

## “I have been really pleased with the new JAGUAR 880”

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Ahead of the introduction of the new JAGUAR 880 specifically for the UK and Ireland markets, Lancashire contractor Ian Ward had the opportunity to put a pre-series machine through its paces last season.

Ian starting running JAGUAR foragers in 2009 and in recent years has run two machines, with the newest one being swapped every two years. The new JAGUAR 880 replaced an 850 and joins a 2013 JAGUAR 870, all of which were supplied by RICKERBY at Carnforth.

“I look to run one machine hard and then have the second machine as a back-up and for use on smaller farms or where farmers are wanting to do the haulage themselves,” explains Ian. “I was originally looking to replace the 850 with an 870 to gain more output, when RICKERBY asked if I would be interested in the pre-series 880.

“That bit of extra power makes a lot of difference, especially when a pit is empty so you can really push on in the morning and then ease up as it starts to get full and more time needs to be spent compacting. Also the new design of pick-up makes a big difference. Flow into the forager is far better and combined with the JAGUAR’s extra power it handles lumps very well.

### MORE OUTPUT

“Overall, in good crops and conditions I reckon the new JAGUAR 880 has given us 30% more output. Typically I would be looking for it to clear around 80ha a day, so potentially we can cover two farms a day. Because of the conditions last year the 880 ended up doing about 80% of the work, but normally I would expect that to be nearer 60%.”

Based near Carnforth, Ian has a complete cross section of customers, from dairy units large and small, some of whom are taking a cut of silage every month, to beef farmers just taking one or two cuts. In addition to harvesting around 2,000ha of grass, he also harvests around 40ha each of maize and whole crop.

“When looking to change I did consider a JAGUAR 900 series, but the 800 suits our system well. The changeable weather does mean that farmers want the silage to come in quicker, but a lot of them still want to do the mowing themselves or to help with the haulage, so we do have to work around them.

“I like to keep the main forager fresh just so as to avoid downtime. We do quite a lot of long hauls and can have eight or so trailers on the go, so any breakdowns mean there are a lot of people suddenly doing nothing.”

Ahead of the JAGUAR 880 Ian runs a LINER 3600 4-rotor rake, though he admits this was at its limit in last year’s lighter crops. “The JAGUAR was not worked hard last year as we just couldn’t get enough grass in front of it. Hopefully in heavier crops this year it will really come into its own. Overall I have been really pleased with the new JAGUAR 880 and the operator loved driving it.”