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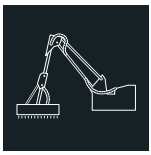
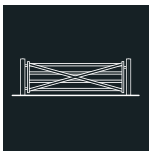
MADE IN GREAT BRITAIN

Product catalogue

GD DRILLS

QSL ISO 9001 Quality Management Certification




INTRODUCTION TO THE GD DISC DRILL

Weaving Machinery's mission is to offer good quality British-made farm machinery that is effective yet as simple as possible, supporting farmers implementing regenerative agriculture. Weaving Machinery's first introduction to zero-till crop establishment began over 30 years ago, and the GD Disc Drill is outcome of continuous refinement and development, to create a simple yet precise seed drill.

The GD Drill features the patented and future proofed GD coulter, which provides remarkably low soil disturbance, has a very low draught requirement along with an excellent service life.

The major advantage of the GD Drill is its adaptability to satisfy all drilling systems, soil types and conditions. This provides users with the flexibility to approach zero-till alongside traditional crop establishment methods. A skilled team of service engineers and a committed parts department ensure that Weaving products will meet their customers every expectation over the extended period of its working life.

HOW THE COULTER WORKS

The principal behind the GD coulter design is based on a double disc arrangement, mounted on a 22° angle off the vertical which is able to pivot around a central kingpin mounted within the coulter body. The larger leading outer disc cuts an opening slice in the soil whilst the smaller inner disc is in effect undermining the 'upper' side forming an opening for the seed to be placed precisely. This process removes side wall compression from the opening slot, making slot closing more effective and consistent.

The lifted wall of the soil is firmed down onto the seed by a single press wheel ensuring good seed-to-soil contact. The press wheel also acts as a depth regulator for the disc coulters. Drilling depth is adjusted by moving a single pin through a bank of holes with a depth range of 16-144mm in 16mm increments.

Coulters are individually pressurised providing up to 300kg of downwards pressure helping to maintain consistent contact with the ground and follow contours and undulations.

This refined design aided by an inter-row clearance of 1 metre has resulted in a coulter that is able to work in extremely trashy conditions and cover crops without creating an opportunity for hair-pinning to arise. This adaptable system can be used on all cultivation systems and soil types.

PRECISION SEED PLACEMENT

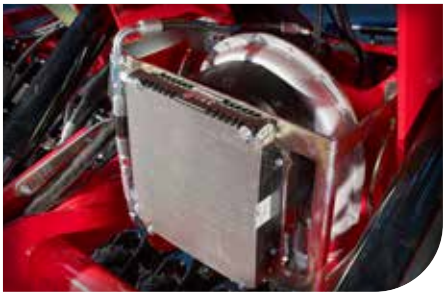
The GD coulter is able to accurately place a wide variety of seed types and sizes whilst maintaining a consistent depth. Seed is delivered between the two discs of the coulter directly to the bottom of the soil opening. The disc coulter units of the GD Drill are independently mounted and pressurised, allowing each coulter to maintain consistent contact with the ground. Contours, obstacles and undulations are no challenge for accurate seed placement.

ULTRA LOW SOIL DISTURBANCE

The GD coulter offers superior soil disturbance control compared to other no-till drills on the market. The coulter eliminates the opportunity for fresh soil to be brought to the surface whilst the surface layer is left intact and therefore prevents fresh and dormant weed seeds from germinating. The leading outer disc cuts through the soil whilst the smaller inner disc undermines the soil structure creating an opening for the seed to be placed, before swiftly being firmed back to its original state.

LOW OPERATIONAL COST

The GD Drill has been designed for one pass drilling, significantly reducing your crop establishment cost. All the features of the GD have also been engineered to promote low operational cost, such as the hydraulic fan drive, which reduces the RPM on the tractor and in turn reduces fuel costs, gives more flexibility with air flow, and helps prevent wear and tear.



Our Models

The Mounted Grain-Only model

Available in 3 and 4-metre working widths, suitable for small-to-medium-size farms. Excels in manouevrability and low disturbance.

The Mounted Grain & Fertiliser model

Available in a 3-metre working width, suitable for small-to-medium farmers who want dual product application capability in a compact and manouevrable mounted machine.

The Trailed GD model

Available in both grain only and grain and fertiliser configurations and 4-metre to 8-metre working widths, suitable for large farmers and contractors.

