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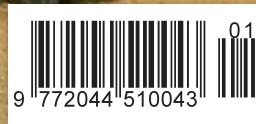


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Assistant Editor - David Pullen

Testing and Buyer's Guides - Nick Wigdahl

Model Reviews - Chris Henson, Oly Harcourt, Nick Wigdahl

Model Development - Warner Hall

Interviews and Shows - Bill Cruickshank

Farm Literature Editor - Colm Ryan

Figures and Buildings - Sue Leake and Mandy Wilson

Historic Models - E Bryan

Model Building - Sean Pullen

Other Contributors - Robin Ketley, Paul Palmer, Austin James

Cover Art - Harry Bell - www.harrybell.co.uk

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Email: contact@raphael-distribution.com Tel : +33 (0)3 90 29 11 31

Republic of Ireland

Mad for Models, Burton Hall, Carlow.

Email: info@madformodels.ie Tel: 087 267 0737

Italy

Trattori E Motori Modellismo Di Noci Giosue Enrico

Email: trattorimotori@hotmail.it Tel: +39 0309381325

Germany

Walter Reiff Bulldog Books and toys

Email: bulldogbookstoys@aol.com

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Phone: 01406 424681 Emails to info@modelfarmer.com

Advertising Sales

Sally Ebbage Tel: +44 (01406) 424681

Email: sally.ebbage@igp-ltd.com

Publisher Information

IGP LTD Tel: +44 (01406) 424681

Email: info@igp-ltd.com

Managing Director

Andy Ebbage Tel: +44 (01406) 424681

Email: andy.ebbage@igp-ltd.com

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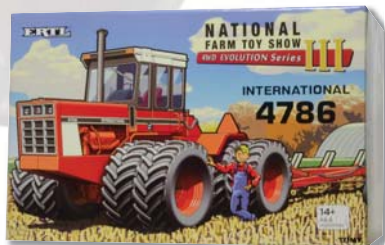
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International 4786 Tractor

Ertl 1:32nd Scale



International launched the 4786 tractor in 1979. It was powered by the DVT-800 V-8 diesel engine tuned to give 350 hp at the flywheel and 260 hp at the drawbar and was the largest of the three articulated tractors International Harvester made at the time. Assembled at the Steiger plant in Fargo, North Dakota it remained in production until 1981.

In its day the International 4786 was a big impressive tractor and so is Ertl's model. Produced for Toy Farmer's 38th National Farm Toy Show (NFTS) held in November in Dyersville, North America, only 5337 models have been made. It's the latest model in Toy Farmer's 4WD Evolution Series of classic North American prairie or articulated tractors. Largely diecast the model weighs in at just over 1,100 gms. It is fitted with dual wheels. Unlike earlier Toy Farmer show tractors, they had Goodyear branded tyres, the tyres on the 4786 are not branded. Twin steering rams

are provided but their stroke limits the tractors turning circle. It's about half what the real tractor suggests it should be.

At the rear the tractor has a realistic and usable clevis drawbar. There are working lights on both mudguards and a slow moving vehicle triangle. Also the hydraulic piping from the cab to the external connectors is detailed in black.

The V-8 engine is visible under the bonnet on either side of the tractor. On the underside there is an insert stating 'NFTS 2015'.

Also the cab interior appears to be well laid out and detailed. The lap belts lay on the driver's red seat cushions. Disappointingly like however like Ertl's other tractors the cab doors do not open.

Ertl has announced it will also be releasing a model of the dimensionally similar International 4586 tractor. This general release model will be fitted with the large single wheel option.

www.ertl.com



Verdict	
Model	International 4786 Tractor
The Good	Its robust built.
The Not so Good	The limited turning circle and lack of cab access.
Price	around £60.00
Model Detail	80%
Model Accuracy	90%
Build Quality	95%
Functionality	60%
Value	70%
Overall	79%
Rating	★★★★

Claas ATOS 350 Tractor

USK Scalemodels
1:32nd Scale



This ATOS 350 is the third and latest Claas tractor USK Scalemodels has released. The 350 being the largest tractor in Claas's ATOS range which includes three 200 series and three 300 series tractors. The 200 series are powered by a three-cylinder engine with outputs ranging from 56.7 to 70.8 kW (76 to 92 hp). While the longer wheel based 300 tractors have four-cylinder engines. Outputs range from 59.7 to 76.8 kW (80 to 103 hp).

Of USK Scalemodels' Class tractors its new ATOS 350 is the best. Although the wheels were not tight on the axles the overall build quality on this largely metal model is good. Paint finish has also been done to a high standard.

It features an authentic working three-point front linkage. The rams supporting the lower links are stiff and capable of carrying an implement heavy enough to lift the tractor's rear wheels off the

ground. A weight block for the linkage has been provided.

On the bonnet the headlights are painted but the grill is translucent. The bonnet also opens to reveal good engine detailing. USK Scalemodels has not only provided the cab with opening doors and an opening rear window but also the front screen also opens. It's the first Claas model tractor to have an opening front screen. The cab interior has been provided with patterned floor matting, foot pedals, gear and other operating levers. The lever handles have been painted. It's a good replica of the real tractor's cab interior.



The model tractor has a smart rear end. It has an authentic three-point linkage. The lower links are supported on two rams but there is also a slide under the rear axle to lock the linkage in the raised position. It ensures the tractor will carry implements heavy to lift the tractor's front wheels of the ground. For trailed equipment USK Scalemodels has supplied three interchangeable, made in plastic, drawbars. Mounted on a slide the height of the drawbar can be adjusted to match the equipment being attached.

A great tractor overall for the price

www.claas-shop.com

Verdict

Model	Claas ATOS 350 Tractor
The Good	Including the opening front screen the working features.
The Not so Good	Nothing to mention.
Price	around £39.00 (54.90 euros)
Model Detail	100%
Model Accuracy	100%
Build Quality	95%
Functionality	100%
Value	100%
Overall	99%
Rating	★★★★★



New Holland T7.225 (2015) Blue Power Tractor

Universal Hobbies
1:32nd Scale



New Holland launched its new T7 tractors in February and has since been slowly been introducing them in different markets. Completely re-styled the new tractor range are powered by a six-cylinder engine with EcoBlue Hi-eSCR technology that meets Stage IV emissions standards without needing exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) or a diesel particulate filter (DPF). The range, at Agritechnica New Holland added two new heavy-duty tractors, included a new standard wheelbase tractor, the T7.225, offering a peak power of 225 hp. It's this tractor that Universal Hobbies has based its new model. It offers it as both

standard and Power Blue tractors.

Universal Hobbies' new model shares some tooling with the New Holland T7.210 tractor it released in 2011. It retains the working front lower links, top link and PTO with its yellow cover. While at the rear, detailed with a top link and external hydraulic service connectors, it has Universal Hobbies standard two-point linkage with pickup hitch. The front wheels are connected to

the steering wheel. Built quality and finish is similar to the earlier model.

The main tooling changes Universal Hobbies has made are to reflect the styling changes New Holland has incorporated on the tractor. First the model has a reshaped bonnet with extended grill and new decals. It has realistic looking clear plastic headlights. The roof panel has also been replaced. It no longer incorporates the aerial the earlier model featured but now has New Holland's new working lights. Universal Hobbies has also changed the front working lights on the indicator stalks and those mounted at the cab rear.

Reflecting the changes New Holland has made to meet Stage IV emission standards Universal Hobbies has retooled the

Verdict	
Model	New Holland T7.225 (2015) Tractor
The Good	The revised styling the model incorporates.
The Not so Good	The inability to access the cab interior.
Price	£45.00
Model Detail	80%
Model Accuracy	80%
Build Quality	90%
Functionality	75%
Value	75%
Overall	80%
Rating	★★★★

exhaust, fuel tank and cab steps. Inside the cab the T7.225 also gets a new monitor.

www.creative-masters.co.uk





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Ferguson 35 Tractor

Brian Norman Farm Miniatures
1:32nd Scale



Building on the success of the TE20, when production stopped over 500,000 had been produced, Ferguson launched its replacement, the new higher powered 35, at the 1956 Royal Smithfield Show. Depending on its build it could run on petrol, vaporising oil, diesel or lamp oil the engine was rated at 37, 30, 37 and 29 hp respectively. Ferguson also introduced several other improvements on the 35 and a new colour scheme. Body panels and rims were painted grey while the engine and transmission was finished in

metallic copper paint. For this reason it's often known as the 'grey and gold Fergie'. After Massey-Harris Ferguson changed its company name too Massey Ferguson the tractor was marketed as the Massey Ferguson 35 in red and grey colours from 1958.

In the past Brian Norman has released models of both the Ferguson TE20 and Massey Ferguson 35 tractors. His latest model neatly completes a gap in his model line-up between these tractors. Like Brian's other models the Ferguson 35 is made in white metal and resin. It

weighs 130 gms and supplied with the exhaust detached.

It's produced as a display model and other than the wheels it does not have working features. Paint finish on the bonnet, mudguards, engine and transmission is good. The model also has good detailing. On the engine on the right-hand side there are the starter motor, generator and air cleaner. While on the left-hand side the injector pump is detailed.

The driver's platform is provided with clutch pedal, brake pedals, two gear levers and linkage operating levers. On the transmission housing on the left-hand side the PTO operating lever is detailed and the battery sits in front of rear axle. A hand throttle and instrumentation panel are provided behind the steering wheel.

At the rear Brian has provided the tractor with realistic looking lower links and detailed the top link mounting point but not provided a top link. There is a drawbar and guarded PTO.



Verdict

Model	Ferguson 35 Tractor
The Good	Finish and level and detailing.
The Not so Good	The lack of working features.
Price	£95.00
Model Detail	100%
Model Accuracy	100%
Build Quality	100%
Functionality	80%
Value	95%
Overall	95%
Rating	★★★★





Replicagri 1:32nd Scale

Kuhn launched its new front-mounted disc mower conditioners in 2015. The FC3125 has a 3.10 metres working width and features improved terrain following capabilities and variable conditioning speeds. The twin-linkage headstock attachment incorporates a suspension system. Used in conjunction with one or two Kuhn rear mounted mowers it gives the combination a cutting width of up to 9.5 metres.

Kuhn FC 3125D-F Front Mower Conditioner

Build quality is good on Replicagri's model. The mainframe and the hood covering the discs and conditioning rotor are metal while the front cover, discs and conditioning rotor are plastic. The paint match and finish on the front and rear hoods is good. There are plenty of safety and instructional decals on the hoods. A white flexible sheet is fitted along the front of the front hood and around the outer sections. The outer sections are also hinged allowing folding for transport. At the rear the sheet is not flexible.

On the underside the disc bed is visible and provided with seven discs. Discs are fixed but each is fitted with two blades. While the conditioning rotor turns and detailed with conditioning fingers.

Replicagri has provided its mower with a realistic looking headstock with bottom and top link mounting points. It fits model tractors with authentic three-point front linkages. However as large parts of the mower are made in metal it is heavy. The linkage on the tractor needs to be stiff if the mower is to be displayed off the ground. There is a telescopic

PTO shaft provided for connecting to the tractor. For fitting tractors such as those from Britains and Siku with an A-frame hitch Replicagri has provided an adaptor. The adaptor is not a good fit on either A-frame. Even when fitted it is difficult to get the mower to sit correctly because the linkage height on Britains and Siku tractors is different.

For storing the mower off the tractor an adjustable stand is provided on the left-hand side of the rear hood.

www.kuhn.com

Verdict

Model	Kuhn FC 3125D-F Front Mower
The Good	Finish and build quality.
The Not so Good	The problem fitting the mower on some tractors.
Price	around £21.00 (30 euros)
Model Detail	95%
Model Accuracy	95%
Build Quality	100%
Functionality	75%
Value	95%
Overall	92%
Rating	★★★★☆



Mercedes MB-Trac 1400 Turbo Tractor

Weise-Toys 1:32nd Scale



Like all weise-toys' tractors its new MB-trac 1400 turbo is well built and engineered. It's the latest MB-trac tractor the firm has made and is based on the Type 443 101 kW (136 hp) turbocharged six-cylinder tractor Mercedes produced from 1987 to 1991. This tractor has the same wheelbase, 2640 mm, as the MB-trac 1100, 1300, 1600 and 1800 tractors.

