

Ideal timing and perfect weather for Kent farm dispersal sale



In very good condition, these Dal-Bo Compact 1230, 12.3m folding rolls attracted competitive bidding and are likely to see considerable use this autumn if the dry weather continues. They were straight from Lower Dean's Farm and their new owner paid £9,000.



One of the more unusual items for sale was this forward control Mercedes Unimog. It was originally a Landquip sprayer conversion and was new in 1978 with 51,000km recorded. The tyres were Michelin XM108 540/65R24 with 80 per cent remaining tread and the winning bid was £4,300.

A mid-September dispersal sale of farm machinery and equipment attracted buyers from across the South-East and further afield, generating some excellent prices. **David Williams** was there.

The sale was organised by long-established land agents and auctioneers Lambert & Foster. It was at Lower Dean's Farm, Dean's Hill, near Maidstone and included all the machinery and equipment from the farm following the death of its owner, Tony Crouch, late last year.

Tony bought the farm in 1961 having relocated from nearby Lenham where his family had a dairy herd and he expanded the herd and built up the farm by acquiring land locally as it became available. The milking herd was dispersed in 2004, but Tony maintained the mixed farm by renting out land for grazing while farming the arable land himself.

Most lots were direct from the farm although there were also some

'included' items from local dealers and other farms, including several tractors. The sale day weather was dry and sunny, encouraging buyers to remain on site for the duration and an ice cream van in attendance did excellent trade throughout the day.

Well attended

"The attendance reflected the attraction of a genuine farm dispersal sale," commented Lambert & Foster auctioneer Alan Mummery. "There were some ups and downs as always at a farm sale, but with most lots selling for more than the estimates the vendors were happy.

"The sale was advertised in Farmers Guide and, as always, we were very pleased with the response.

The magazine is well read in this region, especially by arable and mixed farms," he added.

Tony's daughter Jenny Conway said she was delighted to see so many familiar friendly faces at the sale and she complimented the Lambert & Foster team, who are also in the process of selling the farm, on their excellent organisation. "From the start they have been great to deal with – very professional and their communication with us couldn't have been better. They made the whole process easy, attendance at the sale was very good and many lots sold for prices way beyond our expectations although there were a few we all hoped might have fetched more."



Kubota compact tractors are always in demand and this B2100 4wd hydrostatic with 3,090 recorded hours was described as in good working order and made £3,900.

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This Valtra N113 was a HiTech power-shift 40kph model fitted with a Valtra 56 front loader. It was registered on a 14-plate and carried local dealer RW Crawford stickers. It was in superb condition inside and out, had worked 2,365 hours, and was fitted with Continental 540/65R38 rear tyres with 70 per cent tread and 540/65R28 front tyres with 50 per cent tread. The price achieved reflected its condition at £34,000.



This Case 595XL was registered on an H-plate and carried its original Scats dealer stickers. It was tidy for its age although the front cab pillars were rusted. The rear tyres were Alliance Power Drive 16.9R38 with 70 per cent tread and the fronts were 7.50-16 with 40 per cent tread but were perished. The tractor was sold without its V5, and achieved a winning bid of £1,700.



With mounting brackets to fit a Manitou handler, this Protech P220 post rammer was in excellent condition and appeared to have had little use. It sold for £1,800.



Just in time for the autumn drilling season this Massey Ferguson 30, 4m trailed drill was in excellent order for its age and came with some spare parts. It achieved a winning bid of £500.



This Opico Magna 1200QF 12t mobile dryer was new in 2008, had worked 277 hours and was in tidy condition. From Lower Dean's Farm it sold for £1,000.



These Nokian 16.9R34 Tractor Industrial tyres were on 8-stud wheels and had 80 per cent remaining tread. They sold for £260.



£40 was paid for this chainsaw bench which appeared unused.



This tractor-mounted cement mixer appeared serviceable although the PTO shaft was in need of attention. According to a plate on the machine it was manufactured by General Steel Products and the winning bid was £160.



There were plenty of items to suit the building and construction industries, (l-r) a Stihl TS350AV disc cutter didn't achieve its reserve. Beside it, a Husqvarna 4750 disc cutter with a dust suppression system made £50, and a Stihl 540 disc cutter also with dust suppression sold for £60.



With autumn just around the corner it's an ideal time to be selling saw benches and this Technorton compact PTO-driven circular saw made £700.



This 4m power-harrow drill combination consisted of a Maschio Dominator power harrow and Sulky drill. It was equipped with SPI Regul-line technology which aligns seeds as they leave the metering units for even seed spacing. The combination hadn't been used for five years but was in tidy condition. On a drill trailer for ease of transport it made £1,800.



