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• Fuel miser: The Horsch Tiger MT four-in-one cultivator reduces the number of passes over a paddock, leading to fuel savings of up to 25 litres per hectare.

CROPPING

Horsch Tiger MT four-in-one cultivator makes short work of seedbeds

DARON JACKS, The Weekly Times December 27, 2017 12:00am

HORSCH'S Tiger MT four-in-one cultivator is designed to save broadacre farmers time, fuel and labour with its one-pass operation.

The machine is a heavy two-row harrow disc system with a cultivator that rips the soil and cuts crop residue, and prepares the soil for seeding.

"The one-pass function ensures deep fertiliser placement and aeration of the soil, and improves water penetration," said sales manager for ag machinery dealer Vanderfield, Mark Tosswill.

"It will deep rip the soil, but still leave it in a manageable condition, so you don't have to drive across the country three or four times."

The German-built machine features TerraGrip shanks with MulchMix points and 45cm tine spacing for deep loosening of soil and additional mixing action, and single-row levelling discs in front of a large packing system.



The discs at the front cut at a shallower depth and start breaking up the soil before the tines rip to 35cm deep. The following discs then pull the soil back for the tyre packer to leave a ready surface for seeding.

The tines have hydraulic overload protection with 800kg release force.

The machine is supported on the full row of packing tyres, which Horsch said enabled accurate depth control.

The Tiger MT ranges in sizes from 3m to 8m wide, weighing 4.2 tonnes to 10.3 tonnes, meaning it will need some muscle to pull it.

"You'll need 320hp for a 4m machine and up to 560hp to pull the 8m machine," Mr Tosswill said.

However, Horsch said the one-pass operation meant farmers were saving 20 to 25 litres of fuel a hectare.

The Tiger 4 MT Rigid model is also equipped with a middle chassis and a double-RollPack packer, and has an optional fertiliser attachment with a 2500-litre hopper capacity.