Weise-toys' tractor has been finished in metallic thistle-green and bottle-green. It's supplied with a bumper and A-frame for the front linkage. Two rams support lower links and the top link is stored on clips under the front grill. External hydraulic connectors are finished in red and there is a PTO with yellow cover detailed. The front axle has the suspension springs detailed. Steering is good but restricted as the flotation wheels foul the front mudguards.

At the rear weise-toys has provided its MB-trac 1400 with its standard linkage. It's supported

on twin rams but secured in the raised position by a slide under the rear axle. Like the front linkage the external hydraulic connectors are highlighted in red and the PTO fitted with a yellow guard. There is an adjustable top link and 'D' type drawbar. However weise-toys has not provided provision for attaching trailed equipment.

Well laid out the cab interior has the gear and hydraulic levers positioned to the right of the driver's seat. Dials and levers in the instrumentation panel behind the steering wheel are also

detailed.

With its flotation tyres weise-toys' MB-trac 1400 would make the idea tractor for spraying. In the 1980s the Mercedes MB-trac tractor often had a spray tank fitted on the platform behind the cab. To increase the size of tank that could be carried some tractors had the cab repositioned in front of the engine. A layout widely used on today's self-propelled sprayers.

www.weise-toys.de

Verdict

Model	Mercedes MB-Trac 1400 Turbo Tractor
The Good	Build quality and finish.
The Not so Good	The lack of drawbar for trailed equipment.
Price	around £50.00 (69.90 euros)
Model Detail	95%
Model Accuracy	95%
Build Quality	100%
Functionality	95%
Value	95%
Overall	95%
Rating	★★★★★

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Mercedes-Benz Unimog U400

Welly Diecast 1:32nd Scale



Photo: Atkinson Vos Ltd (www.unimog.co.uk)



One32 Farm Toys & Models commissioned Welly Diecast to produce this special limited edition of its standard Unimog U400 model with blue cab exclusively for them. Tooling for Welly's U400 model is based on the Unimog range Mercedes-Benz launched in 2000. The mid-range U400 was offered with a 132.0 kW (177hp) four-cylinder engine or two six-cylinder engines with outputs of 177.5 kW (238hp) and 215.5 kW (289hp). It remained in production until 2014 when Mercedes-Benz introduced a new range.

For a model costing only £14.99 Welly's Unimog U400 is well engineered and detailed.

Some models costing much more are not as good. The chassis, rear platform and small detailing are plastic while the cab and the doors are metal. It does not have steerable wheels but both cab doors open giving access to the cab interior. Also the rear body tips on a single ram and the tailgate opens.

On the underside the transfer box and drive shafts to the front and rear axles are detailed. It has glazed front main lights and indicators. The headlights are moulded in clear plastic while the indicators are orange. A chrome Mercedes emblem and Mercedes decal are detailed on the bonnet. The windscreen has two realistically sized wipers.

These are separate items and not part of the screen moulding. An approach adopted by some model makers. There are driving mirrors on each door and chromed steps, chrome fuel tank and chrome exhaust. The cab interior is moulded in black plastic. Seats for the driver and passenger, central console and instrumentation panel behind the steering wheel are all detailed. A decal on the instrument panel shows the different dials and gauges.

Welly has not provided a useable drawbar for towing tailed equipment. Only a 'D' type hitch is detailed.

www.one32.co.uk

Verdict

Model	Mercedes-Benz Unimog U400
-------	---------------------------

The Good	Build quality and finish.
The Not so Good	For the price very little.

Price	£14.99
-------	--------

Model Detail	95%
--------------	-----

Model Accuracy	95%
----------------	-----

Build Quality	95%
---------------	-----

Functionality	95%
---------------	-----

Value	100%
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Overall	96%
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Rating	★★★★★
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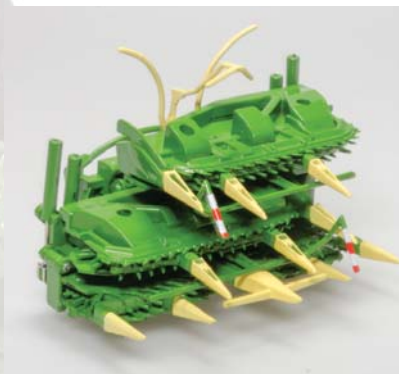




Krone Big X 580 Forage Harvester

ROS 1:32nd Scale

At the German toy show held at the beginning of 2015 ROS announced it had stop production of its Krone Big X 1100 forage harvester it had introduced in 2011. They have now developed this Krone Big X 580 as its replacement. Interestingly the Big X 580, powered by a six-cylinder 430 kW (585 hp) engine, is not the largest harvester in Krone's range but one of two machines it targets at the lower-powered sector. It's an important sector accounting for about half of world forage harvester sales. Krone launched the Big X 580 at Agritechnica 2013 and it suspended the Big X500 harvester.





Unlike other ROS models the Big X580 is not supplied fully assembled. The main handrails must be fitted. It's a simply process and it is not necessary to glue them in place. Also the harvester is supplied with the discharge chute clipped under its support on the engine bay. Once released the end section of the discharge can be pushed in place. ROS supplies a choice of two different length discharge chutes.

For anyone who already owns the Big X1100 the new Big X580 has a similar build quality and finish. The harvester weighs just over 1.0 kg so is robustly built.

At the front of the harvester the feed unit is supported on two rams allowing its height to be adjusted. The feed rollers do not

turn but are finished in silver. On the cab ROS has provided two realistic looking warning beacons and an aerial. The roof panel also has the Krone emblem embossed on the surface. Wind screen wipers are provided on both the front screen, the door and side window. The handrails are equipped with driving mirrors and road warning signs. It's not possible to access the cab interior but it has been detailed with has steering wheel, seats and the main joystick.

Both the side and rear panels are hinged allowing them to be raised to give access to the engine and radiator. The harvester has Ackermann steer rear wheels but not a useable drawbar.

One big improvement ROS has introduced with its new harvester

is it has supplied both maize and pickup attachments. The earlier model had only the maize attachment. With the Big X580 being a smaller harvester ROS has supplied it with the 7.5 m wide EasyCollect maize attachment and not the 10.5 unit. It's well built and detailed. Crop deflectors are hinged so they can be moved between working and transport positions. Outer sections of the maize attachment also fold.

ROS has supplied the Big X580 with the 3.0 m wide EasyFlow pickup. Like the maize attachment it's well built and detailed. The height wheels are mounted on arms allowing them to be swung in and out from their transport to working positions. A single wheel supports the rear of the attachment. The rotary crop

wind guard does not turn nor do the pickup tines move. However the height of the cover that supports the crop wind guard floats up and down and the main feed auger rotates. It has a translucent cover and the pickup is finished in silver.

It's easy to fit either attachment. They simply drop over lugs on the top of the feed unit at the front of the harvester. Appearing just before Agritechnica the model is currently only available from Krone. Alongside this model in standard colours Krone has also commissioned ROS to produce 300 models finished in black and silver.

www.landmaschinen.krone.de



Verdict	
Model	Krone Big X 580 Forage Harvester
The Good	Being supplied with both maize and pickup attachment.
The Not so Good	Lack of opening cab door.
Price	around £70.00 (94.99 euros)
Model Detail	95%
Model Accuracy	95%
Build Quality	100%
Functionality	95%
Value	95%
Overall	96%
Rating	★★★★★

Valtra T194 Tractor With Front-Loader

WIKING 1:32nd Scale



Following releasing models of Valtra's new T214 and T234 tractors earlier this year WIKING has now produced this T194 in metallic red, available exclusively from Valtra, with front-loader. Other than the loader mounting brackets WIKING's new T194 tractor uses the same tooling as the T214 and T234 models. The only difference between Valtra's T194 and the T214 and T234 tractors being the six-cylinder 7.4 litre engine has a standard

maximum output rating of 143.5 kW (195hp) instead of 158 kW (215hp) and 173 kW (235hp). It is available with either Hi Tech5, Active, Versu or Direct transmissions.

Build quality and finish on the T194 model is the same as the T214 and T234 tractors. It also retains the same working features. Unlike its N-series tractors where WIKING replaced the front linkage with a bonnet guard when it fitted the tractor with a front-loader it has not

done this on the T194 tractor.

WIKING has used the front-loader it fitted on the N-Series model on the T194. It has a detachable bucket and fully functioning parallel linkage ensuring the bucket angle is held as the loader is lifted. The maximum lift height for the front loader is limited. Fully raised the clearance under the bucket's pivot is about 95 mm, not enough to allow the tractor to load WIKING's Krampe Big Body 650 trailer. Its lift height is about two thirds what the real tractor suggests it should be. With WIKING providing its T-Series tractors with adjustable

Verdict	
Model	Valtra T194 Tractor With Front-Loader
The Good	Its build quality and finish.
The Not so Good	Limited lift height for the loader.
Price	around £47.00 (64.80 euros)
Model Detail	90%
Model Accuracy	90%
Build Quality	90%
Functionality	80%
Value	100%
Overall	90%
Rating	★★★★

top link length and detachable wheels it's disappointing the loader does not detach from the tractor.

Valtra offers its tractors in seven different colours so expect other models from WIKING.

www.shop.valtra.com



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Gregoire Besson RWy8 Reversible Plough

Replicagri 1:32nd Scale

Gregoire-Besson launched Replicagri's new RWy8 plough at Agritechnica in

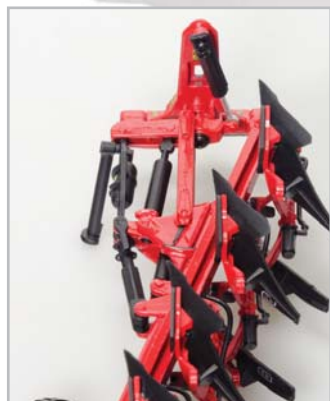
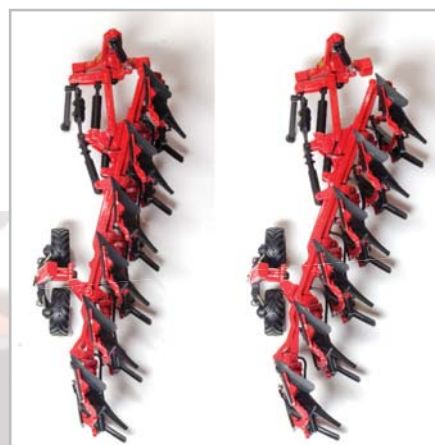
November. It's a smart model. With all the share tips touching the ground when the plough is place on a flat surface it is also well constructed. The headstock and mainframe are metal while the mouldboards are moulded in plastic.

Replicagri has specced its plough with Gregoire-Besson's cylindrical mouldboards, mixed skimmers and 'y' type body

protection mechanism. These are accurately detailed with piping to the protection mechanism, black bodies and black skimmers. The hydraulic accumulator and furrow adjustment linkage are provided.

It's the working features Replicagri has provided that really impress. The headstock is fitted on a linkage allowing the tractor and plough alignment to be adjusted. Also a linkage connects the bodies together allowing the furrow width to be changed just like the real plough. The furrow width linkage is a little stiff to adjust but allows the





furrow width to be changed from about 10 to about 15 mm. This equates well with real plough whose furrow width can be changed from 300 to 480 mm (12 to 19 inches).

The depth wheels height can be set. Also their position can be changed from transport to their working position. To make it easy to adjust the depth wheels the pins Replicagri has provided are rather large and do slightly spoil the model's appearance. However this could easily be addressed by those wanting to

improve the model.