The Trailed GD3001T model

A compact trailed model in a 3 metre working width with a grain and fertiliser split tank, suitable for small-to-medium-size farms. Unrivalled coulter pressure from a 3 metre machine with a low HP requirement.

The Trailed GD-Caddy model

A trailed hopper with a rear doube-acting three-point linkage coupled with a two-piece fold GD coulter toolbar. Available in 4-metre, 4.8-metre and 6-metre working widths, with a grain and fertiliser split tank, suitable for large farmers and contractors

The Vineyard GD model

Available in 1.5 metre and 2 metre working widths, suitable for drilling grass and cover crops in vineyards, orchards and urban environments. The innovator in vitocultural production.

Mounted GD - Grain Only Models Key Features

KEY FEATURES

3 - 4 M

120+ BHP

166 MM

DESCRIPTION

The mounted GD Drill is a light and compact drill ideally suited to small and medium-sized farms. There are two grain-only models, the GD3001M and the GD4001M. Each mounted model is fitted with a volumetric metering unit which guarantees a repeatable metering dose ranging from 1.8kg/ha to 400kg/ha, making it suitable for fine and coarse grains, with no need to replace the metering rollers.

Standard specification:

GD3001M

2,000-litre plastic hopper, RDS Artemis Lite Controls with GPS forward speed monitoring, hydraulic fan, a 2-row coulter bar with a row spacing of 166mm, stone guards, stainless steel scrapers, work, tank & road lights, and a tank sieve.

GD4001M

2,000-litre plastic hopper, colour touch screen RDS iSOCAN controls with GPS forward speed monitoring, hydraulic fan, a 2-row coulter bar with a row spacing of 166mm, stone guards, stainless steel scrapers, work, tank & road lights, and a tank sieve.

The Mounted Grain Only Technical Specification

MODEL	GD3001M	GD4001M
Working width (m)	3	4
Hourly output (ha)	3	4
Row spacing (mm)	166	166
Minimum Coulter pressure (kg)	135	130
No. of coulters	18	24
Minimum HP requirement	120	150
Frame type	Rigid	Folding
Working speed (km)	8-12	8-12
Road transport width (m)	3	3
Weight (kg)	2400	3100
Height (m)	2.4	2.4
Depth (m)	2.4	2.4
Hopper capacity (l)	2000	2000
Metering Control	Artemis Lite	iSOCAN
Disc Diameter Ø (mm)	405	405
Press wheel	4.00-8 6 ply Kevlar belt	4.00-8 6 ply Kevlar belt
Hydraulic spool requirement	2 double acting + 1 single acting + 1 free flow return	2 double acting + 1 single acting + 1 free flow return
Fan oil capacity (l/min)	45	45

Mounted GD - Grain & Fertiliser Models Key Features

KEY FEATURES

3M	120+ BHP	166 MM

DESCRIPTION

The mounted GD3000M G&F Drill is a light and compact drill ideally suited to small and medium-sized farms that want the flexibility of dual cropping but in an ultra low disturbance mounted format. The GD300M G&F model is fitted with an volumetric metering unit with RDS iSOCAN controls, which guarantee a repeatable metering dose ranging from 1.8kg/ha to 400kg/ha, making it suitable for fine and coarse grains, with no need to replace the metering rollers.

The GD3000M G&F is fitted with a 2,800-litre steel tank with a 50/50 split. Individual metering units supply different products to the coulter where they are mixed in the seed tube as it enters the ground.

Standard specification: GD3000M G&F

The GD3000M G&F model is fitted with colour touch screen RDS iSOCAN controls with GPS forward speed monitoring, hydraulic fan, a 2-row coulter bar with a row spacing of 166mm, stone guards, stainless steel scrapers, work, tank & road lights, and a tank sieve.

The Mounted G&F Technical Specification

MODEL	GD3000M G&F
Working width (m)	3
Hourly output (ha)	3
Row spacing (mm)	166
Minimum Coulter pressure (kg)	200
No. of coulters	18
Minimum HP requirement	120
Frame type	Rigid
Working speed (km)	8-12
Road transport width (m)	3
Weight (kg)	2250
Height (m)	2.4
Depth (m)	2.4
Hopper capacity (l)	1400 / 1400
Metering Control	iSOCAN
Disc Diameter Ø (mm)	405
Press wheel	4.00-8 6 ply Kevlar belt
Hydraulic spool requirement	2 double acting + 1 single acting + 1 free flow return
Fan oil capacity (l/min)	45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Trailed GD Models Key Features

