

# GILTRAP WIDETRAC PROMISES FARMERS AFFORDABLE ACCURACY

GILTRAP ENGINEERING'S NEW WIDETRAC IS A COST-EFFECTIVE, EASY-TO-USE FERTILISER SPREADER THAT ELIMINATES THE ANNOYING MANUAL ADJUSTMENTS THAT OTHER ENTRY-LEVEL SPREADERS REQUIRE.

With the WideTrac's automatic electronic control system, operators no longer have to drive at a certain speed with the door set at a specific height to achieve their target spreading rate.

Designed for all farming operations, the Giltrap WideTrac features a lightweight but durable plastic body that is held in place by a tough galvanised steel frame.

It has a wide, heavy-duty spreader belt, high-speed spinner discs, and an easy-to-use rate controller with a large backlit display that is built into the front of the machine.

Giltrap Engineering North Island area manager Eric Crosby says the WideTrac makes a strong first impression because of its stylish plastic body.

"The plastic bin is made from low density plastic (LDPE) which has great flexibility and high impact resistance. The bin has an inner and an outer wall, both of which are 8-mm thick.

"There is an air gap between the two walls that the fully-

galvanised steel frame fits into. Because the frame is fully encased in the plastic panels, it has no direct contact with fertiliser."

Eric says the plastic body has a large viewing panel in front so the tractor driver can keep a close eye on what is happening within the bin.

"The construction of the plastic bin is modular. It is made up of a number of panels, so that if one is ever damaged, it can easily be removed and replaced without the need to replace the entire bin."

Not only is the WideTrac's frame hot dip galvanised, all other metal parts are galvanised or stainless steel (including the belt chains) for excellent corrosion resistance.

The rubber floor belt is 780 mm wide and 8 mm thick, and it has 5-mm high cleats. The belt is riveted to the galvanised chain and slat assembly with high-tensile stainless mono-bolts.

"At the business end of the spreader, the rear door is gal-



vanised and the spinners are stainless steel.

"The spreading system is hydraulically-driven, so there is no threat of wheel slip disrupting spreading, which can happen with ground drive systems that use a jockey wheel," Eric says.

The spinner discs can work at speeds up to 1000 rpm. They produce an even spread at widths up to 24m with granulated fertilisers.

With its wide belt, the WideTrac can spread virtually any product, from superphosphate to urea or lime. Or it can handle organic products such as poultry manure and compost. Spreading rates extend from 40 to 5000 kg/ha.

A major feature that separates the WideTrac from other basic fertiliser spreaders is its simple but effective electric control system. Eric says it just requires a few steps with two control buttons to set up a job.

"The control panel has a display screen that lets you scroll through the settings. You use up and down arrows to enter your required spread rate, the density of the fertiliser and spread width.

"Once this information is in the system, the controller calculates the belt speed that is required to spread the material and it opens the rear door hydraulically with

IT IS EASY TO ENTER KEY PARAMETERS OF A SPREADING JOB INTO THE WIDETRAC'S CONTROL PANEL.

an electric ram depending on the spread rate and product density you have entered.

"As you work, it automatically alters the belt speed and door height to match your driving speed. This ensures you apply the correct rate at all times."

Giltrap Engineering provides a weighing kit with the WideTrac that you can use to determine the density of the products you spread.

Just collect a litre of the product and measure its weight. Then enter that figure into the control panel using the up and down arrows.

To turn the spreader on and off, the operator uses a nifty hand-held remote. When they get to the end of a row, they push the red button on the remote to stop spreading.

When they have made the turn and are back in the next row, they push the green button to resume spreading.

Eric says spreading fertiliser is a topical subject these days and it will only get more attention in the next few years as regional authorities increase compliance requirements.

"The WideTrac is a unique spreader not only in New Zealand but around the world. It provides a simple, affordable way for farmers to apply fertiliser accurately so they can meet those compliance regulations."

WideTrac spreaders are available with capacities of 4, 6 or 8 tonnes. All models have the option of tandem or single axles. Other options are mudguards and rollover tarpaulin covers to keep things clean and dry.

For more information or to download a brochure go to the Giltrap Engineering website ([giltrapag.co.nz](http://giltrapag.co.nz)) or call 0800 804 458. **RC**

GILTRAP DESIGNED THE WIDETRAC TO GIVE FARMERS ACCURATE, ELECTRICALLY-CONTROLLED SPREADING IN A COST-EFFECTIVE PACKAGE.