Gregoire-Besson recommends the RW8y plough needs a tractor with at least 180 to 220 hp. Replicagri's Case IH Magnum 7240 tractor falls in this power range and using the provided adaptor the plough fits well. The 7240 model is heavy and the linkage strong enough to carry the fully mounted plough. It also fits on Replicagri's McCormick X7.660 tractor but to meet the plough's power requirement the tractor would have been better if it had X7.680 decals. However if you want to fit the plough on a tractor in the correct power range from Britains, Siku and Universal Hobbies ranges you will need to either adapt the existing adaptor or build your own. The adaptor supplied did not fit on the tractors used in the review to check compatibility and Replicagri has disappointingly not supplied one.

When Gregoire-Besson originally launched its plough it

produced one in black. Alongside this standard coloured model Replicagri has also produced an edition, limited to 1000 pieces, for Gregoire-Besson in black.

Despite the criticism this reversible plough for around £27.00 is currently the best on the market.

www.gregoire-besson.co.uk

Verdict	
Model	Gregoire Besson RWy8 Reversible Plough
The Good	Its build quality, finish and working features.
The Not so Good	The limited tractor range it fits.
Price	around £27.00 (39 euros)
Model Detail	100%
Model Accuracy	100%
Build Quality	95%
Functionality	90%
Value	100%
Overall	97%
Rating	★★★★★





McHale Fusion 3 Integrated Baler Wrapper

USK Scalemodels 1:32nd Scale

From the moment the prototype for the model of McHale's Fusion 3 baler was displayed earlier this year at the German Toy Fair many have been waiting for its release. The wait is over as the first models went on sale on McHale's stand at the Irish National Ploughing Championships in September 2015. It's been worth the wait as it's a great model with good build quality and detailing.

The drawbar provided on the baler fits most makes of model tractor. You may need to shorten the PTO before fitting on some tractors. The drawbar has a folding stand and hydraulic piping to add to the realism. The pickup unit floats and runs on its two height wheels. Detailing is good with floating crop guard which has a rotary crop guard. Like the real machine the pickup is finished in silver and the pickup tines turn. It appears the axle on which the pickup tines are mounted is offset so the exposed tine length



The McHale Fusion 3

MchHale are based in Co. Mayo, Ireland and launched its Fusion integrated baler wrappers about ten years ago. Although the basic idea has not changed McHale has steadily improved it during this time launching the third-generation or Fusion 3 baler in 2013.

The Fusion 3 has a 2.1 m wide pickup which feeds material through a 25 knife-chopping unit into the bale chamber. Bales measuring 1.23 by 1.25 m are formed by 18 heavy-duty rollers. Net is applied automatically. The chamber then splits and the lower section lifts transferring the bale on to the wrapping platform. After transferring the bale the lower section returns and baling can resume while the bale on the wrapping platform is wrapped automatically using McHale's unique vertical wrapper. Once wrapped the bale is held on the platform until the next bale in the chamber is being netted when it is then automatically ejected.

To run the baler McHale recommends the tractor must be able to provide a minimum hydraulic flow of 45 l/min and have PTO output of at least 80 kW (107 hp).



changes as they rotate. Behind the pickup unit the chopper rotor is visible.

There are realistic looking steps to the platform over the pickup unit. On the platform a roll of white netting is detailed but the net has not been threaded into the chamber through the rollers.

At the rear the baler chamber opens where the 18 rollers McHale fits on the baler are visible. They do not rotate but like the real machine the bale transfer mechanism works. As the bale chamber's door opens the bottom five rollers lift transferring the bale in the chamber on to the wrapping platform. Here the wrapping mechanism is well detailed but the wrapping units are fixed. They are both detailed with rolls of wrap. The wrapped bale can then be discharged by lowering the rear wrapping platform roller. McHale offers an option on the real baler to upend the bale but this has not been fitted on the model.

The baler is supplied with three 36.6 mm by 37.7 mm (equivalent size 1.171 m x 1206 m) bales.

Verdict

Model	McHale Fusion 3 Baler
The Good	Its realistic working features and build quality.
The Not so Good	Nothing to mention.
Price	around £85.00 (120 euros)
Model Detail	100%
Model Accuracy	100%
Build Quality	100%
Functionality	95%
Value	95%
Overall	98%
Rating	★★★★★

One is unwrapped, one part wrapped and the other fully wrapped. They offer the opportunity to display the baler with the bale at different stages of wrapping.

Paint finish is good and there are plenty of safety and instructional decals on the side panels. All four panels are hinged. Under the front panels there are five rolls of white wrap stored on each side. Drives and other detailing can be seen.

The model is made by USK Scalemodels for McHale and can only be bought directly from McHale. McHale's customers, machine serial number needed, have the chance to win a baler by submitting a review of their machine on McHale's website. Published contributions will receive a baler.

www.mchale.net

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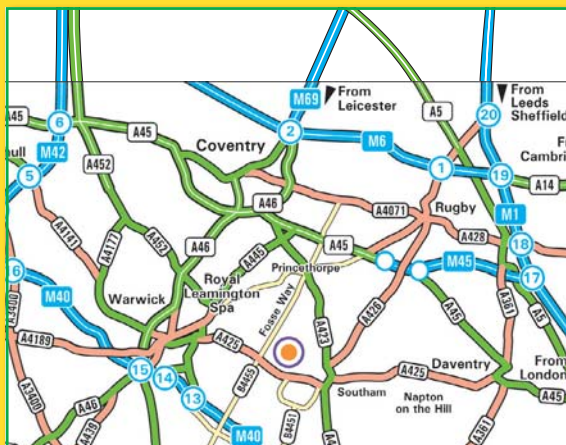
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Verdict	
Model	Fendt 920
The Good	High capacity, well built
The Not so Good	Depth of Finish
Price	£31.50
Model Detail	70%
Model Accuracy	80%
Build Quality	90%
Functionality	70%
Value	85%
Overall	79%
Rating	★★★★

FENDT 920 WITH SNOW BLOWER

SIKU 1:32 Scale



The chances of a white Christmas seem to get slimmer each year and with it the likelihood of seeing Siku's latest Fendt release, a 920 in bright orange Kommunal colours with a snow blower on the front. The tractor itself has been around for a decade as the Fendt 930 in green but here it is rebadged as a 920. The colouring is eye-catching, the almost fluorescent orange

contrasting with the black bonnet and mudguards. One small criticism; maybe the paint itself is a difficult one to handle since it does not have the smoothness and depth that we have come to associate with modern diecast tractors. At the business end, or front to to precise, the blower is typically an

robust Siku with all metal frame carrying a short, strong plastic spout and the big rotating auger. The auger works courtesy of a ground contact wheel and the gearing is such that it produces a realistic speed. A small

flap on top of the concave moves out to show the name of the maker, Schmidt. This may not be immediately familiar to Model Farmer readers but the parent company,

Aebi-Schmidt makes the Aebi mountain tractors and airport snow clearing equipment. The website, www.aebi-schmidt.com is well worth visiting. For those of you building up a collection of Kommunal tractors, Fendt fans or just like something unusual, this is a good investment.





Verdict	
Model	Optum 300
The Good	Rugged Toy. Well Built.
The Not so Good	RRP is £26.99
Price	£26.99
Model Detail	85%
Model Accuracy	80%
Build Quality	95%
Functionality	85%
Value	80%
Overall	85%
Rating	★ ★ ★ ★

CASE IH Britains 1:32 Scale OPTUM 300



horsepower machine neatly packaged in a compact, agile frame. The Optum is said to offer just that. Coming in at just under 3m, with a 2,995mm wheelbase, both models can handle a maximum vehicle weight of 16t, providing plenty of opportunity for ballast. There are two models in the line-up, the Optum 270 and 300, both powered by an FPT Industrial 6.7-litre NEF engine, fitted with a new electronic variable geometry turbo that promises to optimise engine fluid management. It also gets an enhanced cylinder head with new valves that deliver higher combustion pressure. As

Earlier in 2015, Case-IH launched an entirely new two-model series filling the size gap between the Puma and Magnum ranges. As explained by Case IH, farmers were increasingly asking for a high

as well as a new bonnet design and lighting arrangement, both get a Magnum cab with 2.6sq m space and a healthy 5.87sq m glass and a high-visibility roof.

Britains have



Above: The bonnet as usual is plastic with the distinctive 'Optum' front end following this trait.

faithfully reproduced the new Optum in 1/32 scale. 'Opting' for the more powerful 300 machine, the model was launched at Agritechnica with the real machine. Starting with the box, whilst it secures the model safely, we always struggle to get the item out. Our sample proved particularly tricky and almost resulted in a pair of scissors cutting a hand rather than the model out of the box! Something for Britains to think about please!

Once the model is out of the box, you instantly feel what a heavy tractor replica it is. The skid unit is made from diecast and hence feels rugged, well made and (for the price) good value. The bonnet as usual is plastic with the distinctive 'Optum' front end following this trait. It's a shame the front is not more realistically modelled with a mesh effect and better lights for example but the simple paint finish is obviously to curtail costs and fit in with toy safety standards. The front end has an extra piece of detail in the shape of the front hitch although

this is non-functional. The Optum is a more expensive tractor though than others in the range so we think it's just about on the limit for being good value. There is good detail inside the cab and it is welcome to see the cab being removable but with it off, there are areas that expose it quite badly as just a toy. The rear has the usual Britains hitch and it seems to fit everything we tried in terms of mounted and trailed implements.

In general then, we like the Optum, it looks good and feels solid. It scores high once again as a toy but a little lower as a model as a RRP of £26.99 starts to push it into the Replicagri category of tractors, which of course are better models.





MF 6616 WITH LOADER AND 7718 TRACTORS

BRITAINS 1:32 Scale



Earlier in 2015, the new 7700 series of Massey Ferguson tractors replaced the outgoing 7600 range and rather than cosmetic, the main change was under the bonnet. Britains' last 7000 series machine was a 7480 so of course, a decal change was not possible. As a result, the 7718 is an entire new

piece of tooling. Although it shares some common parts with the smaller 6600 series replica,

the wheelbase is longer, has a different cab and a different front end (inclusive of the front hitch). The front hitch is actually one piece of tooling to come from the 7480 replica.

With a maximum power output of 255hp depending on which of the five models you pick from the 7700 range, the model is smaller than the Case IH Optum from Britains we also review this issue. A reflection perhaps of the price which puts the 7718 at £5 less than the Optum. This really makes a difference with our

review as at £19.99 (or less if you shop hard enough), it is great value for what essentially is an all new model. Shortfalls include basic detail at the rear and a non-removable cab, not to mention the somewhat plastic guise some parts have but in general, it's ok and worth buying. As a toy, it's excellent. It makes the Britains Massey fleet



Verdict	
Model	MF6616
The Good	Great play value
The Not so Good	Nothing to mention.
Price	£22.99
Model Detail	80%
Model Accuracy	80%
Build Quality	90%
Functionality	95%
Value	95%
Overall	88%
Rating	★★★★

Below: The 600/50 Black Chase Unit for the standard 600/50 with Triples. This version will be harder to find.



a significant presence down on the model farm too with the 56,66 and now 77 series all catered for.