Roll over hopper cover and full width tank sieve/walkway

Large capacity hydraulically driven fan with oil cooler

5,000 litre hopper capacity

GPS forward speed sensor

Cat III Linkage mounted drawbar

Easy access inspection door

Integral small seeds tank and applicator

Vertical travel of coulter 300mm

LED Road Lights

Ergonomic hopper access steps with built in toolbox

6 Ply 400x8 Kevlar shield pneumatic press wheel

166mm Coulter row spacing

Parallel linkage contour following coulter

RDS iSOCAN controls

Parking stands

Mitas Agriterra 02 800/45-26.5 flotation tyres

Compact 3 metre transport width

Volumetric metering unit capable of drilling anything from small seeds to pulses

Electric switching system for headland management

Two rows of coulters with 1.2 metre inter-beam clearance

KEY FEATURES

4 - 8M

35 BHP/M

166 MM

DESCRIPTION

The trailed GD is equipped with a generously sized hopper, fitted with an easily accessible volumetric metering unit accompanied by RDS iSOCAN controls. Fitted with two integral micro granular hoppers. Coulters are pressurised to provide up to 300kg of downwards pressure which helps maintain consistent sowing depth across undulations. Fitted with a Cat III linkage mounted drawbar allowing for tight headland manoeuvres. The hydraulic folding coulter bar maintains transport widths of under 3 metres on all models. A guide of 35HP per metre is recommended.

Standard specification:

GD4001T - GD8001T Grain Only

5,000L hopper, RDS iSOCAN controls with GPS forward speed monitoring, hydraulic fan & oil cooler, a 2-row coulter bar with a row spacing of 166mm, roll over hopper cover, Mitas flotation tyres, stone guards, work, tank & road lights, and a tank sieve.

GD4001T - GD6001T Grain & Fertiliser

The Grain & Fertiliser models are equipped with the same standard features as their grain only counterparts, but the tank has a 60/40 split. Individual metering units supply different products to the coulter where they are mixed in the seed tube as it enters the ground. The trailed GD used RDS iSOCAN controls with GPS forward speed monitoring which offers variable rate application on the move.

The Trailed GD Technical Specification

MODEL	GD3001T	GD4001T	GD4801T	GD6001T	GD8001T
Working width (m)	3	4	4.8	6	4
Hourly output (ha)	3	4	5	7	9
Row spacing (mm)	166	166	166	166	166
Minimum Coulter pressure (kg)	250	300	275	240	202
No. of coulters	18	24	28	36	48
Minimum HP requirement	115	140	160	180	240
Frame type	Rigid	Folding	Folding	Folding	Folding
Working speed (km)	8-12	8-12	8-12	8-12	8-12
Road transport width (m)	2.99	2.99	2.99	2.99	2.99
Weight - Grain Only (kg)	N/A	7400	7800	8300	9700
Weight - Grain & Fertiliser (kg)	4550	7700	8000	8700	N/A
Height (m)	3	3	3	3	3
Length (m)	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Hopper capacity (l)	4000	5000	5000	5000	5000
Transport Wheel Size	800 / 45R26.5				
Disc Diameter Ø (mm)	405				
Press wheel	4.00-8 6 ply Kevlar belt				
Hydraulic spool requirement	4 double acting + 1 single acting + free flow return				
Fan oil capacity (l/min)	45				
Brakes	Hydraulic				
Metering Control	iSOCAN				


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Trailed GD Models - GD3001T Key Features

KEY FEATURES

3M	115+ BHP	166 MM

DESCRIPTION

The GD3001T is equipped with all the same features as the larger Trailed GD Drill but with a 4,000 litre hopper with a 50/50 split grain & fertiliser tank. This tank is fitted with an easily accessible volumetric metering unit accompanied by RDS iSOCAN controls. A closed hydraulic suspension system provides individual coulter pressure of up to 250kg helps to maintain consistent sowing depth across undulations. Fitted with a Cat III linkage mounted drawbar allowing for tight headland manoeuvres.

Standard specification: GD3001T G&F

4,000L hopper, RDS iSOCAN controls with GPS forward speed monitoring, hydraulic fan & oil cooler, a 2-row coulter bar with a row spacing of 166mm, roll over hopper cover, Mitas flotation tyres, stone guards, work, tank & road lights, and a tank sieve.

