

@agrارheute

LANDWIRTSCHAFT AUF DEN PUNKT GEBRACHT



Catros XL has 610mm diameter discs designed for incorporating large masses of organic material.

BIG DISCS, MORE CLEARANCE

Larger diameter discs and a new approach to depth control are the trappings that make **Amazone Catros XL** a real pro in the field of incorporating large amounts of trash. Working at depths of 5–16cm, the discs perform equally well in **stubble** and **slurry incorporation**



- 1** The big scale is helpful for hydraulic depth change.
- 2** Depths range from 5cm to 16cm and are changed by adjusting the disc holders.
- 3** A small water level on the frame helps level the machine by adjusting the top link

Mounted disc harrows come in three different versions at Amazone. The entry-level model is the Catros Special with smooth-edged 460mm discs, the Catros Special+ has scalloped or serrated 510mm discs. The classic models are the Catros and Catros+ with 460mm and 510mm discs – either smooth-edged, scalloped or serrated.

This line-up is now expanded by Catros XL, a rigid machine with work widths of 3.00-4.00m but with 610mm discs – either serrated or scalloped. The design of the ma-

IN A NUTSHELL

- Catros XL is the third model that is added to the Amazone range of mounted disc harrows.
- The 610mm discs offer work depths of up to 16cm.
- Catros XL is designed to incorporate organic matter or slurry.

a

chine is similar to Catros Special but much beefier. While the press carried classic Catros has its depth controlled by adjusting the position of the press other models alter the depth by adjusting the disc holders, a design that makes attachment very straightforward.

STRAIGHTFORWARD ATTACHMENT

The machine is levelled by adjusting the top link and has a small water level that helps operators find the correct alignment. The depth is set by adjusting the disc holder either mechani-

REVIEW OF AMAZONE CATROS XL 3003

Technical data

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Working width | 3,00m |
| Disc diameter | 61cm |
| Disc thickness | 5mm |
| Disc spacing | 250mm |
| No. of discs | 2 × 12 |
| Working depth | 5-16cm |
| Work rates | 12 - 18km/h |
| Tractor power | 120hp+ (88kW+) |
| Transport length | 3,34m |
| Transport width | 3,00m |
| Weight incl. wedge ring roller | 1,960kg |

Prices

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Base price (cage roller) | € 17,296 |
| Wedge ring roller with matrix tyres | € 5,055 |
| Side plates | € 667 |
| Hydraulic depth control | € 594 |
| Extra weights | € 893 |

Price for test specification machine € 24,505

PLUS & MINUS

- + Tractor attachment is straightforward, because Catros XL is carried by the press.
- + The depth is altered by adjusting the two disc gangs.
- + Operators appreciate the useful water level and the good scales that indicates the current depth.
- + Good inter-row clearance and soil flow also at deep working depths.
- The outboard discs are folded up for road transport.

Minimum use 245ha/year

$$MU = \frac{Fc}{rc - vc} = \frac{€ 2,450}{€ 12 - € 2} = 245 \text{ ha/year}$$

Explanations

| | |
|----|--|
| MU | Minimum use |
| Fc | Fixed costs/year: € 2,450/year (= 10% of the purchase price) |
| Vc | Variable costs/ha: € 2/ha (wear, service and maintenance) |
| RC | Rental costs: € 12/ha |

agrarteute www.agrarteute.com, 10/2019 issue

cally on as spindle or hydraulically, with the two gangs being adjusted in synch by a rod which ensures depth is always the same on both gangs. Increasing the depth also increases the clearance between the frame and the discs for an unobstructed soil flow. Beyond that, the system also eliminates the need for adjusting the top link.

The current depth is clearly indicated on a big scale which makes it easy for operators to change it temporarily and then resume the previous setting.

LARGE-DIAMETER DISCS

The working depth is determined by the disc diameter. After all, bigger discs work deeper. But thorough width requires a minimum depth. The big 610mm discs offer a depth range of 5-16cm and the 510mm discs on the similar Catros+ Special a range of 5-14cm.

Yet Catros XL has more advantages than only the bigger discs. On the one hand, it is 345kg heavier (our 3m XL test machine), meaning it penetrates heavy soils more easily. Another plus is the larger 140mm inter-row clearance enabling a smooth flow of large amounts of soil. The same applies to the space between the rear discs and the press which increased by 250mm. All this allows CatrosXL to deal with more organic matter and disturb more soil without the risk of blockages.

SERRATED OR SCALLOPED

All 610mm discs are 5mm thick, work 5-16mm deep and have either serrated or scalloped edges. The serrated discs are more effective and therefore better in shallow work. By comparison, the scalloped discs help propelling themselves, penetrate more effectively and are more effective at incorporating large amounts of residues.

Our test machine had the scalloped discs which proved up to the task of incorporating break crops this spring. This crop had already died back and lost in mass and the mixing effect was good.

Each disc mounts to its own collar clamp, a design that suggests better contouring. Yet wider collar clamps absorb lateral forces more effectively. This said, the ideal design seems to be a question of philosophy. The disc bearings are, typically Amazone, maintenance-free. The double-row angular ball bearings are mounted on the inward side



Each disc is individually attached to the frame via collar clamps. The clamps also serve as a breakback system.



The outboard discs are folded up for transport. They also boast a precision control for depth.



The wedge ring roller with matrix tyres gives a very good consolidation.



The finish is tidy, well consolidated and stripy with trash incorporated well.

of the discs and are oil immersed for permanent lubrication. To bring the transport width down to 3m, one of the outboard discs on each side is folded up. These discs also offer individual height control for a level finish. Buyers can also opt for side plates that keep the soil inside the machine, offering individual adjustment.

CatrosXL comes with a large choice of different rollers – from cage rollers, channel-steel rollers and disc rollers to wedge ring rollers. Our test machine had a 650mm diameter wedge ring roller



Bernd Feuerborn
Farm machinery editor
bernd.feuerborn@agrarheute.com

with matrix tyres which offers plenty of space especially in light soils and the matrix tread ensures good propulsion and effective tilling.

SUMMARY

The Catros with large discs will certainly be welcomed by growers with a focus on grain maize and break crops and those who do a lot of slurry incorporation. The increased space all-round is also good when working at deep depths. The machine left a tidy finish in our conditions.

Photos: Feuerborn