Moving on to the 6616 with loader, this multi-functional set of implements and tractor really is a must purchase for any

garden! We would have liked some branding to the rather low key loader to finish the set off but in general, the tractor and loader have very little to groan about. Yes there is tentative finishing for some parts such as the lighting and beacons but it's a toy first and foremost here, not a model.



kind of carpet farmer. Again, value for money is second to none. At £22.99 the item offers great play value in the form of the loader. It is rugged and stable during play in comparison to Britains' loaders of years gone by. The three attachments are easy to fit and replace and seem sturdy enough to withstand plenty of work in the



Verdict	
Model	MF 7718
The Good	New Tooling
The Not so Good	Poor detail in some areas
Price	£19.99
Model Detail	80%
Model Accuracy	80%
Build Quality	85%
Functionality	80%
Value	95%
Overall	84%
Rating	★★★★





BIG BUD 525 & 600 TRACTORS

TOP SHELF REPLICAS 1:32 Scale



Big Bud, like County in the UK or Schlüter in Germany, has a cult status that is inversely proportional to the number of tractors actually made, in this case less than a thousand. Its 747 model, produced in 1977, was the largest agricultural tractor in the world and that record still stands. The last of the Series 4 were

produced in 1991 and it was in the late 90s that models started appearing from the likes of Ertl and Scale Models. Around 2000 747's were produced as a limited edition in both 1/16 and 1/32 and these are now valuable if you can get hold of one. Since then new models have been rare but in the last year there has been a renewed interest in classic articulated "Big Iron" machines. I bought my first Big Bud from G & M Farm Models in 2000, a Series 4 500. This was archetypal of the time – absolutely minimal detailing, no functions save for the articulating chassis and a quantity of metal that would sink a battleship.

While US articulated classics are not at the top of my wish list, a new Big Bud model caught my attention. It was a pleasure to take delivery of it from Graham of G&M and to catch up with him. His business has expanded over the years and if you get the chance to attend one of his open weekends it is well worth the trip. The question was, how would a 2015 model compare to one from 15 years before?

The answer, unfortunately, is disappointing. Starting on a positive note, the box itself has strong red

lettering in keeping with the image of the brand and a good photo of a real 525/50 hauling a set of discs. Doubts, however, set in on picking up the box that seemed rather light. The reason became clear. The cab, fuel tanks and mudguards are all in plastic and overall the model is no where near as solid as the older 500. The hand rails, also in contrast to the 500, are plastic and flimsy. To be fair the level of detail is better with both bonnet and cab tilting. The front radiator also



Verdict	
Model	Big Bud 525/50
The Good	Tilting Cab and Bonnet
The Not so Good	Very expensive
Price	£103.00
Model Detail	70%
Model Accuracy	70%
Build Quality	60%
Functionality	75%
Value	50%
Overall	65%
Rating	★ ★ ★

hinges up which is good, although the strut to keep it in the up position is unconvincing. The engine is all in black. The lights on the front, two clear and a red on each side, look the part but the four work lights on the back look very plastic as does the horn on the left of the cab and the huge smoke stack on the right.

issue). The articulating mechanism is more detailed than on the 500 and includes the hydraulic hoses.

Overall this 525 is much more detailed than the 500 but that is not a very high standard to beat. The problem is that at £103 this is an expensive model for what you get. Variants are a 600/50 and an orange coloured 525. For the committed Big Bud collector these will all appeal but for the rest of us it is hard to recommend these models.

Below: Dusty 525/50



As with the real machines there is no hydraulic hitch at the back, just a double drawbar hole into which the Summers discs will neatly fit (see Model Farmer previous



Right: The orange 525/84.



Below: The 600/50 Black Chase Unit for the standard 600/50 with Triples. This version will be harder to find.



Below: The 525/84 Desert Camo Chase Unit. This model can be found with the orange 525/84. Again, a harder to find version.





LENCO POTATO HARVESTER

TONKIN 1:42 Scale

Below Right: 1:42nd scale Lenco 2000 4-row potato harvester model from Tonkin Replicas



Left: The open design engine housing has photo-etch grills

When it comes to harvesting potatoes, Lenco have the ideal match to any harvesting requirement, offering a number of products including the "Airhead" potato harvester, available in 3, 4 or 6 row configurations. The basic configuration can be built upon with a number of options to meet the customer's requirements including a choice of 350hp or 450hp engines

from Cummins or John Deere with four wheel drive and four wheel steer with different tyre options. The air separation unit has a larger diameter fan and intake for more vacuum with lower rpms. The John Deere cabin, complete with buddy seat provides the operator with all the controls needed to operate the various systems including all the hydraulic functions and speed control of the chain belts. The three position bulkloader pivots, raises and hinges to reduce potato bruising with low incline conveyors removing the need for flights.

The 1:42nd scale model from

Below: At the heart of the chassis is the low mounted cabin with replicated interior.



Tonkin Replicas has accurately captured the rather unique dimensions and looks of the Lenco 200 "Airhead" harvester with plenty of fine detailing including all the various chain conveyor belts which

have been replicated in a flexible material. The bulk loader can be rotated and raised for harvest offloading while the cabin at the heart of the chassis has a detailed interior with photo-etch walkways



Verdict	
Model	Lenco 2000
The Good	Fully detailed throughout, excellent replication of engine bay
The Not so Good	Strange Scale
Price	£250 from farmtoysforum.com
Model Detail	95%
Model Accuracy	90%
Build Quality	75%
Functionality	75%
Value	80%
Overall	83%



housing a very nicely finished diesel engine block with cooling pack, enhanced with more photo-etch parts. The model is a little on the fragile side, so care is needed when handling the model and while the normal scale for agricultural models is 1:32nd scale, the Lenco 2000 has been produced in the rather odd-ball 1:42nd scale. The finish on the model is to a high standard with tampo printing of the various markings. This model is available exclusively from DHS Diecast (www.dhstdiecast.com) and was originally produced for the 2014 Wisconsin Farm Days event.



Above: The diesel engine has been fully replicated.



Above: The flexible chain conveyor belts have been cleverly engineered. Below: All the details are present, like the rock collection hopper





GENIE GTH5515 & GTH2506



NZG 1:32 Scale



handlers which join the SX-180 and GS-4069RT replicas. The GTH-2506 is a nimble compact handler with a spacious and comfortable cabin; four wheel drive and four wheel steer to give an excellent turning radius. The hydrostatic transmission offers precise control and the multi-function joystick allows simultaneous control of all boom movements. Power comes from

a Deutz TD2.9 4-cylinder engine delivering 74hp and the machine hits the scales a touch over 4500 kg.

The 1:32nd scale model has been produced in two slightly different

versions, one designated GTH-2506 for the European market and one designated GTH5519 for the US market where the front and rear light housings have been omitted,

In the last issue, we took a look at the new range of 1:32nd scale Genie models that have been produced by NZG. Now we take a look at the Genie GTH-2506 & GTH-5519 telescopic

Below: The underside of the boom has raised, silver highlighted piping with flexible hoses fitted at the rear



Verdict	
Model	GTH5515 + GTH2506
The Good	Functional quick coupler, detailed cabin interior, all wheel steering.
The Not so Good	Expensive
Price	£80.00
Model Detail	85%
Model Accuracy	95%
Build Quality	100%
Functionality	90%
Value	70%
Overall	88%
Rating	★ ★ ★ ★

Below: The European version of the model is designated GTH2506 and has lights front and back.



as has the side hydraulic circuit cover. Both versions have functional all-wheel steering with



the safety bars on the upper section of the front windscreen.

The boom is fitted with a fairly stiff hydraulic cylinder which allows the boom to be positioned at any chosen angle with smooth extending of the inner boom, complete with marked extension points while the end of the main boom has a printed angle indicator with the maximum lifting capacity printed onto the European version.

The pallet forks are pitch adjustable, housed in a metal frame which can be detached from the boom, allowing other work tools to be fitted, although there are no additional tools in the box and at this time, NZG have no plans to introduce any accessories for the model. The paint finish is to NZG's usual high standard with crisp printing of the Genie markings and machine designation on the sides of the boom while the engine housing has an indented Genie logo with finely printed cooling grills.



Above: The cabin has a replicated interior with large glazed windows

a limited degree of movement with free-rotating wheels that are fitted with authentic treaded tyres. The cabin interior shows the side console with various highlighted dials and switches along with the main steering wheel and operator's seat with printing used to simulate



Above: Both versions have steering front and rear axles allowing crab steering to be demonstrated.

Below: The GTH-2506 is a nimble machine, ideally suited for a number of tasks in construction and agricultural sectors.





GRIMME SE260 POTATO HARVESTER



WIKING 1:32 Scale

potato harvester seems a throwback to an older age. Grimme's brochures from 50 years ago show flaxen haired Fräulein standing on their earliest single row machines. Yet bunker potato harvesters that have a platform for the sorters are still selling well. Indeed Ropa recently took over WM Kartoffeltechnik and acquired the technology for

Against the backdrop of a huge increase in the size of farm machinery and automation, the sight of a couple of women standing on a

such machines. Grimme's SE260, however, sets the standard in this category. It has a capacity of 6 tonnes, is 10.7m long and 3.3m wide. Options include a steering axle, multiple cameras, automatic levelling and a joystick control system.

Siku produced the self propelled SF-150 which was a welcome addition to the farm when the

only other machine available was a Britains tractor mounted unit. They also produced a two row WM machine in bright green; our model is bought out only when we get really short of capacity. ROS then changed the game with its superb GT170 trailed model and the De Wulf R3060. Wiking's decision to opt for a trailed

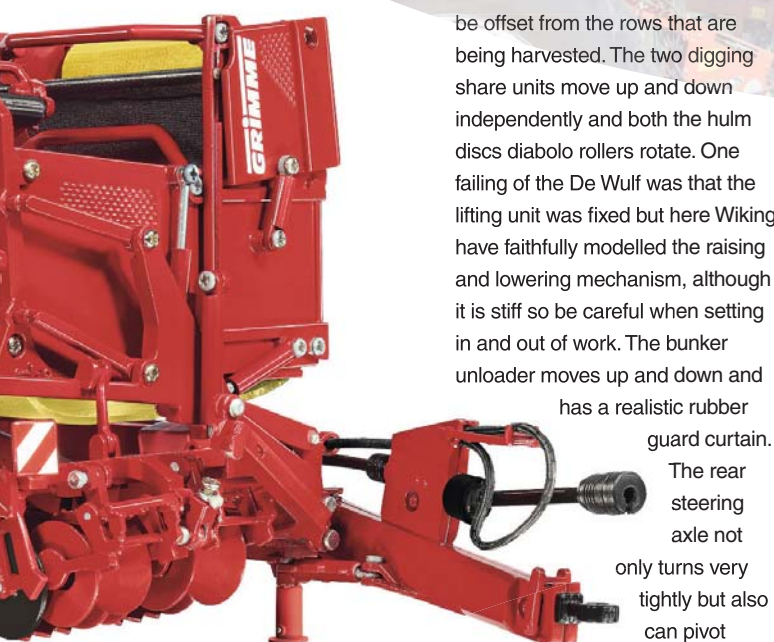
Below: The main elevators, cross transfer belts and hedgehog belts all are accurate.



Verdict	
Model	GRIMME SE260
The Good	Steering and tilting axle, detailing.
The Not so Good	Expensive
Price	£102.00
Model Detail	90%
Model Accuracy	90%
Build Quality	90%
Functionality	95%
Value	85%
Overall	90%
Rating	★★★★★



Above: Grimme's SE260 sets the standard in its category. It has a capacity of 6 tonnes, is 10.7m long and 3.3m wide. Options include a steering axle, multiple cameras, automatic levelling and a joystick control system.



be offset from the rows that are being harvested. The two digging share units move up and down independently and both the hulk discs diablo rollers rotate. One failing of the De Wulf was that the lifting unit was fixed but here Wiking have faithfully modelled the raising and lowering mechanism, although it is stiff so be careful when setting in and out of work. The bunker unloader moves up and down and has a realistic rubber guard curtain.

The rear steering axle not only turns very tightly but also can pivot

Above: Wiking's decision to opt for a trailed Grimme SE260 took many of us by surprise at Agritechnica but the result is top class.

Grimme SE260 took many of us by surprise at Agritechnica but the result is top class.

Detailing is excellent throughout as well as functionality. The drawbar swings out to allow the tractor to

up and down, replicating the self levelling functionality – top class. Panels on the side open although there is a warning slip of paper that firmly states they should not



Above: The two digging share units move up and down independently and both the hulk discs diablo rollers rotate.

be opened more than 30°. The neatness of the built in hinges is traded off for a restricted view of the inner workings. The main elevators, cross transfer belts and hedgehog belts all are accurate. Detachable ladders, opening handrail gates and a warning beacon at the back are all to the good. Missing are the cameras. The chassis is very sturdy.