The Trailed GD Technical Specification

MODEL	GD3001T
Working width (m)	3
Hourly output (ha)	3
Row spacing (mm)	166
Minimum Coulter pressure (kg)	250
No. of coulters	18
Minimum HP requirement	115
Frame type	Rigid
Working speed (km)	8-12
Road transport width (m)	2.99
Weight (kg)	4550
Height (m)	3
Length (m)	7.5
Hopper capacity (l)	4000
Transport Wheel Size	800 / 45R26.5
Disc Diameter Ø (mm)	405
Press wheel	4.00-8 6 ply Kevlar belt
Hydraulic spool requirement	4 double acting + 1 single acting + free flow return
Fan oil capacity (l/min)	45
Brakes	Hydraulic
Metering Control	iSOCAN


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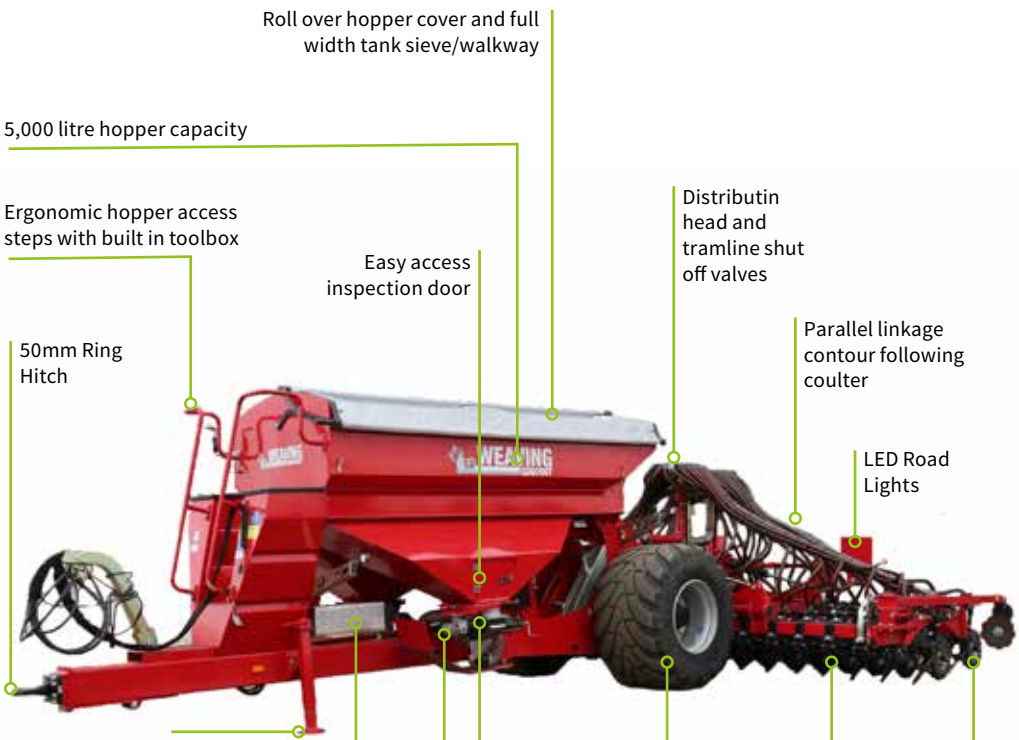
Trailed GD-Caddy Models Key Features



KEY FEATURES

4 - 6M	35 BHP/M	166 MM

DESCRIPTION

The Trailed GD-Caddy drill is another solution offered to meet the demands of large farmers and contractors. The GD coulter toolbar is mounted behind a trailed seed hopper rnning on flotation tyres. This solution has a low power requirements from 35HP per metre resulting in reduced compaction. The hopper is fitted with an easily accessible electric metering unit accompanied by RDS iSOCAN controls making calibration fast and simple. A closed circuit provides individual coulter pressure of up to 200Kg helping to maintain consistent ground contact across undulations with an accurate sowing depth. A two section hydraulically folding toolbar maintains transport widths of under 3 Metres. The are 3 working widths available; 4 metres, 4.8 metres and 6 metres.

Standard specification: The Trailed GD-Caddy model

5,000L hopper with a 50/50 split, RDS iSOCAN controls with GPS forward speed monitoring, hydraulic fan & oil cooler, a 2-row coulter bar with a row spacing of 166mm, roll over hopper cover, Mitas flotation tyres, stone guards, work, tank & road lights, and a tank sieve.

