

# CLAAS CMATIC – Geared for Growth

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“The stepless transmission means you’re always going at the right pace.”



**F**arming a stone's throw from the north Norfolk coast, the Harrison family have a broad range of cropping and consequently need a tractor fleet to suit a wide range of different roles.

CLAAS machines have long formed the backbone of the business and in the last five years the move to stepless CMATIC transmissions has brought greater efficiency to the operation.

A man with short dark hair, wearing a dark brown sweater, is seated in the driver's seat of a vehicle. He is looking out the window to his right with a slight smile. The interior of the vehicle is visible, including the steering wheel and dashboard. The background is bright and slightly blurred, suggesting an outdoor setting.

# Matthew Harrison

AXION 930, 870 & ARION 660 CMATIC

Near Blakeney, Norfolk, May 2022

“You’d never do as good a job with a HEXASHIFT in the field as you would with our CMATIC tractors.”

Matthew Harrison, May 2022



## Why CLAAS tractors?

“We’ve run CLAAS tractors for decades and before that had Renaults, so we’ve got a long history with Le Mans-built machines,” explains Matthew Harrison.

“We like them for their robust build, comfort and reliability. But crucially from a financial point of view they stack up. Each time we look at anything else the price to change is significantly more than a CLAAS.

“More important than any of that is the back-up we get from our dealer – MANNNS. Our relationship with them is really strong, from the storemen through to the sales guys and fitters.

“If we have a problem we know we can pick up the phone at any time – evenings or weekends – and someone will be on hand to help us. And, if the issue can’t be sorted straight away they’ve always got a back-up machine in the yard for us to borrow – we even get a courtesy tractor when ours go in for servicing.

“On the back of that nearly all our machinery is green and white – mowers, rake, baler and combine.

“In short, the kit’s good, the prices are generally right and the back-up can’t be beaten.”

“You just set your target speed, adjust the engine droop settings and let the CMATIC gearbox sort the rest out.”

Matthew Harrison, May 2022

## Why CMATIC transmissions?

“Our 2017 AXION 870 was our first CVT tractor and it changed everything about the way our machinery is operated. It’s our main drilling tractor and for that it is perfect – you just set your target speed, adjust the engine droop settings to suit the terrain and soil conditions and let the CMATIC gearbox sort the rest out. Then if you need to tweak things as you’re going along it’s simple.

“Our second CMATIC tractor was our 930. Its operator is very focused on getting the most out of the machine and is constantly fiddling with the settings to fine tune it. The stepless CVT box means you’re able to find the optimum balance between output and fuel use – ultimately we’re covering more acres in a day while burning less diesel.

“Our most recent addition is an ARION 660 CMATIC. It’s responsible for the lion’s share of the potato work – de-stoning, planting and harvesting. There was never any question that it would be anything other than a CVT – the stepless transmission means you’re always going at the right pace.

“We have a couple of tractors with HEXASHIFT powershift gearboxes and they’re perfectly good as all-rounders – real stalwarts for transport work. But you’d never do as good a job with them in the field as you would with our CMATIC tractors.”



Dealership  
MANNNS



## Farm Facts

LG Harrison and Son near Blakeney, north Norfolk

### Farmed area

810 ha

### Machinery

AXION 930, 870, 810  
ARION 660 and 630  
CLAAS LEXION 750TT

### Livestock

50 x Sussex suckler cows plus followers

### Cropping

Spring barley 240 ha Winter wheat 120 ha  
Winter barley 135 ha  
OSR 50 ha  
Sugar beet 70 ha Potatoes 60 ha  
Remainder in permanent pasture and land under HLS conservation schemes

### Staff

Matthew and Philip Harrison plus another 3 full-timers.

**CLAAS**