The SE260 is a relatively

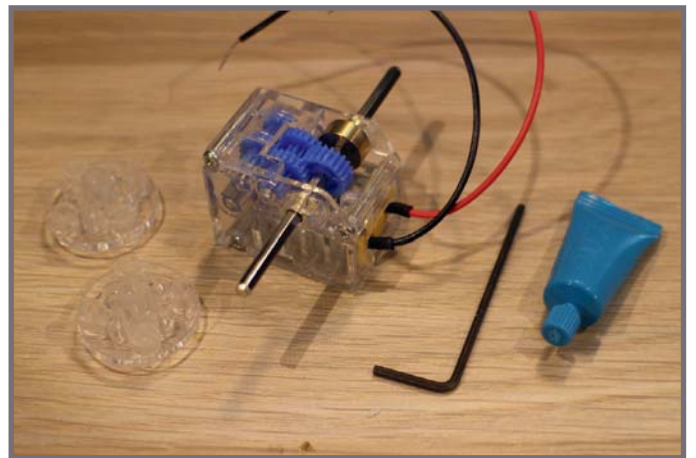
complicated machine to model and this, allied with extensive functionality and a high level of detail, push the price to over £100. In our opinion it is worth it but with agricultural commodity prices down at the moment, we realise that not all Model Farmer readers will be able to make the investment.

Below: The SE260 is a relatively complicated machine to model and this, allied with extensive functionality and a high level of detail, push the price to over £100.

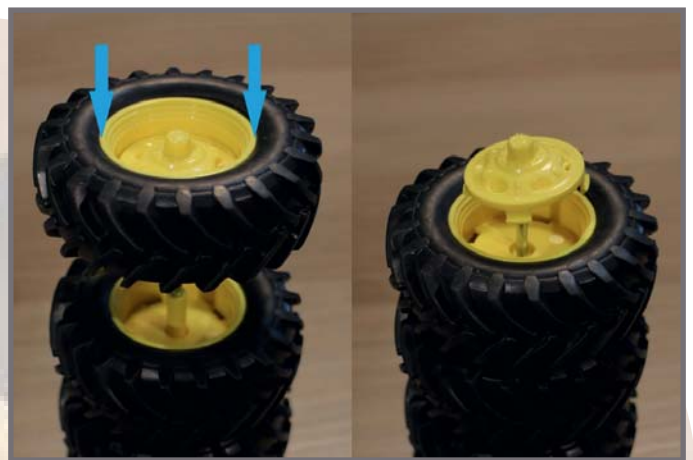


RADIO CONTROL MODEL MAKING

Oisin O'Conchubhair a.k.a the RC Tractor Guy on YouTube continues to add radio control to a 1:32 scale Siku John Deere 9560R. This issue covers installing the drive motor.



Step 1: The first thing you need to do is assemble your Tamiya 70189 drive motor and gearbox. You'll need to choose a gear ratio for your model, it's a trade-off between pulling power and speed. I chose a gear ratio of 314.9:1 for my first JD 9560R which is around 20 rpm. This is a little slow although it has enough power to pull a loaded Kane low loader around. You can get an idea of this speed near the end of Part 7 of the 9560R build on my YouTube channel. As a reference a Siku motor at 3 volts spins at around 72 rpm. I decided to go with the 149.9:1 gear ratio this time which will give around 42 rpm but only half the torque. This will allow me to compare the two tractors at the end.



Step 2: Remove the five screws holding the model together to release the two axles. Remove the hubcaps by positioning the axle vertically on a flat surface and exerting pressure evenly around the wheel until the hubcap pops off. Be careful not to break the hubcap tabs.



Step 3: Twist and pull to remove the end stop from one end of the axle. Take the wheels off the axle. You will be mounting the Tamiya hubs on two of the wheels.



Step 4: The Tamiya hub should be mounted on the inside of the wheel i.e. the opposite side to the hubcap. It should be oriented as shown in the above image.



Step 5: Mount the Tamiya hub on the 3 mm hex shaft and push it onto the hubcap side of the wheel. We'll use it as a guide to locate the mounting holes for the Tamiya hub.



Step 6: You can stack some of the spare wheels and push the hex shaft through to provide support while drilling. Drill the first guide hole through one of outer mounting holes of the Tamiya hub with a 2 mm bit being careful not to increase the size of the hole in the hub.



Step 7: Remove the hub and drill the 2 mm hole out to 3 mm. Screw the Tamiya hub to the wheel so that the hub won't move when you drill the other holes. Be careful not to overtighten the screw as it could misalign the remaining holes.



Step 8: Drill the remaining three guide holes with a 2 mm bit, remove the hub and again drill the holes out to 3 mm.



Step 9: Now that the holes are drilled you need to remove the plastic from the inside of the wheel. Mill the plastic down to the level of the inner ring marked in the image above. Mill away an area large enough to accommodate the Tamiya hub and try to make it as level as possible.



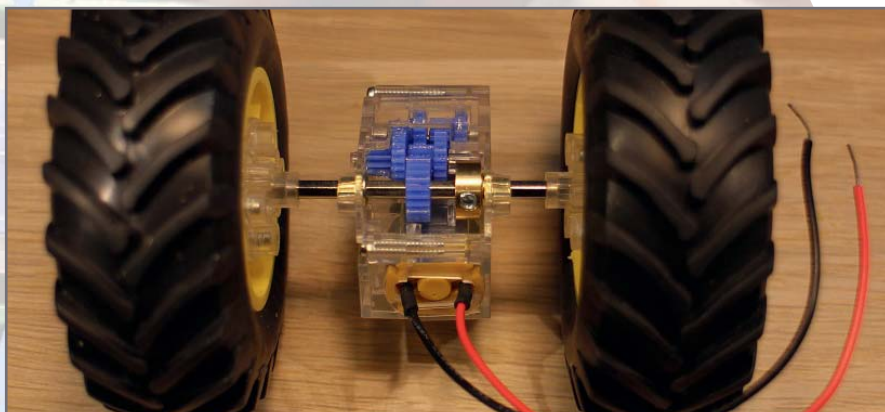
Step 10: You will need to drill out the closed end of the Tamiya hub so that the axle can pass through. Be very careful not to drill too far or you will damage the hex socket on the other end of the hub and it will be useless.



Step 11: Once that is done mount the hub to the wheel. Tamiya only provides 6 mounting screws so use three to mount this hub. Don't overtighten the screws or you will find it difficult to align.



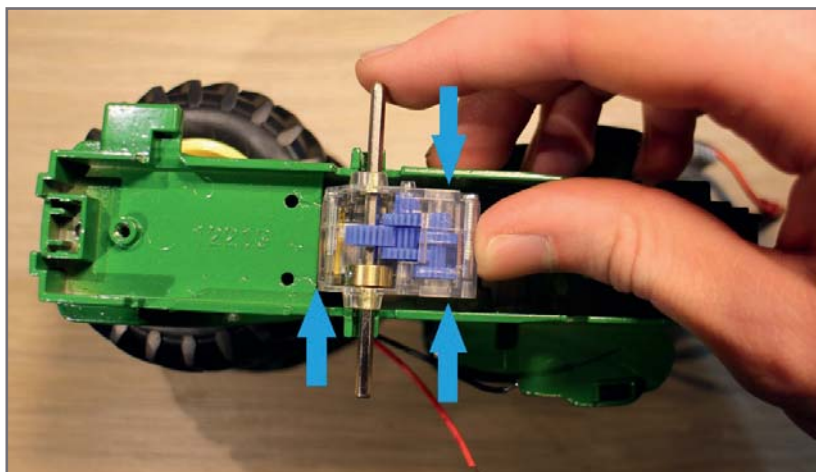
Step 12: To check the wheel alignment, push the axle through one of the spare wheels. Hold the spare wheel as shown in the image above and spin the modified wheel, you will see the wheel wobble in and out if the wheel alignment is poor. Adjust the mounting screws until you get it acceptably aligned.



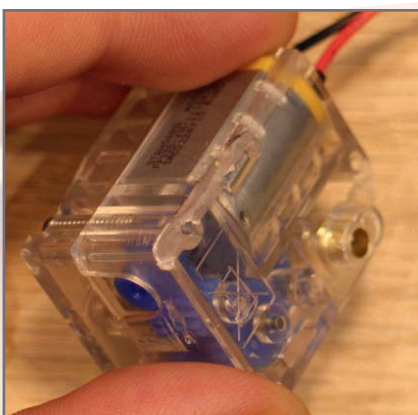
Step 13: Repeat the procedure for the opposite wheel. I will be using two wheels per axle because four wheels per axle would be too large for roads and gates on most scale scenery. If you want to use all four wheels you will need a longer hex shaft. I was originally going to use all eight wheels on my first 9560R and bought the Tamiya 70105 3 mm Shaft Set. The kit contained two 150 mm long hex shafts which are perfect for the job. Don't forget there is no differential so using the longer axes will have an impact on your steering.



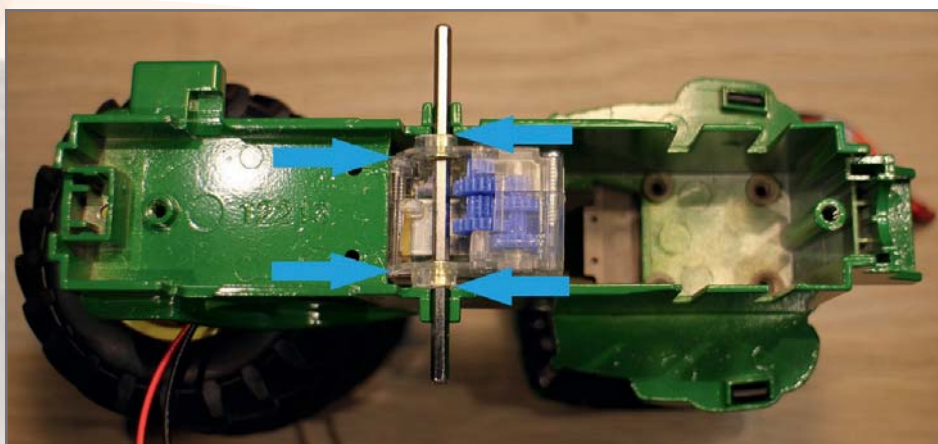
Step 14: Next remove the two screws from the front section of the tractor which will allow you to remove the engine and the bonnet.



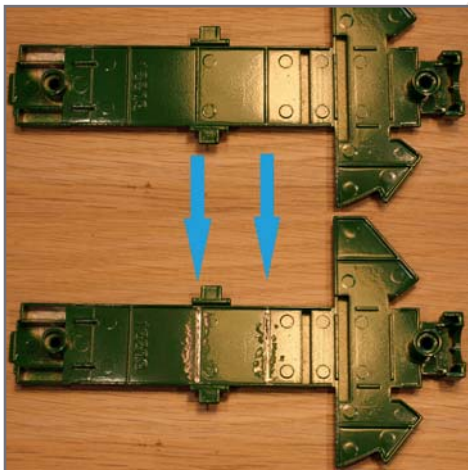
Step 15: With the engine out of the way you can try to position the motor with the axle in its original position and you will find that the motor hits the body in a number of places.



