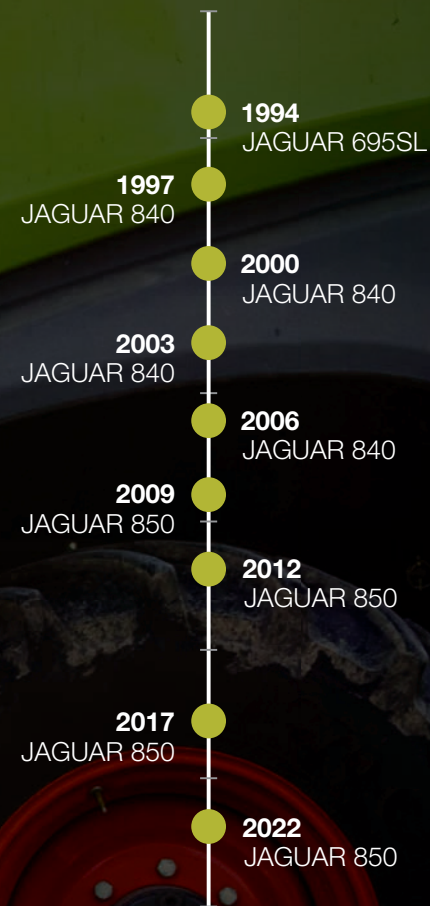




BRENNAN BROS

“Every new model always had some improvements and a little bit more power.”


“The first harvester we bought was a CLAAS and we never went away from them,” says Nicholas Brennan. The contracting business has nearly 30 years experience of CLAAS self-propelled forage harvesters with their current JAGUAR 850 now their ninth self-propelled.





BUSINESS FACTS

Brennan Bros
Leighlinbridge, Co Carlow

 **BUSINESS TYPE**
Agricultural Contracting

 **CONTRACTING SERVICES**
Full silage operation, tanker slurry with trailing show application, muck spreading, ploughing, cultivations, drilling, spraying, combining, baling and wrapping.

 **MACHINERY**
2 combines (LEXION 650 and TRION 660) and a two-rotor LINER 2900 rake

 **STAFF**
John and Nicholas Brennan, nephew Martin Delaney plus two full time operators, with extra help during silage and grain harvest

Brennan Bros, Nicholas and John have been cutting silage for their County Carlow customers since 1987 with trailed machines, but bad weather in 1993 was the prompt to look for more output to get through the workload quicker.

“The idea was to cut more in a day and get home for six in the evening,” grins John, “but it never really worked that way, we just ended up doing more work.”

At the time Gus Fitzgerald was working for CLAAS and convinced the brothers a JAGUAR 695 was the machine for them. Supplied by TP Walters, it was one of the very first JAGUAR harvesters in the area. As promised, the self-propelled harvester brought the boost in performance they wanted.

BRENNAN BROS.

Agricultural Contractors





"It was a great harvester, but one day it would not take in grass. The mechanic from TP Walters was not able to fix the problem, but we learned that there was a man over from CLAAS Germany, there was no mobile phone to contact him back then, but we found out where he was staying," recalls Nicholas. "Our brother Willie who was the founder of the business and who sadly died in 2003, drove to the hotel in Enniscorthy, met the man from CLAAS and explained the problem. When he arrived in the field with his left-hand drive car, he had a quick look, lifted the side panel and swapped a solenoid. He had us going in five minutes."

The following year, KELLY'S of Borris took on the CLAAS franchise and the Brennans have not looked back.

"When Maurice took over he went full whack, he had the service and was backed up by Harvest Machinery, which was effectively CLAAS Ireland," points out John. **"A machine is only as good as the man behind it, and KELLY'S are excellent."**

After three years of loyal service, Brennan Bros changed the JAGUAR 695 for the first in a series of 850s. **"It had better output, was easier to operate and easier to look after too,"** points out John, who is the main operator of the harvester. "Every new model always had some improvements and a little bit more power, but the biggest improvement for us has to be the STOP ROCK as it detects any stone before it causes a problem. The new pick-up on our latest 850, not only is it better to take in grass, but we have hardly fitted any new tines in two seasons."



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