output significantly increased," explains farm manager Tom Pearson.

"Our diesel use has dropped massively and the pressure on the operator has been reduced hugely thanks to the introduction of the impressive technology designed to aid the driver.

Fuel Consumption

"Compared to our old single rotor machine we're burning about 15% less diesel for every tonne harvested which is down to two main factors in my opinion.

"By only delivering the engine output needed when it's needed, the Dynamic Power system clearly makes better use of every litre in the tank, particularly when swathing straw.



“CEMOS makes the 8700 the best combine I’ve ever driven.”

“In addition, the larger drum and concaves at the front end of the LEXION make for smooth, consistent crop flow. This in turn results in consistent engine loading which has a definite impact on fuel use, the engine note very rarely changes, regardless of time of day or mass of crop.”

Yield monitoring

“The new QUANTIMETER is scarily accurate. We run every trailer over the weighbridge and the combine is rarely more than a few hundred kilos different.

“By linking that information to mapping we can now precisely identify areas of fields that are under-performing and deal with them appropriately.”

CEMOS Automatic

“I was initially sceptical about the CEMOS system but it has

really grown on us over the last 3 years, the more crop the machine has had through it and the more algorithms it has learnt, the better the performance of CEMOS. We’re now at a point that we’ll begin cutting a field and the combine will pretty well look after itself apart from a few minor adjustments.

“Our main driver Michael has had 30 years in the seat of various combines and despite that he believes it can do a better job than any human.”

The combination of the grain quality camera and Cruise Pilot are felt to be ideal in maintaining the right balance between output and a cleanliness of sample.

“I really like ability to tweak the CEMOS’ bias either towards cleaner grain or higher output

but that is all that I ever meddle with,” says Michael Cotton.

“Whether it is the concaves, drum speeds, sieves or rotors, I hardly ever touch a thing and just let the computer decide what’s best. In the past when I’ve thought I knew better I’ve either ended up with cracked grains or more going out over the back. CEMOS makes the 8700 the best combine I’ve ever driven.”

Cab and controls

“The cab is a big upgrade over anything we have had before, the CEBIS touchscreen is extremely user friendly and this, paired with the S10 GPS system gives us everything we could possibly need at the touch of a button.

“That’s helped by Cruise Pilot which does a brilliant job in



keeping the combine running at full capacity. It is by far the most responsive system of any brand that I've had the chance to use."

Intake

"The feeder housing dust extractor does a really good job and having belts rather than chains for the intake elevator has made a huge difference to how quietly the combine runs. It means I can hear if anything is going wrong that much earlier than previously, hopefully catching it before it becomes a major issue."

Maintenance

"The LEXION stays so much cleaner than any machine we've had before and having the on-board compressor for daily blow-offs is just so convenient.

"The new air filter is seriously impressive – it generally only needs a clean out once a season. And greasing is now only a 50-hour job. With all the nipples grouped together

it hardly takes any time to get round."

Why CLAAS?

"When CLAAS approached us three years ago to ask if we would like to try one of the new pre production LEXION 8000s I was initially dubious as often

these early machines come with their problems and downtime," says Tom.

"I couldn't have been more wrong. CLAAS UK and our local dealer MANN'S stood by the machine at all times and downtime was kept to a minimum. The local back-up

from the Fransham depot has been exemplary and we could not have asked for more. A strong relationship with the dealer is a huge factor for me when buying a machine and this has been highlighted with this combine."