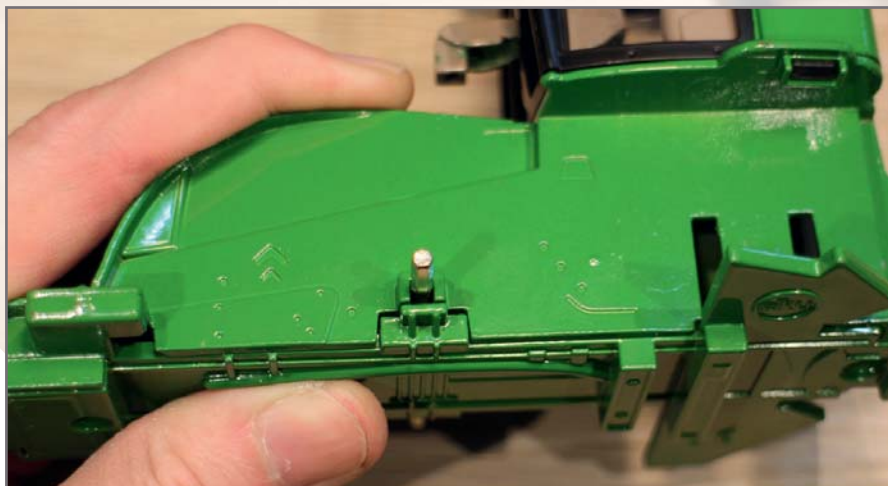
Step 16: You will need to file a chamfer along the upper edges of the motor.



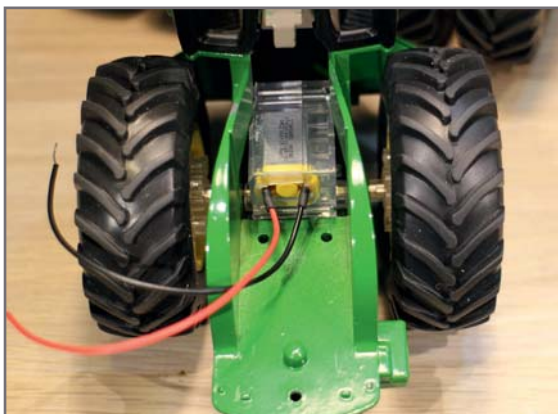
Step 17: You will also need to file a groove along the lower front edge of the motor and finally you will need to file down the protrusions at each side of the motor which hold the axle in place. When you are done the axle should fit into the original axle mounting points.



Step 18: You will need to grind away the two bars shown in the above image to get the bottom back on the model.



Step 19: The bottom should now screw back onto the model and hold the motor firmly in place.



Step 20: If you went for the four wheel front axle you will need to make sure that you drive either the outer wheels or all four. If you drive the inner wheels and leave the outer wheels freewheeling, the outer wheels will raise the inner wheels off the ground when the model tries to drive over a bump and the model won't be able to move.



Step 21: If you went for the two wheel front axle you will need to modify the rear axle to match. Remove the hubcap and end stop in the same way as the front axle. Then mount the axle with two wheels on the rear of the tractor body and mark the excess. Remove the axle from the model and cut the excess off.



Step 22: File a small chamfer around the end of the cut axle, put the two wheels back on the axle making sure the tire threads match and tap the end stop back on the axle.



Step 23: You can now put the two body sections back together leaving the bonnet off and motor wires exposed. Connect your motor wires to your battery to test that the motor can spin freely. If not then repeat steps 16 to 18. You should now have a machine capable of propelling itself along so in the next



HARRY BELL'S COMBINES

Harvest may have been and gone but to remind us of Summer during these Winter months, we visit Harry Bell once again to find more about his Combine Collection.

Model Farmer readers will know that Harry Bell provides the cover shots for every issue of the magazine.

However, Harry has many other strings to his bow.

Harry's favourite time of the farming calendar is harvest time and it will come as no surprise that he has made and adapted

23 combines for his collection.

New Holland's, Deutz, Massey Ferguson, John Deere and Sampo appear in his growing collection.

Harry's main complaint is that the hand rails are never the right scale, he understands that production restrictions dictate this practice and hence replaces them with a more accurate scale.

ROS produced a New Holland





TX66 quite a few years ago and currently Harry has one in the collection and is working on another, this time it might be a TX67.

The combines are taken apart, decals and the cab removed and when the time comes the perspex is replaced.

The combine is sprayed Clayton Yellow as Harry feels that plastic never looks as good as paint.

Combine 1& 1a

For this model a ROS Deutz - Fahr M36.10 was taken apart, the decals

masked off, the correct Deutz green sprayed, lots of details added in the cab, a new header added, correct scale handrails added, more engine detail and of course a steering rear end. Another Deutz is being worked on. Recently Harry has had to take a short break due to a By-pass operation so he has had to ask his friend Martin Thompson of Martin's Agri Trailers to make a cab for the Deutz as one of Harry's customer would like to add the machine to their already vast collection.

Combine 2

The ROS New Holland 8070 is probably Harry's favourite combine. Again, the base item was taken apart, sprayed the correct Clayton Yellow, all the detail added and finished off with a coat of matt varnish.

Combine 3

The recently released Case was given the correct scale handrails, engine detailing, weathering to the head and after this, the cab perspex was masked off and a coat of matt varnish applied.

Harry paints by hand the rust on the head with rust coloured paint and silver for the more worn parts.

Combine 4

The Britains John Deere 2266

Hillmaster can look like a great model with detailing, handrails, engine detailing and weathering applied. For this model, Harry is in the process of adding a steering rear axle.

Combine 5

Harry's Case 2188 Axial Flow was hastily worked on to get her ready for harvesting shots over the summer, she will have more detailing done over the winter months and special attention given to the engine bay.

Combine 6

Britains AFX 8010 Case looks more realistic with engine detail, replacement handrails and weathered tyres. Harry is hoping to get a correct size head and hopes to do so at the forth coming





Moira Show in early October.

Combine 7

The Universal Hobbies Massey Ferguson has again been giving the treatment and looks more realistic as a result.

Combine 8

The ROS New Holland TX66 was the first combine Harry worked on and along with the TX67 she will have a steering rear axle.

Harry's other combines will be featured in future issues.

Making the combines real

Harry uses soil, mud dust and all his models can be cleaned, except as on the real machine, wear, rust, oil etc.

Door mats are used for the base and crop shots are produced with the fibre pulled from the matt to represent straw. The dust on

the head and rear of combine is real dust from real combines, carefully sieved and dusted over the head and real axles.

Over the years Harry has cannibalised more combines than he cares to remember and is always on the look out for heads, wheels and steering rear axles. Gary Thompson, famous for his John Deere conversions is a close friend and he supplied lots of tyres, beacons and linkages over the years.

As well as combines, Harry has worked on a number of square balers from the past, Massey, Case and Hesston have been completed.

Harry undertakes weathering jobs for customers and more of his work can be viewed at www.harrybell.co.uk and on his Facebook page Harry Bell.



A Universal Hobbies Tracked New Holland 9090. I removed the tracks and attached wide tyres. The header was shortened to suit the smaller fields in Northern Ireland. The fixed doors on the tank were removed, detail to the inside of the tank which included an auger allowed me to fill it with very fine sand to replicate grain and it can be seen in the window behind the driver. New doors were added. The fine dust around the rear of the 9090 is real combine dust. Around the engine, rust and 3-in 1 oil is applied to great effect.



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1



TOYTRAC REPORT 2015

Warner Hall reports back from Toytrac 2015. A show commonly regarded as having the best diorama display in England. With traders and exhibitors, it really is an event for all tastes.

2



launched his 4 cylinder diesel Grey and Gold FE35 (pic.2) - a special one for me as I have a restored Grey and Gold petrol/two FE35.

Our Attendances were well up on previous year, supporting our wide range of Trade Stands but especially reflecting the 25 entries for the Farm Diorama Exhibition and Competitions. Certainly those with model farms have used their attendance to top up their model collections.

For the past three years this side of TOYTRAC has kindly been sponsored by Britains and Ertl from Tomy (pic.3) and TOYTRAC this year has introduced its new 'TOYTRAC Trophy' (pic.4) for

the 'Best Exhibit in the Show' - there is a large Perpetual Trophy with winners names added each year and a smaller cup awarded to that year's winner.

There are three Competitions to be competed for; the first is the

3



This was the 9th year for TOYTRAC at Wincanton and the 15th since we started at Farmer Giles Farmstead (pic.1). We are supported by our loyal dealers from all over the UK - two of which have been with us from the first TOYTRAC held in Hampshire in 1992. One of those is Brian Norman who this year has

4





Show. Not entered in this section were two of many worthy scratchbuilt models from John Churchill (pics. 8 & 9). The winner in this section was the 1/8 scale MF 410 Combine finished the day before the Show by Alan Clapp (pics.10 & 11). What a fantastic model this is with so many working parts and actions and it was fully justify an article on its own with some of the parts removed to



show all the detail that has gone in to it – words alone cannot describe its excellence – well done Alan, our winner of this section (pic.12) – being presented with his prize by Mark Smart, my fellow Judge.

The second Competition is for 'The TOYTRAC Award for the Best Diorama' that had a total of 19 entries. These fall into two distinct modelling areas, the older farms prior to 1940 and those that run from the 50's to the present day. In the older area Sue and Phil Dyson farm

is in (pic.13) and just a small section of Roger Pitt's farm in (pic.14) shows his hunting scene using the very special figures from pre-war Britains. Nigel Pitt's farm from the 50's well deserved the second prize with his model (pic.15). In the 'modern' section of the category Reg Gray came to the show with a brand new diorama – having sold last year's model to a friend. Every section



'Warner Hall Award for Scratchbuilt Models' for which there were 8 entries. Within that category John Dewhurst entered his JJ Thomas Ltd 'Ninety-100' (pic.5), Jacky Nijssen from Holland entered his John Deere 3050 (pic.6), both being conversions from original Britains tractors. Sam William, one of our junior competitors entered his post driver (pic.7) and was asked to make some more for others at the



14



13



15



16



17



18

of his diorama has action of very realistic farming operations – (pc.16) a slurry store made from a Xmas sweet tin. His work at the silage clamp (pic.17) has all the detail and more of the full size farm. But it was his action on the slurry ramp loading the spreader (pic.18) that brought so much comment and one visitor was heard to comment that the only

feature missing from Reg's farm was the smell – well done Reg – a well-deserved winner of this section (pic.19). Last year's winner, Craig Pitman brought a new farm (pic.20), supplemented with his old farm with a new operation of silage baling (pic.21). Real life living was shown in his farmhouse (pic.22) with solar panels, tv aerials and a satellite dish.



19

This year a lot more live features have been added to the models with road signs, road marking and a stile being added (pic.23). Pete Middleton, whose company are involved in the engineering for the Biomass industry showed his transfer conveyor/elevator (pic.24) that reduces the mud on roads and makes lorry transport part of the process. It also great to see



20



21



23

something modelled that is another part of countryside activity from Carl Gibbons. His Country Show (pic.25) showed a vintage tractor stand with essentially a fish and chip stall close by.

The third Competition is for 'The

Hollyloves Toys Award' for the Best Diorama by an under 16 years old – for which there were 5 entries. Two friends, Oliver and Lester from Saltash produced a very simple, highly realistic model of silage making (pic.26) that not only gave them 2nd prize, but also 1st prizes for 'The Best Newcomer' and 'The Best Non-Previous Prize Winner'. Matthew Dewhurst's diorama of a McCormick dealership (pic.27) was packed with detailed action and even managed to include last year's 'hedgerow tractor' alongside the tyre store (pic.28). Well done Matthew for a well-deserved



22



24



25



26



Winner of this Section (pic.29).
When Mark and I were judging the different layouts and diorama's there were some points that we thought might be helpful for those coming back in future years. Always take a look at how others deal with different areas, (pic.30) shows just a small part of Graham Hubbard's layout showing great uncluttered

detail. Jack Pannell's care to create the right effect of ploughing (pic.31) and his scene of unloading large fertiliser bags (pic.32) leaves a real feeling of action. Silage making in action is not complete without the grass leaving the harvester spout to go to the trailer (pics 33 & 34) show

this done well on two farms. Try if you can to show a farming action that is not usually shown. This potato planting scene (pic.35) from David Arthur shows what can be done with two older Britains models.