This elderly PTO-driven circular saw bench sold for just £10. It needed attention but the 65cm blade appeared hardly used.

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The farm's Manitou MLT845-120LSU 4wd telehandler was offered with pallet forks and a 2t grain bucket. It was on an 11-plate and had worked 2,740 hours. It had its original Ernest Doe Power dealer stickers and was on Michelin 460/70R24 tyres with 10 per cent remaining tread. The winning bid was £27,500.



This Reekie multi-purpose 6m low loader trailer had a hydraulic-powered drop-bed and it was rated at 6,120kg gross weight. It was manufactured in 1983 and was very tidy for its age. It sold for £1,800.



This John Deere 328A mower conditioner with steel tines carried a local Burden Bros dealer sticker. It was tidy, appeared recently used, and sold for £2,400.



A highlight of the sale was this Land Rover Defender which was one of the included lots and came from a local farm. It was a 2002, 130 High Capacity TD5 model, registered on a 52-plate and was sold with a full MOT. It had a set of Michelin tyres with plenty of tread and the recorded mileage was 12,130. The bodywork had quite a number of scratches and there were small dents in most panels. The cab interior was in need of tidying but strong competition between those keen to take it home pushed the price to £18,000.



▲▲ In excellent condition, this Jappa 700 firewood processor was manufactured in late 2016 and had been used very little from new. It attracted competitive bidding and auctioneer Alan Mummery is pictured taking bids for the machine which eventually sold for £5,900.



This Browns tractor-mounted hydraulic log splitter was in very good condition and ready to work. It sold for £450.



An included lot from a local heavy horse enthusiast was this superb Kent Harvest Wagon with ladders. It sold for £1,800.

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▲▲ A pair of very tidy Massey Ferguson tractors both sold well. On the left of the picture a 6480 Dyna-6 on a 10-plate had worked 2,500 hours and was in excellent condition. It was on Michelin AgriBib 20.8R38 rear tyres and 16.9R28 fronts – all with 80 per cent tread. The tractor was offered with a set of 10 front wafer weights. It sold well at £34,000. Next to it, an equally attractive 6716S Dyna-6 on a 17-plate was offered; with Michelin AgriBib 20.8R38 rear, and 16.9R28 front tyres – all with 90 per cent tread. It had its original Agwood dealer sticker and made an impressive £51,000. A large crowd assembled around the two Massey Fergusons and competitive bidding resulted in excellent prices.



A selection of trailers on offer included these two Marshall QM14 14t grain trailers. They were manufactured in July 2009 and both had hydraulic tailgates and grain chutes. Tyres were Ferndale Agri-Master 385/65R22.5 and approximately 25 per cent of the tread remained. The trailer on the right of the picture sold for £9,000 and the other made £8,900.



Two Jerry cans, both in excellent condition with one unused made £22.



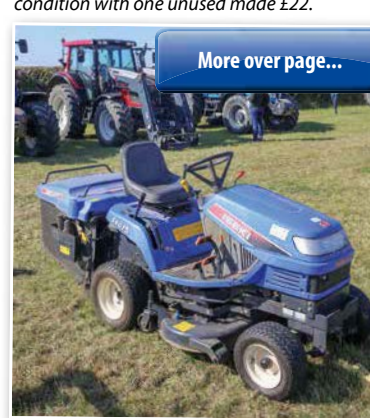
Inspecting a New Holland TS135A tractor which eventually sold for £16,250, are Peter Pinnington who is employed on a farm near Sevenoaks, Kent and his son Jim Pinnington who offers a contracting service with his own tractor and works for several local farmers too.



Four well used 6ft cattle feeders sold for £10.



This cattle crush appeared serviceable and made £40.



In very tidy condition, this Iseki SXG 15 ride-on mower with an SBC400 collector had worked only 186 hours. Powered by a 2-cyl, 14hp diesel engine and with hydrostatic transmission, it had a 1.02m cutter deck. The winning bid was £2,300.

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Pictured enjoying refreshments during the sale are Richard Brace (left) and his father Rodney. Rodney, who is from East Peckham near Tonbridge, Kent, keeps sheep and said he had come to the sale to see what was on offer at the right price.



Also sold at an ideal time for autumn crop establishment, this British-built Proforge 4m Drillmate cultivator had been used very little and was almost as new. It was bought by the farm in 2014 and sold for £1,500.



One of quite a number of mowers on offer, this Vicon CM269 was new in 2008 and in tidy condition. It made £1,900.



This Browns spring tine cultivator was a 4.5m model and in very good condition. It sold for £1,500.



In good condition for its age, this Law Denis D50 seed cleaner was offered with a full set of screens and attracted a winning bid of £30.



