



AGLINE DISTRIBUTORS PRESS RELEASE, 11TH SEPTEMBER, 2006

Zero Till Disc Planter Designed for the Darling Downs

On Thursday, September 14th an in field demonstration of the Bio Drill disc planter will be held at Bielefeld Farm, on the Clifton – Allora Rd, Clifton at 9.30 am.

The Bio Drill, manufactured and distributed by Agline Distributors, will be demonstrated in a selection of sorghum and corn stubble conditions before invited members of the Darling Downs farming community.

The Bio Drill opener design is based on biological research rather than just agricultural engineering principles. Its unique inverted T-shaped slot:

- Retains up to 14 times more moisture (published scientific data)
- Retains up to 5 times more oxygen (published scientific data)
- Reduces seed depth variation to less than 10% (unpublished data)
- Sub-surface bands fertiliser at planting making them hugely cost effective. A 9 metre one-pass no-tillage planter takes half as long to cover a field as a three pass 13.5 metre minimum till combination.
- Regularly records 95 -99% emergence success rates (published and client data)

The Bio Drill was specifically developed to be able to handle the Darling Down's wet, black sticky soil conditions in minimum and zero applications. It is an extremely versatile machine being air seeder and vacuum box compatible whilst capable of simultaneously applying liquid, solid or gas fertilisers.

- One adjustment to control seeding depth.
- Press wheel has two function controls, seeding depth and slot closing
- Ribbed press wheels for maximum seed to soil contact
- Unique double shoot inverted T seed boot
- Coulter to cut through heavy trash
- Parallelogram with 460mm vertical travel for precise seed placement over uneven ground contour
- Adjustable disc height for varying ground conditions
- Openers able to be retrofitted to many tool bars
- In cab automatic down-force control

The Bio range of precision planting implements has been a dogged eight year quest by Ross Hubbard, Managing Director of Agline Distributors. After originally coming across the concept in part of a university study in New Zealand to building a prototype in a workshop in central NSW, the project has been driven by a vision of what it could deliver Australian farmers. A planting implement that winter or summer, can deliver the seed and fertiliser to the ideal level in the soil profile to maximise subsoil moisture, heighten plant emergence and also support minimum/zero till farming practices.

If a farmer could achieve all this, their ability to minimise the risk to their crops from a lack of in crop rainfall would be significant whilst year after year improving the productivity of their soil and therefore crop yields. Agline Distributors commercial realisation of this aim in the BIO Drill is believed to be a world first in precision agriculture.

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Members of the media are more than welcome to attend the day, commences at 9.30am at Bielefeld Farm, Clifton-Allora Rd, Clifton. Practical demonstrations followed by BBQ lunch. Please contact me by Wednesday AM 13th September for catering purposes.

Further pictures and technical information can be emailed to you on request.