

Tight turning TORION

The TORION 738T SINUS has given Tom Stodart the lift capacity and all round visibility he wanted together with a new improved level of manoeuvrability.

With at least 500 head of cattle on the farm at any one time which are all on straw bedding, Tom is highly reliant on his telescopic loader. This is kept busy with the daily jobs of bedding and handling round bale straw and silage, in addition to loading the farm's mill and mix plant and a myriad of other jobs a telescopic handler does.

Having run conventional side-boom telescopic handlers for a number of years, Tom was keen to go back to a pivot steer machine with greater manoeuvrability and all-round visibility, and approached Willy Ferguson at GORDONS about a suitable alternative.

NEVER GOING BACK

"I came about the TORION completely by accident and it was Willy who suggested the TORION and Stephen Cook from CLAAS was also a great help," explains Tom, who farms near Lesmahagow in Lanarkshire. "Being a new model, I was unaware CLAAS even produced such a machine, but it was a classic case of Willy arranging for me to have one on demonstration and of it never going back!"

Powered by a 73hp Yanmar engine and with a 93 l/min, 230 bar hydraulic system, the central telescopic boom on the TORION 738T SINUS has an impressive bucket pivot point height of 4.96m and it has an articulated tipping load capacity of 3,800kg. A unique feature of the telescopic TORION is its double steering system. This uses a combination of articulation through the central pivot and rear axle steering, giving it a maximum articulation angle of 30 degrees with a bucket edge turning radius of just 4.22m.

EXCEPTIONAL MANOEUVRABILITY

"Its brilliant. Its sheer manoeuvrability is exceptional. I was initially apprehensive as a lot of our sheds in the old steading are very tight, but with the double steering system it's amazing where the TORION can get into. I initially thought it would be too big, but it can easily get into places where I didn't expect it to and where you would never get a side boom machine.

"The high position of the cab means the all-round visibility is great, which is essential when working in old buildings and around cattle. A conventional wheel loader would not have given me the lift height I wanted, but with the TORION's telescopic boom I can easily stack bales five high and it has the lift capacity to comfortably carry two silage bales.

MAIN CONTROLS ON ONE JOYSTICK

"Having all the main controls on the one joystick makes the TORION extremely easy to operate as everything is to hand and it has a really comfy seat. We can change attachments up to 11 times in a morning, but the ease of operation makes it effortless and the TORION can certainly do far more than the telescopic because it is that much more capable.

"It has a lot more pushing power than the telehandler and plenty of grip and it's very stable when loading. And being 40k its ideal for moving between the two farms. Also the rear hood access to all the maintenance points makes it easy to service and having auto lube is great and saves a lot of time.

"The TORION really suits our system far better than a side-boom telescopic and it's really hard to think of a negative because there's not a lot I would improve. It's even impressed my son who has only ever known side-boom machines, but now thinks the TORION is great, so it must be all right!"

CLAAS



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Tom Stodart