

Labour Machinery Resources

A Trading Title of Lincolnshire Machinery Ring Ltd 27398R

Newsletter

LMR only acts as an intermediary not a Principal or Agent for either party

SPRING 2023

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

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Spring will be with us shortly, bringing with it hope of weather conditions conducive for high yields. On the financial front we are seeing a reversal in the rampant inflation in commodities such as fertiliser and electricity that resulted from the war in Ukraine a year ago. Fuel prices have eased, however, I understand that we are to expect a significant rise in the cost of agrochemicals this year. This volatility in input costs at the same time as output price changes makes decision making for enterprises extremely challenging. Farmers relying on cold stores for their produce have questioned the future viability of crops such as potatoes on the farm. LMR can help you with access to our electricity brokers and group deals for inputs. This uncertainty comes at a time of change to the government support for farming. BPS is being phased out to be replaced by the SFI and stewardship and forestry schemes. These schemes are likely to require less capital for cashflow and investment in machinery which will be an appeal, alongside the certainty of returns. LMR can assist with scheme consultants, and for hedging/fencing, contractors plant establishment and maintenance and managing and establishing watercourses. For those investing in their cropping enterprises, LMR has group deals on many inputs ranging from fuels to wearing parts with Spaldings, APM, Knight Farm Machinery and Pan Anglia. Seed, fertiliser and agrochemicals are all available from both regional and national suppliers. Investment in buildings and infrastructure can tie into LMR contractors offering groundworks, demolition and buildings. Buildings coming out of crop storage could access

our very successful storage option. LMR has 32 years of experience with sourcing contractors for your cropping needs. There is a comprehensive range of

skills and equipment available at competitive prices from within the membership. Using a contractor can be the route to the most cost-effective solution. The cost of machinery rises relentlessly, and skilled labor is always hard to find. Using a contractor solves both problems.

Regards Andrew, Jayne & Viv



SEASONAL TOPICS – LMR CAN HELP YOU WITH SPRAYING - SPREADING - CULTIVATIONS - DRILLING - BUILDING REPAIRS – TRAINING DISCOUNTS ON WEARING PARTS

FUEL

- With utilising the LMR buying group's power, LMR, via our suppliers delivers millions of litres of fuel to the LMR members each year, saving them a considerable amount of money on their fuel costs.
- LMR receives daily competitive prices from our fuel suppliers.
- You will be quoted the <u>best price on the day</u> <u>per litre</u> including levy so you know exactly the amount that you will be paying.
- Instructions are taken regarding any ETA's, gate/tank lock codes, any vehicle restrictions etc to assist with a smooth delivery of fuel to your exact location.
- You will also receive a confirmation of the order via email from LMR that includes the price quoted and the fuel company who will be supplying the fuel.
- With local and national fuel suppliers on board with LMR we can deliver fuel nationwide.
- Normally, deliveries are within 2/3 working days, sometimes the next day. During busier times, deliveries might be extended by the fuel suppliers. Yet they and LMR will always endeavour to get the quickest delivery for you.



Grain Stores

Specialist members that undertake cleaning, maintenance, repairs, or full installation. **Contact LMR**

UTILITIES

Information supplied by an LMR Utility Specialist member.

In 2022, the gas and electricity markets definitely saw their toughest time ever. We had several periods where things were so volatile that suppliers weren't even able to offer contracts or prices and therefore businesses whose contracts were ending were left with complete uncertainty. Many businesses left agreeing a new contract until the very last minute for fear of not wanting to lock into increases before they needed to and it was often a battle of heart over head which led to some terrible results for some businesses as prices only got worse. The peaks of August/Sept saw Electric nudging £1 per kilowatt and Gas reaching 30p per kilowatt. We are now fortunately back down to electric in the late 20's & early 30p per kwh and Gas back in single digits (7/8p) and whilst we aren't back to where we are, it's certainly not as serious as it was in Q4 of last year. We are naturally hopeful that prices will continue to fall throughout 2023 but it's certainly not guaranteed. Last year European gas storage was filled so successfully down to having Nord Stream still online for the first part of the year and then an influx of LNG to all European nations. Europe doesn't have the luxury of Nord Stream now so there are still big questions marks over whether they will successfully fill storage ahead of next winter. The mild weather has been a blessing of late along with the mild winter and it's certainly been a key driver in bringing prices down. There are good deals to be had now so staying on out of contract rates is no longer the best option especially once the generous government assistance ends on 31st March 2023. Please get in touch with LMR.

