

# Machinery developments offer cost cutting opportunities

**N**P Seymour has always been at the forefront of the fruit industry's ability to invest in fruit growing equipment that will keep growers competitive and up-to-date. The recent introduction of the Darwin blossom flail has had a huge impact on the burgeoning costs of hand thinning and the actual delivery of a precision-grown top fruit crop.

At this year's National Fruit Show NP Seymour introduced the BMV tree trimmer, ideally to be combined with the thinning flail in intensive fruit wall systems. Whether used for winter or summer pruning,

the cutting blades can work in almost every axis.

Nick Seymour explained that the trimmer mast has the capacity to undercut lower branches as well as all the laterals and cropping units presented to the cutting mast. "The BMV is fitted with two sets of blades, a saw blade for winter work with 'brown' wood, and summer knives for 'green' wood tree volume control. The mast can be up to 4m in height, and is adjustable from 2 to 4m, and can also be used for orchard windbreak management. The mast can be fitted with sensors, not only to detect and swing back around tree posts, but also to avoid hail netting".

The basic unit costs £14,500 and with a flail system £21,000. Nick considered that, as growers progressed towards more intensive fruit wall systems, and were challenged further with increased labour costs and decreased availability, such mechanisation will be essential.

NP Seymour have specialised in the supply of top-of-the-range Fendt orchard tractors for decades, but are now making available a new Carraro F and V series of Italian made tractors for intensive orchard systems. "They are far less



The new Italian F and V series Carraro tractors offer cost-effective equivalents to more expensive brands whilst providing adequate requirements for fruit growers.

*From Bud to Box.....*

**N.P. SEYMOUR**



We aim to supply you quality machinery and equipment in order to take care of your fruit or vines from the moment of budding using the latest innovations and cost effective methods. Including narrow tractors, mowers, sprayers, spreaders and trailers through to a full range of packhouse grading and sorting equipment.



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Nick Seymour is confident that as fruit wall systems develop in the UK, the BMV trimmer and the Darwin blossom thinner will work together to reduce man-hours.