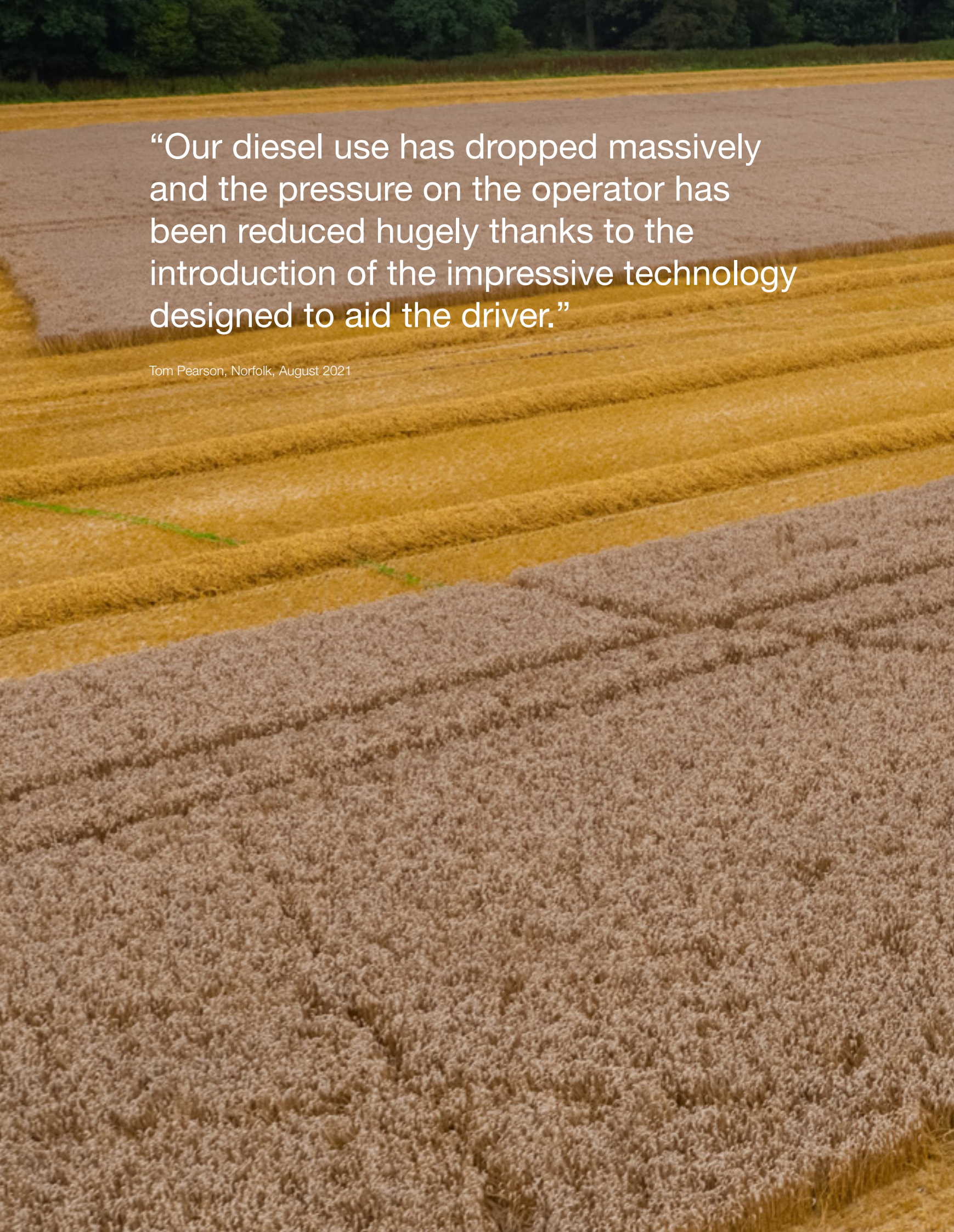
FARM FACTS

Business	Raynham Farming Co near Fakenham, Norfolk	
Estate area	1900ha (4695 acres) – cropping 1500ha (3706 acres)	
Cropping	Winter wheat 300ha (741 acres) Spring barley 320ha (790 acres) Oilseed rape 130ha (321 acres) Spring beans 130ha (321 acres) Forage maize 300ha (741 acres)	Sugar beet 190ha (470 acres) Forage rye 180ha (445 acres) Some maize land is rented in Remainder in woodland & grassland
Livestock	200 Angus suckler cows plus 230 followers	
AD plant	3mW Anaerobic Digester + Solar Park	
Staff	Tom Pearson and Michael Cotton plus 8 full-timers and 2 casuals	



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Michael Cotton, Norfolk, August 2021



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