The Trailed GD-Caddy Technical Specification

MODEL	GD4000T G&F	GD4800T G&F	GD6000T G&F
Working width (m)	4	4.8	6
Hourly output (ha)	4	5	7
Row spacing (mm)	166	166	166
Minimum Coulter pressure (kg)	300	275	240
No. of coulters	24	28	36
Minimum HP requirement	140	160	180
Frame type	Folding	Folding	Folding
Working speed (km)	8-12	8-12	8-12
Road transport width (m)	2.87	2.87	2.87
Weight (kg)	4550	4550	4550
Height (m)	2.7	2.7	2.7
Length (m)	9.1	9.1	9.1
Hopper capacity (l)	5000	5000	5000
Transport Wheel Size	800 / 45R26.5	800 / 45R26.5	800 / 45R26.5
Disc Diameter Ø (mm)	405	405	405
Press wheel	4.00-8 6 ply Kevlar belt		
Hydraulic spool requirement	4 double acting + 1 single acting + free flow return		
Fan oil capacity (l/min)	45	45	45
Brakes	Hydraulic	Hydraulic	Hydraulic
Metering Control	iSOCAN	iSOCAN	iSOCAN

Vineyard GD Models Key Features

KEY FEATURES

1.5 - 2M	60 + BHP	166 MM

DESCRIPTION

The Weaving Vineyard ‘Mini’ GD Drill is the little brother to the Mounted GD. This compact version has been designed to drill grass and cover crops in vineyards, orchards and urban environments. The mini GD is fitted with all the same features and technologies as the mounted GD, allowing effective crop establishment. The GD drill is the outcome of continuous refinement and development, to create a simple yet precise seed drill. It features the patented and future proofed GD coulter, which provides remarkably low soil disturbance, has a very low draught requirement along with an excellent service life.

The GD drill excels in its adaptability to satisfy all drilling systems, soil types and conditions. This provides users with the flexibility to approach zero-till alongside traditional crop establishment methods. The Vineyard GD is fitted with a 300L capacity Weaving Magnum seeder allowing easy access to the volumetric metering unit accompanied by RDS Artemis Lite controls. Calibration is quick and simple. A closed hydraulic suspension system provides individual coulter pressure of up to 200kg maintaining a consistent sowing depth.

Standard specification: Vineyard GD

300L Hopper, RDS Artemis Lite controls with GPS forward speed monitoring, 4” hydraulic fan, a 2-row coulter bar with a row spacing of 166mm, work, tank & road lights, stone guards and stainless-steel scrapers.

The Vineyard GD Technical Specification

MODEL	GD1500M	GD2000M
Working width (m)	1.5	2
Hourly output (ha)	3.5	3.5
Row spacing (mm)	166	166
Minimum Coulter pressure (kg)	200	200
No. of coulters	9	12
Minimum HP requirement	60	60
Frame type	Rigid	Rigid
Working speed (km)	8-12	8-12
Road transport width (m)	1.5	2
Weight (kg)	1200	1475
Height (m)	2.4	2.4
Depth (m)	2.4	2.4
Hopper capacity (l)	300	300
Metering Control	Artemis Lite	Artemis Lite
Hydraulic Fan	Standard	Standard
Press wheel	4.00-8 6 ply Kevlar belt	4.00-8 6 ply Kevlar belt
Stone Guards	Optional	Optional
Wheel Scrapers	Optional	Optional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MAGNUM

Simple Calibration

Calibration is simple and quick using a single point discharge chute and screw adjustable metering mechanism. The corrosion-proof metering unit is maintenance free and will maintain its accuracy season after season. Complete discharge of the hopper is made quick and easy with the emptying hatch.

The trailed GD and the GD-Caddy are both two-piece toolbar fold (with the exception of the GD3001T which is rigid), this makes access to the metering unit virtually unhindered and calibration fuss free.

RDS iSOCAN Controls

All GD Drills (with the exception of the GD3001M) are equipped with RDS iSOCAN controls as standard. The terminal from RDS uses a 7″ touchscreen (16 x 9 format) display and includes physical keys to provide a modern and ergonomic operator interface for wide variety of applications. The system allows up to metering units or applicators, enabling dual cropping, fertiliser and Avadex applications. The iSOCAN software monitors and controls tramlining, hopper level, fan speed alarms, variable rate controls, on the move seed rate adjustment and offers activity data (e.g., area worked and quantities applied). The iSOCAN software is ISOBUS compatible, allowing complete control via ISOBUS with the addition of an ISOBUS ready cable (see optional specification).