In looking to show detail it is important to take account of real life





activity. If you are going to use new models in a display make sure that they have lost some of their out of box gloss (pic.36). Do make sure that what you are showing meets the current legislation. Fuel tanks on farms should be bundled as most are by their location not far from watercourses and at least one of the tanks (pic.37) is a new bundled one, but on industrial premises all tanks



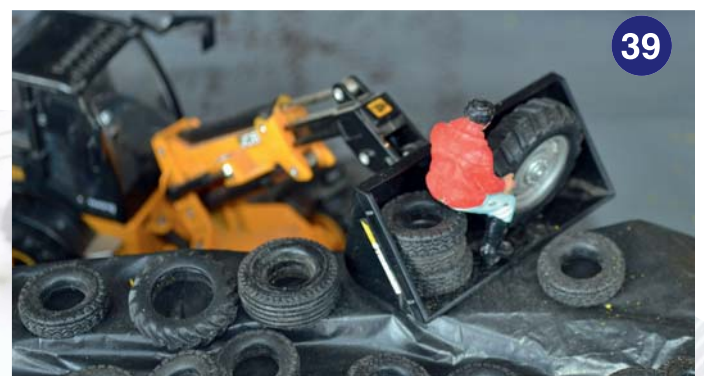
more building structures to their models it was interesting to see the new Pro-build range of buildings from Brushwood (pic.40)

At the end of the day, it was a special pleasure for Mark and I to make the award of 'Best in Show 2015' to Alan Clapp. We give our very special thanks to all those that have sponsored the Classes by giving prizes and for all of you, both Trader and Model Maker for making TOYTRAC 2015 the special Show it was. TOTRAC at Wincanton is always a 'happy' show enjoyed by all.

TOYTRAC 2016 will be back at Wincanton on Sunday 16th October.

must be bundled and the situation (pic.38) would be permitted. Perhaps the most dangerous and serious operation shown was that of riding in a telehandler bucket to cover a silage pit with tyres (pic.39).

For those that wish to add





MAJORETTE TRACTORS

Eric Bryan resumes his look at some older farm toy collectables with a review of Majorette Tractors. With a likeness to Matchbox, we look at what the French manufacturer had and still has to offer for the Farm Toy Market

Until the early 1970s, when one of the local toy stores began to carry some Solido

military models, finding French diecast on the US West Coast was a rare event. It wasn't until the 1980s, while collecting some then-

current and discontinued Britains models, that I first came across a selection of Majorette miniatures in a sort of high-end gift shop which also carried some toys. These models were in their unusual type of blister packs, with the large Majorette logo along the base.

Focusing on the smaller scale models—Majorette's equivalent to Matchbox's 1-75 series—I was impressed with the heavy bare metal chassis of most of the cars, and the stylish use of interesting paint and plastic colour combinations, and usually tinted windows. My interest in tractors had me combing through the models, seeing what in that category Majorette had to offer.

The 200 Series Tractor

Starting with the basic Tractor,

No 208 of the Majorette 200 Series, this is a 1:65th scale semi-generic farm tractor. Released in 1980, the model appears to take design cues from International Harvester, Renault, and Steyr tractors and possibly others. The one I found had a yellow metal body and lime green plastic mudguards, engine, and exhaust stack. This model featured the heavy bare metal chassis, adding to its overall solidity and quality. The No 208 Tractor also appeared in red over black, blue over yellow, and green over black colour schemes.

The tractor included a simple plastic accessory: Wedged in the package, folded up against the back of the model was a plastic cultivator which could be attached to the tractor's tow hook. Matchbox

BELOW: A 1980s vintage Majorette Tractor No 208, new in its blister pack. Photo courtesy of divando2005.



BELOW: A view showing the cultivator, as included with the No 208. Photo courtesy of divando2005.



BELOW: Majorette Tractors 3: Tractor with Snowplough, No 211. Photo courtesy of Marcoliv, via Ultimate-Diecast.com



BELOW: A new-in-pack Tractor with Snowplough, No 211. Photo courtesy of www.gasolinealleyantiques.com.



had done something similar in the late 1970s with their 1-75 Series No 46, Ford Tractor & Harrow. This nice little model in Ford blue included a dual disc harrow in yellow plastic. With a single purchase of the Matchbox or Majorette, the young model farmer could go to work in the fields immediately.

I followed up on this tractor purchase with a little Majorette set which included the No 208 Tractor with a tipping trailer, No 316 of the 300 Series. The tractor from this set had a colour combination inversion of that of the first one, with a lime green body and yellow plastic mudguards and exhaust stack.

The trailer in this set was nicely made. The chassis was of the same solid bare metal as that of the tractor. The tipping body was moulded of impressively thick yellow plastic, with a tailboard in lime green. This was also very solid and could be snap-locked shut, fitting precisely. The moulding of the whole tipping assembly was sharp and clean. The trailer from the No 316 set also appeared in various tipping body and tailboard colour combinations. In the 300 series sets, the tractor has also been packaged with a livestock trailer, timber trailer, tipping trailer, and hay trailer with raves.

The Super Series Front End Loader

My Majorette tractor collecting spree continued when at another shop I found the Front End Loader, No 3030. This was a 1:56th scale model from the Super Movers 3030 Series, a hefty articulated machine, perhaps based on one of the International Harvester Pay Line Division tractors. (In the States, large wheel loaders aren't that uncommon on farms.)

Again Majorette's colour scheme of the model was interesting. The main body and loader system of the model were in a slightly greenish yellow, with orange hazard stripes labels on either side of the engine compartment. The model had black plastic tyres, orange plastic hubs and a matching orange cab. The loader lifted via two 'hydraulic' cylinders, and the toothed scoop tipped via a single piston. It was another nicely done and solid model from Majorette, and its full functionality could make you wish you were a kid again. Other colour schemes for this model included industrial yellow with grey wheel hubs and a black cab, and various labels in place of the hazard stripes to create different liveries.

The Super Series Bulldozer

My foray into Majorette

BELOW: The Tractor with Front Loader, No 263. Photo courtesy of www.gasolinealleyantiques.com



tractors continued with another 1:56th scale Super Movers 3030 Series model, the No 3039 Bulldozer. With nostalgic echoes of the Matchbox King Size K-8 Caterpillar Traxcavator, this was a tracked loader, and not actually a bulldozer. This time Majorette used a more standard industrial yellow paint for the body and loader system of the tractor. The model had black rubber treads and a removable black plastic cab. On each side of the machine were labels with logos which read 'Enterprise'. Majorette used different labels on other releases in order to create other liveries.

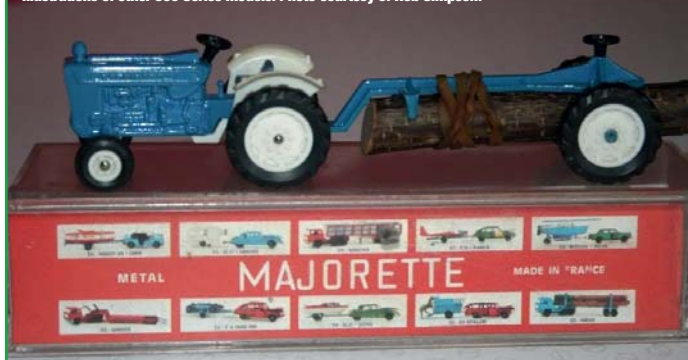
The loader system on the No 3039 had no 'hydraulic' cylinders

to 'raise' it and hold it in place.

The loader arms simply hinged onto the tractor body with no other connection. There was a pair of simulated hydraulic pistons, but they were non-functional. Though this design represented a lack of detail on the model, the right loader arm had a finger operated lever to raise and lower the loader, and the scoop also had a lever system so that it could be tilted back and forth for emptying. The lever systems worked well and ensured play value for the young operator.

Another nice feature of this Majorette tractor was the rear-mounted claws or rippers. The rippers attached to an arm which hinged onto the body of the tractor,

Below: A minty Ford 5000 Tractor with Log Trailer, No 354, with its original packaging featuring illustrations of other 300 Series models. Photo courtesy of Rob Simpson.



Below: The Front Loader No 3030, new in its Super Movers series box. Photo courtesy of dragstr124.



Above: The Bulldozer (front loader), No. 3039, new in Super Movers series packaging. Photo courtesy of 1gramcm3. Above left: The Front Loader No 3030 in alternate orange paint scheme. Photo courtesy of Marcoliv via Ultimate-Diecast.com. Below Left: A play-worn example of the No. 211 Tractor Shovel. Photo by free photos.



and like most of the rest of the model, were made of die-cast metal. There was however no piston or other mechanism to hold the claws in position. The pivot arm was hinged rather loosely to the back of the tractor, so the rippers simply dragged on the ground behind the machine. (Industrial tracked loaders also are not uncommon on American farms.)

Other 200, 300 and 3000 Series models

Moving on to some tractors which I didn't find, there are the Majorette models which are similar to the Matchbox Shovel Nose Tractor No 29. These are the 200 Series No 211 Tractor Snowplough, made from November 1979; and the No 263 Tractor Shovel, produced from May 1979. Both models were made to 1:87th scale. Of even greater interest is the earlier No.

211 Tractor-Shovel, made from June 1972 to December 1978. Identified in the 1974 Majorette catalogue as 'Road Grader Shovel', this is a wheel loader without cab or roof, with a diecast metal loader assembly. The body is in orange or yellow, with the engine and loader system in silver. The model was also released as an army tractor in khaki and military green. Some versions have a steering wheel cast as part of the body, and others have a separate steering wheel (though often missing on examples) which fits over the steering column.

An older vintage Majorette model which interested me is the 1:55th scale No 354 Ford 5000 Tractor & Log Trailer, released in 1971. The trailer is a high-riding frame with two tractor wheels which would be positioned over a piece of fallen timber so as to straddle

it. The front of the trailer would be lowered and strapped to the timber, while a hand-operated cranking system at the rear would draw the log up snugly to the frame via a screw mechanism. Once it was secure, the tractor could drive away with the timber riding free of the ground. Though searches show this model with both tractor and trailer in Ford's blue and white colour scheme, the set was also sold as a red tractor with white mudguards and a bare metal trailer, and it further appeared in other colour variations. The tractor, introduced in March 1971, was also sold by itself as No. 253. The Ford also appeared in set No. 369, Farm Tractor with Fodder Trailer with folding raves, in the 1976 catalogue.

There is also the 3000 Series semi-generic Farm Tractor. Made to 1:36 scale, this model appears to be the big brother to the No. 208 Tractor. In red or green, this model has a folding plastic scythe attached to the right side. The tractor was later brought into the Super Movers Series, with the added feature of a white plastic cab with a black roof, and a driver figure. It was also included

in Super Movers sets with a hay trailer with folding raves, a vacuum tank, or a log trailer.

Some current models

Regarding Majorette's current tractor and farm machinery models, of interest to collectors is a group of small-scale Claas models currently on offer as part of Majorette's Farm Life series. These are a Xerion Tractor, Jaguar Harvester, and Lexicon Combine Harvester. These miniatures are of diecast metal with plastic components. There is also the Farm Life Team range, comprising of semi-generic tractors each with a hay trailer, vacuum tank, horsebox or plough. The overall length of these models is 18 cm. Also worth considering is the Fendt 936 Vario Tractor in the Kidsmate line. Available in green, white, and black, this detailed 24 cm model has opening doors, rear window and bonnet; a removable front weight, and a low-geared friction motor.

Below Left: One of the later releases of the No. 208 Tractor, in a set with a log trailer. Photo by free photos. Below: Claas Forage Harvester in close to 1/32 scale.



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Right: Ewan and Alfie Murray's display featuring potato harvesting scene. They were winners of the Under 16 farm and construction diorama.



9TH LAKELAND MODEL FARM & CONSTRUCTION SHOW

Sharon and Peter Hardy of 1/32 farming models had the opportunity to take over the show from Harold Powlton, who had previously organised and run the fantastic show, over the last 8 years. 2015 was its 9th year. With rain, floods and high winds, prospects were pessimistic at the start of the day but it proved unfounded as visitors flocked to the Rheged centre in their dozens. With plenty of traders and dioramas from around the Country, it was a great visitor experience for all ages. The friendly atmosphere was summed up with a generous donation by the organisers to Clic Sargent of £995.