PEST CONTROL & TRAINING

Specialist LMR members available For your pest control needs Training courses also available **Contact LMR**



Discounts to LMR members www.spaldings.co.uk Or contact LMR

LMR Serving the East Midlands WWW.LMR.ORG.UK

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Embracing New Technology In Crop Production

Skippy Scout – crop monitoring software to pair with off the shelf drones. I recently had a demonstration of the Skippy Scout software on my farm. The skippy scout software is operated from a mobile phone (android or iOS). The software downloads field maps on which you identify points for imaging. In this case we were looking at plant counts and weed numbers in a wheat crop where blackgrass is a serious problem. The drone was a DJI Mavic which was soon out of its case and up in the air. The progress of the drone could be monitored on the phone which was handy once the drone was out of sight. It started by taking a 360degree image of the field and surrounding area. It then proceeded to take high resolution images of the pre-selected points in the field, before returning to the operator. We were then able to download the images and analysed data on crop cover and GAI. In this case there was variability in crop cover with the poor areas being identified. Examination of the imagery confirmed that blackgrass control was good. I could see the advantages of time saved, saved images and analysed results from the imagery. The software is suited to wheat, barley, OSR, sugar beet, lettuce, and potatoes as well as for monitoring field margins and watercourse buffer zones. Skippy Scout is particularly suited to OSR where it can check for signs of disease and pest damage, analyse GAI, and recommend variable N rates. It can also calculate flowering ratios, ripening and senescence to assist decision making and spray timings. I can see the advantages of the software being that crop monitoring is precise and repeatable at specific selected locations throughout the season. Imagery and results are archived and accessible. Time walking crops is saved and crops can be inspected when a human can't get into a canopy such as in flowering to pre harvest OSR. The software affords early disease/weed pest identification. There are other applications in the validation of watercourse buffer zones and for location and time stamped photographic evidence required for environmental

schemes. The demonstration was a fascinating insight into how technology can assist in data gathering and efficient decision making. Time savings and access to crops that would otherwise be inaccessible were obvious benefits too. If you are interested in pairing the Skippy Scout software with your drone or in acquiring the complete package please contact Andrew initially. LMR members will benefit from a 10% discount from a selection of user packages.



Arable, Root & Forage Services Cultivations Drilling & Planting Spraying & Spreading Harvesting Baling & Wrapping Contact LMR with your land work requirements Keeping the work in the "Ring"

Spreader & Sprayer Testing

Do you need NSTS testing on your spreader, sprayer, slug pelleter or granular applicator? We have LMR members that provide this service at competitive and discounted prices. **Contact LMR**

Discounts to LMR members AGRICULTURAL HARDWARE STORE IN MARKET RASEN www.equiprasenltd.co.uk Or contact LMR

Tractor & Trailer Hire

LMR has access to a wide range of tractor makes and horsepower to suit your needs, along with various types of trailers available. **Contact LMR**

FARM PARTS SPECIALIST Discounts to LMR members www.pananglia.com Or contact LMR

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Woodland Management/Woodland Creation

LMR's contractors can clear, thin, chip, and plant woodland. Whatever management service you require for your woodland and hedgerows, please call LMR for skilled contractors for quotations to undertake operations.

Natural England are now offering a free consultation service for woodland creation proposals from landowners. Perhaps you have an area of land, a field parcel, or some smaller compartments of land that would be ideal for planting new woodland? They can assess the suitability of that land on a site visit with you. Funding is available to help you achieve your tree planting in the form of numerous grant and incentive schemes on the <u>www.gov.uk:-</u> website Woodland grants and incentives overview –

GOV.UK Forestry Commission managed schemes. Trees for Landowners and Farmers – Woodland Trust managed schemes aimed at smaller sized (or large) applications with additional focus on areas

within the Northern Forest. Homepage (green woodforest.org.uk) – for projects

within this area across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

Homepage – National Forest – for projects within this area across Derbyshire and Leicestershire. Talking to Natural England as early as possible in the process of developing a woodland creation proposal can also ensure smoother navigation through the Forestry Commission's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, if applicable.

witham

WITHAM DON'T JUST SELL OIL AND PAINT! Discounts to LMR members They offer a whole range of Cleaning Solutions for Vehicles, Business, Home and You! <u>www.withamgroup.co.uk</u> Or contact LMR Tanks Bulk Diesel Storage Tanks * Fuel Stores Fuel Cubes * Diesel Bowsers Water Tanks * Rainwater Harvesting Tanks * Chemical Storage Tanks Discounted prices to LMR members Contact LMR



Come and join us on the LMR Stand Fourth Avenue Enjoy a cold beer, wine, hot and cold soft drinks We look forward to seeing you there

MEMBERS' BOARD

For sale

Brush Bucket, fits onto a Manitou Teleporter. Louth area. Contact Jayne.

For sale

5000t Screened Road Plainings. Oakham. Contact Andrew.

For sale

3mtr SKH Crumbler. Louth area. Contact Jayne.

For sale Pea straw in Hesstons/midis stored inside and out, sensible price. Sleaford area. Contact Andrew,

<u>NEW MEMBERS</u> MOTO101 LTD OLYMPUS WELDING & INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES LTD CUPIT PLANT HIRE LTD

LMR Serving the East Midlands WWW.LMR.ORG.UK