RDS Artemis Lite Controls GD3001M only

The GD3001M drill is equipped with eletric metering through RDS Artemis Lite. This is an economical solution for accurate dosing of seed, simple calibration, and the ability to change the seed rate on the move. Tramline control is available through the head unit. The metering unit is suitable for all seeds with no need to replace the metering rollers. An optional upgrade to RDS iSOCAN Controls is available for the GD3001M and is required if intending to use iSOBUS systems or variable seed rate application.

Mounted and Trailed GD Options

Hydraulic Markers	A serrated cutting disc to scratch a mark into the surface of the soil allowing operators to align the centre of the machine at equal and parallel distances from their previous workings.
Electric Half Shut Off	An electronically controlled actuator shuts off 50% of the distribution head cutting off seed supply to half of the machine width to reduce the amount of seed overlap on headland manoeuvres. *only available on GD4001T, GD6001T and GD8001T models.
Double Pre-Emergence Markers	A pair of pre-emergence markers are fitted to specially designed coulter brackets using a serrated cutting disc to leave a visible mark for operators to easily follow for subsequent operations. These are activated automatically by the RDS controller. *only available on Mounted GD models.
Variable Rate Unlock Code	This is only available with iSOCAN controls. By purchasing the unlock code, operators are then able to access the variable rate seeding facility on the RDS controller.
Slug Pellet Roller For Avadex Applicator	This roller can be fitted to the stocks Avadex applicator allowing it to accurately meter slug pellet granules.
Wheel Scrapers	Fitted to the wheel arm these scrapers help to knock off excess soil that may carry on the tyre in damp conditions allowing users to continue operating for longer.
iSOBUS Ready	iSOBUS enables standardised communication between your tractor, software and drill through a single ‘plug and play’ terminal. The tractor driver is able to control several functions allowing better yield and precision drilling management from the comfort of the tractor cab using an iSOBUS Ready Cable.

Crops

Wheat after Linseed

Wheat after OSR

Linseed after Wheat

Wheat into Stoney Ground

Spring Barley after Cultivation

Mounted and Trailed GD Applicators

Applicators are available to be fitted to the standard GD drill enabling multiple applications of small seeds, fertilisers and pellets, allowing each drill to be customised to the operator's needs.

Stocks AG Turbo Jet applicator:

The Stocks Turbo Jet applicator with a capacity of 240 litres are a versatile and accurate 12 volt powered pneumatic applicator to meter and spread most small seeds. This applicator is commonly used to apply avadex or slug pellets with the measured material blown onto the seedbed surface via a separate distribution unit. Applicators can be configured to suit various working widths.

Stocks AG Rotor Meter applicator:

The Stocks Rotor Meter applicator has a capacity of 130 litres enabling it to accurately and safely meter micro and full size granular material and small seeds. The electronically speed controlled (ESC) applicator uses GPS to automatically maintain application rate as forward speed varies with 'on the go' adjustment of rate. The metered material is fed into the venturi of the seed metering unit via a pressurised air supply ensuring constant delivery of material. The combination of materials is evenly mixed in the metering unit and delivered via one coulter into the seedbed.

TESTIMONIALS

"We purchased a 4.8m trailed Weaving GD drill in Spring 2016. The farm had been transitioning to no tillage over the previous 5 years as we had taken the decision to reduce the amount of steel we were wearing up and fuel we were burning in order to turn our Hanslope clay soils into a seedbed.

When it came to the drill purchase we had decided to go for a disc drill for 2 reasons; firstly our goal was to reduce grass weed germination at the point of drilling, so we wanted to be as low disturbance as possible, and secondly, our soils remain quite wet in the spring, and we considered a tine drill would pull up "puggy" wet clay in the spring, and potentially have an issue with trash from cover crops in spring. Having now run the drill over a variety of conditions in both spring and autumn we are sure we made the right decision.

