

# New Products

## Sold on the 480/80R50

Last winter when Bryan Driewer wanted to add a tractor to his fleet, he had every intention of purchasing a used one equipped with 18.4R46 tires.

"I wanted something taller than the 20.8R42 tires I was using," he says.

However, by the time he walked out the door of his local implement dealer, he had agreed to purchase a new Case IH MX240

when digging furrows for flood irrigation of his corn

corn cobs into huge 30-foot tall, 300-foot long piles. The corn cobs are then loaded into semi-trucks and

important feature."

While everyone could see the advantages of the 480/80R50 tire on paper,



*Bryan Driewer likes the tall diameter of the 480/80R50 Super Traction Radials because they give him extra traction for bulldozing corn cob piles.*

tractor equipped with 480/80R50 Super Traction Radials.

"I didn't even realize that anyone made a 50-inch tire," he says. "As far as I knew, 46 inches was as tall as tires got."

The extra height gives him more plant clearance

and soybean acreage near Bradshaw, Nebraska.

Driewer also gained in the area of load carrying capacity. That's an advantage when pulling heavy three-point hitch equipment.

But one of the biggest benefits for Driewer is the tire's extra traction. The larger footprint he gains from its tall diameter, and the deeper lug he gets with its R-1W tread designation, will be beneficial when he bulldozes corn cobs later this fall. (Driewer bulldozes

transported to industrial manufacturing companies.)

"For this job I need more traction than horsepower," he says. "With these tires, I can tie down the tractor in a lot lower gear than I could with a smaller diameter tire."

Even with the deeper tread, Driewer says the tires ride smoothly on the road, even at speeds of 27 to 28 mph.

"I love how these tires ride at the higher tractor speeds," he says. "We drive our tractors quite a long distance from field to field so that's an

no one was quite sure what to expect.

"I purchased the tractor sight unseen; so my dealer said if I wasn't satisfied I could return it," he says.

After using the tractor this spring and summer for planting, fertilizing and cultivating, Driewer is pleased with how it's performing.

"Several people have driven the tractor, and the implement dealer has already ordered more just like this one," he says. "I don't think I'll be taking it back!" **R**

## Goodyear's tallest R-2 tire digs deep in the Delta

Sam Tarkington's new Case IH MX270 tractor came equipped with competitive brand tires when it arrived on his Almyra, Arkansas, farm last spring. But he didn't keep them for long. When he got wind that the 520/85R46 Special Sure Grip® TD8 Radial was available from his farm tire dealer, he made the switch to Goodyear's tallest R-2 tire.

The tire's deep lug (108/32nds) and tall diameter (83.3 inches) is a good match for his soil conditions and farm management style.

Tarkington, his father, John Ed, and brother, Will, farm 6,800 acres of rice, soybeans and wheat. They used the mechanical-front-wheel-drive tractor for heavy tillage last spring, and they'll rely on it for pulling a 750-bushel grain cart at harvest.

Although they don't farm a lot of tough, sticky "gumbo" ground typical of the Mississippi Delta, they do start fieldwork early.

"I like to get into the fields early in the spring," he says. "To do that I need a tire with a deep lug."

The Special Sure Grip TD 8 Radial tire's lug is

about twice as deep as a conventional R-1 tire.

The extra tread depth is also an advantage during



*The deep lug and tall diameter of the 520/85R46 Special Sure Grip TD8 Radial is a good fit for Sam Tarkington's soil conditions and management style.*

harvest. Rice and soybeans are flood irrigated during the growing season. Even though fields are drained before harvest, mud can still be a challenge in the fall.

The Special Sure Grip TD8 Radial tire's turbine design lug configuration promotes self-cleaning in sticky, wet field conditions. And the precisely angled, double-tapered lugs bite deeply in the soil for excellent traction.

Flood irrigation also requires building elaborate levee systems that follow the contour of the land rather than a row in a field. Equipment must travel over the levees at harvest.

"Building and crossing levees is tough; so is land leveling that we do before planting," he says. "I used to struggle with flat tires on 42-inch tires because of our severe application. The tire's tall diameter has helped eliminate flat tires for our operation."

Tarkington hasn't put a pencil to downtime costs for his farming operation. But he does do some custom land leveling for

other farmers where he charges \$120 per hour.

"I can lose up to half a day with a flat tire," he says. At that rate, lost time alone costs nearly \$500 for every tire failure.

"I keep spare tires in the farm shop to minimize downtime," he adds. "There's just too much at stake to be down for very long."

With the benefits of a deep lug, tall diameter and reduced downtime, Tarkington chose to equip a new Case IH MX220 tractor with 520/85R46 Special Sure Grip TD8 Radial tires. This time, he requested them as original equipment. **R**



# New Products

## The new standard for tire wear

Irregular wear used to be the leading cause of removal for steer tires mounted on fertilizer trucks at Stratton Seed Company in Stuttgart, Arkansas. Tire life was only about two to three years. Between four rigs, Brad Newkirk, fertilizer

operations manager at the seed company, was penciling into the budget a new set of steer tires every year.



*The long wearing tread of the Super Terra Grip LW is a definite advantage for Brad Newkirk.*

sprayers and fertilizer trucks that log a lot of miles on the road. To combat uneven, irregular wear that is common in the steer position, the tire has a high concentration of tread in the center. The dense tread also minimizes tread squirm and heat buildup while offering a smooth ride on the road. Open spacing of the shoulder lugs provides traction in soft soils.

"Our operators really like how the tires ride down the road," Newkirk says, adding that rigs travel up to 20 miles from the facility. "The tires don't shake from uneven wear." A smooth ride promotes safety as well because drivers have more control of the vehicle.

"The Super Terra Grip LW has become the new standard for us," he says. "It's the tire we measure all others against. I would recommend it without a doubt. The tread design is great. The tire handles well on pavement and it takes to the field really well."

The Super Terra Grip LW is available these sizes: 48x25.00-20NHS and 48x31.00-20NHS. **R**

But the Goodyear Super Terra Grip LW (long-wear) extends that timetable. It can offer up to 50 percent more life compared to Super Terra-Grip tires.

"Wear is our main concern when evaluating tire performance," says Newkirk. "There is no doubt these new tires will last longer."

Three years ago Newkirk mounted 48x25.00-20NHS Super Terra Grip LW tires on two rigs to compare it to Goodyear's Super Terra-Grip and Super Terra-Grip XT which he had mounted on his other two rigs.

"There is actually less wear on the Super Terra Grip LW tires than the other two sets of tires, even though they have run more hours," he says. "I expect they'll last at least another year."

The Super Terra Grip LW is designed specifically for