Two Ifor Williams trailers were on offer. A late 2002 GP106GM 3.5t plant trailer pictured had good tyres, a ramp and a John Page dealer sticker and made £1,250. The newer 2015, CT166 16ft long, 6ft, 6-inch wide, tilt-bed trailer behind came with ramps and sides and was very tidy. It was a very good buy at £2,000.



These two toe jacks were an early lot. They were manufactured by Duff Norton and rated at 15t capacity each. The winning bid was £35.



A handy tip skip suitable for pallet fork mounting sold for £110.



This pallet truck appeared to be in good working order and made £40.



These steel road forms were 10ft long and sold for £50.



Building and construction lots attracted interest from a large number of buyers.



This Fransgard RV300 hay turner was manufactured in 2001 and was in very tidy order for its age. It had new tines and sold for £350.



This 3m, 9-leg chisel tine cultivator was well weathered and needed new wheels. It made £160.



Two Stihl chainsaws were both included items. Nearest the camera is an MS180 with a 14-inch bar and an almost new chain. It looked in good condition but failed to meet its reserve. The smaller MS120 behind appeared to be a 2012 model and had a 12-inch bar. The chain was in need of replacement but otherwise it looked tidy, and it sold for £90.



Several UTVs were available for bidding including this Polaris Ranger Diesel 4wd which was very tidy and from the farm. It had power steering, and was on 25-10-12 front, and 25-11-12 rear tyres all with 80 per cent tread. Fitted with a weather protection cab it was registered on a 16-plate and equipped with a Datatag anti-theft system. The winning bidder paid £6,500.



These Avery scales complete with weights weigh up to 250kg and were in good order. They made £22.



A steel cantilever toolbox and leather tool holder with a large selection of useful spanners and grips sold for £8.



Sold at an ideal time for use this autumn, the Kuhn 135 5F reversible plough was from Lower Dean's Farm and made £7,500. It was in excellent order with almost new wearing metal throughout.



An elderly Matrot electric drive side-knife achieved £20.



£3,400 was paid for this set of Dowdeswell 84-series folding discs. These carried a local Haynes dealer sticker and appeared to be in good order with plenty of wear left in the discs.



In good condition for its age, this Kuhn 135 5F reversible plough was manufactured in 1990. It achieved a good price of £680.



A large Spearhead 4.5m 450-9S hydraulic-folding mower appeared to be in working order although the PTO shaft needed attention. It sold for £2,400.



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The Massey Ferguson 6270 Power Control 4wd on the left of the picture was a W-registration with 6,052 recorded hours. It was on Goodyear Super Traction Radial 16.9R38 rear tyres and 13.6R28 fronts, all with 30 per cent tread. The cab was tidy for its age; it had 5 front weights and sold for £14,500. Beside it, the Deutz Fahr Agrifarm 100 4wd was registered on a 58-plate, had worked 3,500 hours and was on Pirelli TM700 480/70R36 rear and 420/70R24 front tyres. The cab was tidy, it had a pick-up hitch and drawbar as well as 12 front weights. The original Arter Bros Ltd dealer stickers were still in place and it was an attractive lot which sold for £15,000.

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Another lot sold at an ideal time of year was this McConnell PA5455 hedge-cutter with an RH1200 slasher head. It had its Haynes supplying dealer stickers and was almost as new having worked just one season. The winning bid was £12,000.

► This Amazone twin-disc spreader was a ZA-M Compact model. It had standard 1,000-litre hopper capacity and an N1800 hopper extension increased capacity to 1,800-litres. The discs appeared to be in good condition and the spreader looked ready to work. It sold for £400.



► The sale of the farm's New Holland combine attracted a good crowd of bidders and spectators. It was the last of the main lots to be auctioned. The CX5080 model was bought new by Tony Crouch in 2015 and was on a 15-plate. It came with its 6m header, a Shelbourne Reynolds C6000 header trailer and an oilseed rape side knife, and was on Michelin 710/75R34 drive tyres with 90 per cent tread and Continental 460/70R24 steering tyres with 70 per cent tread. Inside and out the combine was superb having only recorded 480 engine, and 390 drum hours during 4 harvests of the farm's 130ha of cereal crops.

Auctioneer Alan Mummery sold the combine, pausing first to comment that the late Tony Crouch had purchased the combine at the age of 84 on 4 years' interest free finance and had been its only operator until this year. It sold for £75,000 to a dealer.



Members of the Lambert & Foster team at the sale with the New Holland combine. (l-r) Jonathan Booth, Ben Wombwell, Ryan Saunders, Alan Mummery and John Butler.

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