The event will continue as always next November so please keep an eye on the Lakeland model farm and construction Facebook page for more updates.



Above: Alastair Bell travelled from Northern Ireland to be at the show with his Muddy Farm Models Business. Alastair was also the faithful auctioneer during the Charity Auction.

Left: Andrew Thompson with his regular excellent quarry scene display. Andrew came second in the adult diorama competition.



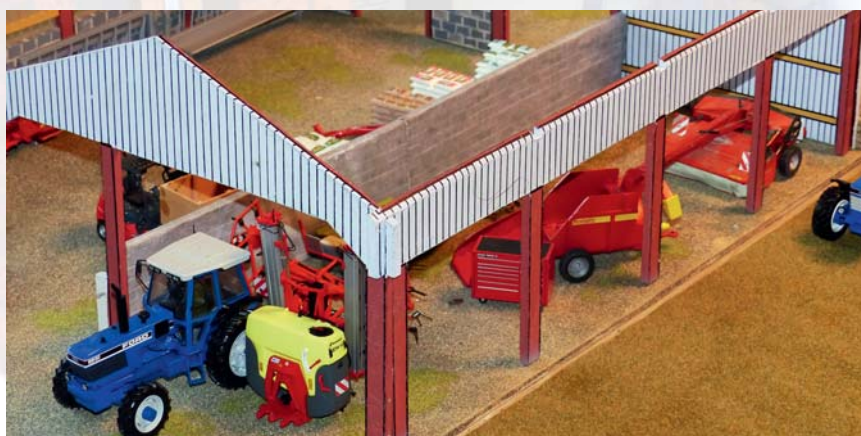
Above Left: Paul Capon from PDC Farm Models is a regular trader at the show. Above: Likewise, Barry Stunt from UTS travels from the very South of England every year to attend with his stock. Left: Cenfyn Davies from Wales displays an eclectic mix of obsolete models and custom builds on his stand.



Right: Damian and Hazel Hampson from Skipton have displayed at Lakeland for many years and their amazing diorama won them 1st in the adult display competition. Below: John Dewhurst was back with some of his Ford Models, as featured in our last issue.



Above: S Frater was displaying a new release based on the Imber 6640 at the show. Left: Part of one of the many stunning dioramas at the event.



Above: Rob Neesham of Agri-Modelz had a trade stand come diorama at the show. His work is becoming increasingly popular around the UK. Left: Matt Dewhurst with his McCormick display. Matt was second in the under 16 diorama competition. Far Left: Kenny Beeton with some of his collection on display.

Extremely Rare DBP Models 1/16 Scale Ford 7000 Tractor. Only 4 rumoured to have been built. . Sold for £280.

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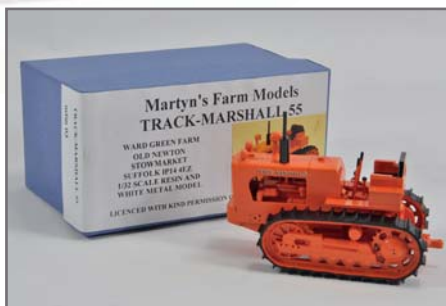
M&M Auctions

WINTER AUCTION PRICES

Earlier in December, M&M Auctions held their annual Christmas Auction. Amongst a huge collection of old toys and models were dozens of interesting farm related items. We report with the results.



Britains Farm Tractor Duo including Deutz DX92 with duals plus Volvo BM Valmet. Sold for £40. M&M Auctions



Martyn's Farm Models 1/32 Scale Track Marshall 55 Crawler Tractor. Sold for £170. M&M Auctions



Tractoys for Miniagri 1/32 Scale Claas Europa Combine Harvester. Limited Edition. Sold for £220. M&M Auctions



Ertl 1/32 Scale Ford 555A Backhoe Loader. . Sold for £80. M&M Auctions



Universal Hobbies 1/16 Scale Limited Edition Dual Drive Ferguson Doe Tractor. Sold for £55. M&M Auctions



Clifford Series approx 1/24 Scale Fordson Major Tractor with Rare Yellow Trailer. Sold for £80. M&M Auctions



Britains 1/32 Scale Massey Ferguson 7200 Combine. Professionally Modified with more detail etc. Sold for £35.



Country Artists 'Welcome Home' featuring Nuffield 4/60 Tractor with Cab. Sold for £130. M&M Auctions



Rare Country Artists 1/16 Scale Pewter Effect SAME 360C DT Tractor. Sold for £160. M&M Auctions



Scarce Hans Sikkema 1/32 Scale Massey Ferguson 1102 4WD Tractor Sold for £100. **M&M Auctions**



Igra Small Scale Plastic Zetor Crystal 12045 Tractor. Lacks Exhaust. Sold for £35. **M&M Auctions**



Scarce Tractoys 1/16 Scale SIFT 45 Tractor. Sold for £160. **M&M Auctions**



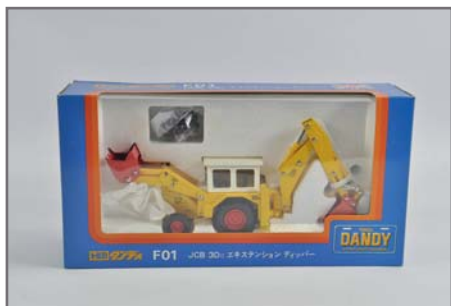
G&M Originals 1/32 Scale Marshall MP6 Tractor. Limited Edition Sold for £60. **M&M Auctions**



Tyro Toys 1/32 Scale Buhrer 6105 Tractor. Sold for £120. **M&M Auctions**



Britains 1/32 MF135 Tractor duo. Sold for £50. **M&M Auctions**



Tomica Dandy F01 JCB 3D Backhoe Sold for £120. **M&M Auctions**



Scarce 1/32 Scale Track Marshall Crawler Tractor Sold for £190. **M&M Auctions**



Martyns Farm Models Track Marshall 55 Crawler Tractor with Britains Plough Sold for £70. **M&M Auctions**



Larger and interesting Farm Model Group including many different tractor models. Sold for £35. **M&M Auctions**



Selection of Universal Hobbies Tractor Models including Valtra x 2 and 1 x Deutz.. Sold for £50. **M&M Auctions**



USK 1/32 Challenger MT765B Tracked Tractor. Rare conversion with row crop tracks. Sold for £80. **M&M Auctions**



Tractoys for G&M Farm Models 1/16 Scale Massey Ferguson 165 Tractor Unsold. **M&M Auctions**



Pair of Scale Models 1/16 Tractor Models including Massey Ferguson 1100 and 1150 Sold for £35. **M&M Auctions**



Group of Britains Farm Models and Vehicles. Sold for £35. **M&M Auctions**

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Real Machinery

Late Autumn 2015 Work

Two generations of MF 7000 series tractors at work on the Murfitt's farm near Ely [1 and 2] bringing in the potatoes. UH have modelled both of these. One other piece of the potato growing puzzle missing is a forklift truck for working in barns [3]

There are models available in 1/25 from NZG but none so far in 1/32.

Low prices for sugarbeet and a reduced area grown has sown despondency in the industry but some contractors have taken advantage of the very weak Euro to buy the latest kit. M&J Harvesting have invested in a three axle Grimme Rexor 630, the first to be sold in

the country [4]. Accompanying it is Vervaet's Hydrotrike [5] with its extending rear axle. Going over this bridge, however, there was no room for error! Berkmortel and Berkmortel did a two axle Hydrotrike some ten years ago and there have been some scratchbuilt versions. An alternative approach to a self propelled chaser is to use one of the new generation of large triaxle machines. Here contractor Richard Ivatt is trialling the Hawe RUW 4000 [6]. Reports are that it pulls easier than a standard beet trailer despite being considerably larger. We have had wheat chasers from UH and Siku, how about Wiking producing a beet chaser? Working

3



4



5

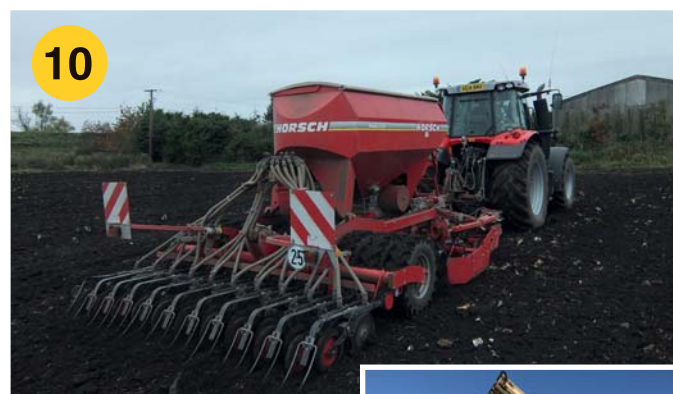




into the evening is Bartlow Estate's Fendt 936 with a Larrington triaxle [7] and their Ropa Tiger 5 which was also new for the season [8]. A much older machine is this WM 9000 from Agrifac which belongs

and then drilled with a Horsch Pronto, second hand versions from UH still being available [10]

The Croptec exhibition in November showcased a number of sprayers, mainly from the top end



to the Murfitt's. [9]. Once the beet land is cleared it is cultivated

of the market. Here Horsch [11] Litetrac [12] and Agrifac's [13

] machines are on display. Horsch have introduced a slightly less expensive version of the trailed machine, substituting the stainless steel tank with a plastic one [13]. Schuco's 1/87 Horsch sprayer never made it to 1/32 which is a pity.

For more photos go to www.agriinsight.co.uk



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Draw a Picture and get it Published!

Thank you to those of you who sent in your pictures and got them published this issue. We have an awful lot to get through so if you have not seen your drawing yet, we will endeavour to publish it in a later issue.

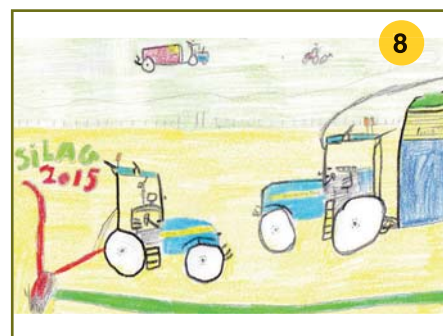
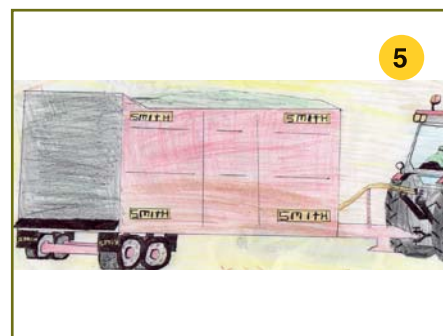
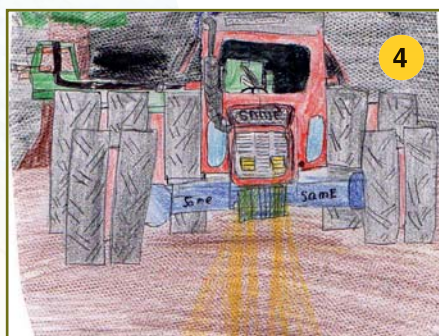
Thanks to James who's picture of the Fendt got temporarily lost in the post but will be pleased to know that we'll be sending a goodie bag in the New Year for such a great effort.

Keep your pictures coming in. Anyone we publish gets a free magazine.



Entrants

1. James Coates, Age 14 from Cornwall
2. Danny Lucey, Age 10 from Co. Cork
3. Patrick Dawry, Age 14 from Co. Kilkenny
4. Joseph Ferguson, Age 10 from Co. Fermanagh
5. Jack Moriarty, Age 12 from Co. Limerick
6. Madhg Gaffney, Age 8 from Lusk
7. James Desmond, Age 12 from Co. Cork
8. Noah Robinson, Age 11 from Co. Antrim



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