Tom Jewers, D & T Farms Ltd, UK - GD4800T G&F

The trailed GD has plenty of downforce to cut seed into the soil in very dry conditions, but most importantly for us, can close the slot in very wet conditions - Autumns of 2019 and 2020 really tested that! We have seen huge transformation to the condition of our soils over the past 5 years. It took a couple of years before we started to notice changes other than the immediate increase in worm numbers, but as an example, for the first 3 years we found 2nd cereals challenging with chopped straw locking up nutrition. The biology seems to now cycle chopped wheat straw much quicker and 2nd wheats are now no problem to direct drill and have been yielding better than ever. Barley is a little less forgiving after chopped spring barley, but this year for the first time we have direct drilled all the winter barley into chopped straw and it looks great. Importantly the GD will also work in a cultivated system which means we can still remain flexible with contract customers, and don't need another drill in the back of the shed."

"We provide specialist contracting services for vineyards throughout the UK, much of our maintenance work is establishing, maintaining and repairing grass and cover crop strips between the vine rows. Since investing in the new Vineyard GD, there have been many situations where we have been able to drill straight into the existing vegetation, avoiding the need for pre-cultivation.

We are sowing seed mixes containing 20-30 varieties of seed at a rate of 8-10 hectares per day. Work rates are considerably higher than we could have achieved with our power harrow drill, and our fuel consumption is lower too. The Weaving drill is well made and heavy which helps ensure effective penetration, but it's very easy to pull. The other advantage over the power harrow drill is the lower wear rates when operating in stony ground. Many of the vineyards we look after are on flinty soils and the Weaving GD's disc coulters suffer less wear and pivot to work around obstructions which reduces the risk of breakages.

We've used it in a wide variety of conditions including hard and soft soils, and we have never had a coulter blockage and the hydraulic depth control is superb.

Each mix requires a new calibration but the process is quick and easy. The speed of the hydraulic driven fan has a wide range of adjustment to suit seeds of all sizes and densities. The vineyard GD has a simple and reliable design and excellent build quality, if anything it's over made, and we like that as it means it's built to last."

Will & Sam Barnes, S J Barnes Ltd, UK - Vineyard GD

"I have been running a trailed Weaving on our 550-acre medium to heavy beef and arable farm for nearly 3 years moving on from a strip-till drill. My focus is to be predominantly zero till, but with the flexibility to carry out low disturbance subsoiling, mole draining or light discing where necessary and still follow with the GD.

The main reason I chose the GD was that it ticked all of the boxes in terms of a 3-metre trailed machine with all the capabilities of a larger model such as dual hoppers, total integration of Avadex/slug pellets etc and arrived ready to go without any further modification. I also liked the angled slot closure as it has meant the seed is always covered under a shelf even in drying ground conditions. It also felt reassuring to buy a product from a family-owned British company with hundreds of units successfully on the ground already.

We are currently 50% zero-till, with the other 50% aimed towards zero-till next year after a reset, with focus on maintaining soil health to reduce or eliminate mechanical intervention where we can in the future.

Tim Smith, Smith Farms Ltd, UK - GD3001T G&F

The main benefits from using the GD and direct drilling include; reduced blackgrass (through low disturbance but also better results from pre-ems), more consistent spring cropping (through better moisture retention), more forgiving ground conditions meaning we can travel when we could not before and fuel and time savings (from running just 1 machine through the ground). In the event of crop failure, there are still roots and residue from the previous crop untouched in the ground rather than leaving bare soil. With the GD we have the ability to plant a high biomass winter cover crop and drill spring crops straight into it successfully.

Wisdoms we have gathered so far and would share with other perspective operators would be; start with crops and varieties that have good vigour and are known to suit zero-till, variable seed rate drilling is especially helpful, don't be afraid of using slug pellets pre or post where necessary, ensure compaction, drainage issues etc are sorted before fully committing to zero-till and finally, the way the land is treated throughout the year will affect how successful the next crop is."

"The GD does what every direct drill should do – it closes the slot in a variety of situations. By covering the seed, it increases germination rates and protects from slugs and chemical damage. The openers also follow the ground contours well. It can cope with high residue situations and tall cover crops. The only problem we encountered was drilling into thick mats of cereal straw on the ground. We modified our practice and cut our stubble much higher, which dramatically improved the problem.

Over the last 4 years of running our GD, we are impressed with the build quality and reliability. This drill has allowed us to transition from conventional tillage to regenerative agriculture, incorporating cover crops, broadening our rotation and practicing no-till successfully. We use our drill twice per year on most fields, to establish cash crops and cover crops. The multi-hopper configuration (including the small seed hopper) makes it versatile. I also think the ability to place fertiliser next to the seed in our first years transitioning to no-till was important."

Ed Reynolds, R I Reynolds & Son, UK - GD4001T

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