

Giving gangs a refurbish

Manutec's new website www.manutec.com.au is proving to be very popular with farmers, agronomists, agricultural manufacturers and dealers. The site contains a large amount of information and pictures on all of the press wheel and coulter systems offered by Manutec as well as general information to help with the selection of the best system.

Further enhancements and new products will be added in 2009 including a region by region comparison of what system configurations are most common in each region. The site also gives access to a large range of accessories, DIY parts and after-market spare parts for both Manutec and other manufacturers.

The 2008 season saw many customers seeking to extend the life of existing Flexi-Coil, Bourgault and Morris Gang Press Wheels. This could partly be due in some circumstances to shortages of replacement equipment, meaning that many customers were left no option other than to refurbish.

Manutec can provide a bolt off/bolt on replacement solution to convert any older style poly gang wheels to Manutec gang wheels. These conversions provide an easy and cost effective means of extending the life of existing press wheel systems.

Gang conversions are also now avail-

able with single independent press wheel units as an option rather than the gang wheel format. These units can also be fitted directly to a toolbar at the rear of the machine and are available with any of Manutec's 15" or 16" tyre range.

A number of new products will be available in 2009. These include a new disc planter gauge wheel which will be available on a number of new machines and also as a replacement part to refurbish existing machines. A new range of specialised disc and wheel hubs for agricultural applications will also be available in 2009.

Demand continues to grow for more flexible press wheel systems and in particular the need to use the press wheel as a depth setting wheel for seeding. Manutec now provides this as an option on three of its assembly designs. The most popular of these being the In-Frame Assembly which positions the press wheel and the seeding tube close in behind the sewing tyne. The seeding units are available in four different variants to suit a range of seed and depth requirements.

The shortage of equipment and materials is expected to continue into 2009 and customers are encouraged to order early so as to secure delivery.

For more information contact Mick or Dan on 08 82602277 or visit us at www.manutec.com.au



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New stripe rust

The Australian Cereal Rust Control Program (ACRCP) based at the University of Sydney's Plant Breeding Institute (PBI) has confirmed that a sample of stripe rust collected from a wheat crop in north-east Victoria is the first Australian pathotype with virulence for the Yr27 resistance gene.

NSW Department of Primary Industries' Dr Colin Wellings, on secondment to the PBI, said greenhouse experiments revealed the pathotype had features identical to the 'Jackie' pathotype, but that a differential test wheat variety carrying the Yr27 gene had shown a susceptible reaction.

Current varieties carrying Yr27 include GBA Combat, GBA Ruby, Merinda and Mira, and these must be considered 'at risk' until further information becomes available.

Colin said the newly-named 'Jackie Yr27' pathotype was avirulent for the Yr17 resistance gene, so this gene should provide protection against the new strain. But a stripe rust pathotype virulent for Yr17 is also widespread in eastern Australia, so Yr17 varieties are 'at risk' to this pathotype.

The Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) advises that growers' best defence is to grow resistant varieties.

The ACRCP is supported by growers and the Australian Government through the GRDC. Growers seeking more information about managing rust should visit www.grdc.com.au/rustlinks. For more information contact Dr Wellings on (02) 9351 8826

