

The perfect AXION package

Performance, price and reliability together with great dealer support makes up a perfect package for Simon Andrews, who runs an AXION 850 and an AXION 830.

“20 years ago you would have looked at specific brands. But nowadays all the main manufacturers produce a good product, so it comes down to price and how you get on with the local dealer,” states Simon

The first of the two AXION, a 264hp 850, arrived three years ago to replace a 215hp tractor that was mainly used with a Horsch Terrano and for combination drilling. This was then joined in 2020 by the 235hp AXION 830, which is mainly used with a tine drill, cultivations and top work.

IT CAME DOWN TO PRICE

“Although we have dealt with OLIVERS for years, we had run a different make of tractors for a long time, but ultimately it came down to price as the AXION 850 gave me a bit more horsepower for slightly less money. There’s also the added benefit that OLIVERS are only just down the road,” explains Simon, who farms around 800 ha just outside Luton, 720ha of which is cereals.

“With the AXION 830, having looked at all the main competitors and quickly narrowing it down to CLAAS and what we previously ran, it again came down to dealer support and price. I have also taken out a 5-year MAXICARE warranty on both the tractors, which I think is essential these days because of their complexity, and again this was a bit cheaper.

EXCELLENT DEALER SUPPORT

“The support from OLIVERS has always been extremely good. I have known John Humphries for many years and we are on first name terms with virtually all the team there, some of whom have been there a very long time, so know us well.”

Although physically there is little difference between the two tractors, unlike the original AXION 850, the 830 is powered by the latest Stage V FTP engine and also comes with the touchscreen CEBIS terminal.

“The newer AXION 830 just feels that little bit more refined and comfortable, and the new CEBIS terminal, through which we also control our KRM spreader, is very easy to use and works well. Both the tractors do a lot of haulage work between the farms, but they are very smooth on the road and the detachable weight blocks on the front are easy to just drop off and reduce weight.”

EASE OF OPERATION

For Mark Adams who works for Simon, again one of the biggest selling points of the AXION is its ease of operation and how simple it is to set the tractor up, especially through the new CEBIS terminal.

“The AXION is certainly a lot better compared to a lot of the tractors we tried,” he says. “For someone who had not driven an AXION before, it wouldn’t take long before they could competently and safely use the tractor.



Simon Andrews and Mark Adams

EASY SETTINGS

“I find the (HEXASHIFT) transmission on the AXION far simpler to use compared to other transmissions. I mainly just leave it in Auto mode and then set the revs and cruise control, so that the tractor can then just look after itself. The engines never give up and it’s very easy to

change the engine settings for particular operations, especially with the new touchscreen terminal. And it’s the little things, like only needing to press the brake pedal to stop without needing to de-clutch, which help make it so easy to use.”



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