



Meeting farming needs

The TM1000 ProgressiveTraction® from Trelleborg, with its award-winning technology, entered the market in 2013.

According to Alessio Bucci, Product Marketing Senior Manager at Trelleborg Wheel Systems, this advanced tire addresses the agricultural sector's most pressing requirements: to increase power transmission efficiency to the ground while reducing soil compaction.

The TM1000 ProgressiveTraction from Trelleborg boasts an extra wide footprint that provides premium flotation and minimal soil compaction. The technology allows the soil to return to its original state as an organic reactor, capable of absorbing air-bound nutrients, recycling crop residues and retaining water to ensure high crop yields in the short, medium and long term.

Ground protection

Managing a farm in the beautiful Viterbo region of Italy can be challenging. Sergio del Gelsomino wants to not only get the best from his soil but also do the best for it. We find out how Trelleborg helps him in protecting the essential.

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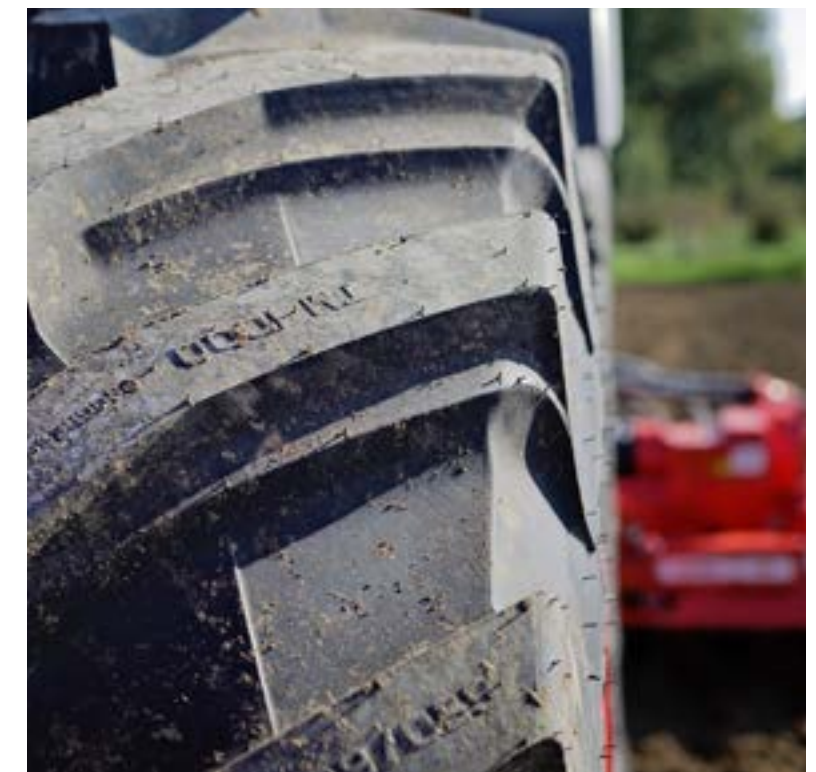
What is necessary in an agricultural tractor tire? Traditionally, the important criteria were seen as a combination of overall performance, including traction, the quality of work, lifetime cost and fuel efficiency. Now farmers increasingly recognize that tires must also address environmental and sustainability concerns.

The Italian farmer and entrepreneur, Sergio del Gelsomino, factors in all these requirements when managing his 80-hectare farm in the province of Viterbo, about 60 kilometers north of Rome in Italy. His choice of tires takes into consid-

eration not only his core business – growing grain and forage crops on his estate – but also his agritourism activities, including a restaurant, cheese factory and gelateria.

Del Gelsomino selected Trelleborg's TM1000 ProgressiveTraction® tires for his tractors because they ensure high performance and maximum flexibility for his many needs. "We chose the TM1000 because it allows us to work in high-torque applications, while ensuring excellent traction," he says. "We have 12 tractors including two harvesters and several earthmovers. Our equipment is also used on neighboring farms, so we may be working up to 800 hectares."

Right: A Trelleborg TM1000 ProgressiveTraction® tire.



“It increases grip compared with standard tires, and at the same time lowers fuel consumption.”

Sergio del Gelsomino, farmer and entrepreneur

The double lug design of the TM1000 ProgressiveTraction tire is uniquely shaped to ensure performance, he points out. “It increases grip compared with standard tires, and at the same time lowers fuel consumption, resulting in reduced costs and minimized soil compaction.” The soil is an essential element when growing crops and its protection is vital to maximize yield and ensure food supply demands are met.

A better distribution of weight on the soil results in lower tire pressure, making the tractor tires

gentle on the ground to ensure higher crop yields, season after season.

Del Gelsomino notes that the tires carry more load at the same pressure compared with other tires – up to 40 percent more. Conversely, they require 40 percent less pressure at the same load. That’s good for Gelsomino’s business and for the environment as well. ■

For more information:
alessio.bucci@trelleborg.com

Feeding the world

The UN projects that the global population will increase from 7.7 billion in 2019 to 9.7 billion in 2050 and 11 billion in around 2100. UN Sustainability Goal number two is for zero hunger. It says a profound change of the global food and agriculture system is needed if we are to nourish the more than 690 million people who are hungry today – and the additional 2 billion people the world will have by 2050.

Increasing agricultural productivity and sustainable food production are crucial to help alleviate the perils of hunger.

It is therefore critical, with a limited amount of arable land available on the planet, that farming becomes more productive and efficient. Tire technology is one way of contributing to these objectives. Innovative tire design by Trelleborg focuses on continuously respecting the soil; protecting it to maximize its yield.



Tractor used at the del Gelsomino farm in Viterbo, Italy.