

New Holland Reclaims Guinness World Record!



The record-holding New Holland Model CR9090 Twin Rotor™ combine attracts attention at its introduction press conference earlier in the year.

At the end of July, 2008, in Germany, New Holland broke the Guinness World Record for the highest amount of grain harvested within an 8 hour period. Then, on September 17, in Lincolnshire in the UK, Claas set a new record of 19,547 bushels within the same time period. The gauntlet had been thrown down for a new challenge.

Harvesting conditions during New Holland's record in Germany and those during the September record in the UK differed very significantly. In Germany, the crop had been much taller, requiring about twice as much straw to be processed. This resulted in more difficult threshing and separating conditions, requiring more power. In addition, the higher volume of straw also took more power to chop and spread.

The New Holland challenger was a CR9090 Twin Rotor™ combine with 591 horsepower, a recently introduced model not sold in North America. Experiences during the 2008 harvest with demonstration CR9090

combines in Denmark, Germany and the UK had shown repeatedly that it performed extremely well when compared to the Claas Lexion 600, the record holder.

Recognizing this, and in response to the competitive record, Mr. William D. Grimsdale of Mountfair Farming Ltd., supported by his local dealer, Lloyd Ltd., and New Holland, organized an attempt to re-break the Guinness World Record. In harvesting conditions that were a long way from perfect, but typical for this season in the north of the UK, Mr. Grimsdale and his team did, indeed, break the record on Friday, September 26, 2008, increasing the total amount of grain harvested in 8 hours from 19,547 to 20,263 bushels!

Mountfair Farming Ltd. operates more than 4,900 acres of arable farm land near the Scottish border. In addition to Mr. Grimsdale's own 741 acre farm, the company provides contract farming and farm management services to local landowners. A simple

but very effective system of rotating large blocks of wheat, canola and fallow land creates a sustainable farming approach, which builds soil fertility, reduces weeds and pests and decreases inorganic fertilizer and pesticide requirements.

Mountfair Farming Ltd. employs just two full-time operators working with a fleet of New Holland tractors and two 430 hp New Holland CR980 combines. During the last few years, Mountfair Farming Ltd. has moved over to New Holland machinery for all of its farming operations. "We need reliable high-capacity machinery; we only get one chance," explains Mr. Grimsdale. "The latest New Holland CR9090 has now proven its capability by taking the Guinness World Record, so moving up to this combine is the next logical step as our business grows and we continue to offer our clients the most efficient and professional service."

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Mr. Grimsdale's objective was to attempt to break the record using common "commercial" farming practices. All crop residue was chopped and spread by the combine. To facilitate minimum cultivation techniques, straw was chopped short and spread evenly across the full header width. Stubble height was maintained at a consistent level. It was also important to maintain grain loss within acceptable parameters.

The CR9090 used was a UK market demonstration unit equipped with a new, 35ft (10.7m) Varifeed header. The combine was installed with the new Opti-Spread™ and Grain Cam™ systems, and the IntelliSteer™ DGPS auto-guidance system using an RTK correction signal. The combine was operated by Mr. Grimsdale's son, Jorin, assisted by a New Holland Field Test technician, Serge Deleersynder.

Three fields of 61.7 acres, 34.5 acres and 49.4 acres were harvested during the record. No prior preparation of the fields had been possible, so the combine also had to cut the headlands. The terrain of all three fields was sloping, with a number of severe ridges and troughs in the 49.4 acre field. The variety of

the wheat was Robigus. The crop was standing well throughout most of the fields, although it was very ripe, with heads fully bent over.

Due to a heavy dew in the morning, the record attempt was only started at 12:50 pm, which meant that the 8-hour period was not completed until 8:50 pm. Conditions were sunny during the early afternoon, becoming cloudy and overcast from mid-afternoon. Dew started to form at around 7:30 pm, and the last hour of the record attempt was completed in darkness. The air temperature was about 57° F at the start, dropping to 50° F at the end.

The average capacity of the combine throughout the total 8 hours was 2,533 bushels per hour, with maximum spot rates up to 3,667 bushels per hour. Grain loss was below 0.5% throughout the whole attempt, and fuel consumption was very low at an average of 1.42 gallons per acre.

Mr. Grimsdale commented, "We read about the recent World Record in the press and we were confident we could do better. Our experience in using two New Holland CR980 combines and our high efficiency

approach to cereal production means we are very well placed to take on a challenge like this, and we're delighted to have been so successful by operating the latest 591 hp CR9090. We captured the Guinness World Record for combine harvesting with an impressive 20,263 bushels of wheat harvested in eight hours."

"Operating the CR9090 combine from New Holland, our team harvested a total of 132.2 acres of winter wheat. Yield averaged 153.3 bushels per acre with an average moisture content of 17%. Straw length was between 23 and 25 inches and stubble height left was between 8 and 12 inches."

"Conditions for harvesting in the North of England this year have been challenging and, at the time of the record attempt, we had to cope with the higher humidity and shorter days experienced at this time of year. In more favorable conditions, the CR9090 could be expected to achieve an even higher output and could possibly exceed the record level."

During the first three hours of the record attempt the capacity of the CR9090 was averaging very high, but the average



Mr. William Grimsdale and his team broke the existing Guinness World Record on Friday, September 26, 2008, increasing the total amount of grain harvested in eight hours from 19,547 to 20,263 bushels. Conditions were sunny during the early afternoon, becoming cloudy and overcast from mid-afternoon.

fell back when more undulating fields with shorter work runs were encountered. Eddie Allan, Manager of the local dealer, Lloyd Ltd., stated, "To achieve what they have done with the ground and weather conditions is just remarkable. This proves that the CR9090 is a real winner – we have a number of customers very interested in purchasing one."

The record attempt was adjudicated by Carlos Martinez of Guinness World Records, who had traveled up to the site earlier in the week.

New Holland's reputation is built on the success of our customers – cash crop producers, livestock farmers, contractors, and grounds care professionals. They can count on the widest offering of innovative products and services, a full line of equipment, from tractors to harvesting and material-handling equipment, complemented by tailored financial services. A highly professional dealer network and New Holland's commitment to excellence guarantees the ultimate customer experience for everyone.



The winning team proudly holding the record certificate; (left to right) Serge Deleersnyder, driver from New Holland Field Test; Aidan Grimsdale (the farmer's son); William Grimsdale, farmer; Jim Howie and Jorin Grimsdale (another of William's sons), drivers, and Fraser Howie, driver.

