

Autumn/Winter Orchard and Vineyard Management

Perfect (Van Wamel in Holland) manufacture a fantastic range of machinery including pulverisers and brush sweeps and have also now introduced a pulveriser/collector machine. Perfect make heavy duty (but not excessive in weight), good quality machines that are built to last and hence why there are machines over 30 years old still at work today!

Perfect pulverisers are available in several different models and sizes. The **'KL'** model is the smallest and most compact with the highest point only being 42 cm/16", even so they will pulverise prunings up to 7cm/2 3/4 " in diameter. They are normally supplied with rake tines to aid pick up of thin prunings so are ideally suited to raspberry or vine growers. Available in cutting widths of 1.2m/3'11", 1.35m/4'5" and 1.5m/4'11".

The next model is the **'BG2'** which still has a compact but heavy duty construction with the profile only being 51cm/20". This is our most popular range, used in orchards and vineyards for pulverising prunings up to 10cm/4" in diameter. These machines are fitted with a parallelogram offset frame as standard to offset the machine easily when required. A full width rear roller with conical ends (now with enclosed bearings for longer life) and skids on both sides gives excellent stability. Available in cutting widths of 1.2m, 1.35, 1.5m, 1.8m and 2.10 metres. We supply these machines as standard with a 'Twin Skin' hood to give the machine a longer life!

This range is available as a **'BK2'** which means the machine has the addition of rake tines and is also available at the extra narrow cutting width of 1.05 m.

These machines are also available for front mounting which means the pulveriser can more easily deal with large quantities of prunings and it is beneficial to the poor tractor not having to drive over the prunings and damaging the underside of the tractor and wiring etc. In recent years Perfect have introduced the push/pull **'BGM'** pulveriser which is very similar in its heavy duty construction but has been designed for those that have several tractors, perhaps not all with front linkage and therefore can be used on the front or the back of the tractor without modification. The standard specification includes a hydraulic offset feature and also a universal gearbox with integrated overrun clutch that accepts any rotation.

To reduce the risk of disease, ideally you should be clearing the plant row of leaves, fruit and debris. It also aids your chemical weed control and can reduce the amount of pesticides needed. Perfect produce a superb range of **brush sweeps** both single and double sided and either for mounting on a pulveriser or for tractor front mounting. The sweeper head on these machines is adjustable both in working angle and height and is fitted with a swivel support wheel in order to follow the ground contours. Incidentally, Perfect have chosen bunches of elastic flexible plastic 5mm diameter rods over rubber flaps/paddles as they felt there was too much mass in a flap and could damage/scalp the trunk.



New from Perfect - the 'MLC' pulveriser/mow/collector machine

This trailed heavy duty combination machine is suitable for leaves, grass and prunings up to 8cm diameter. It will chop and collect in one pass and so is ideal for controlling disease as well as keeping the orchard or vineyard tidy. It comes as standard with 2.2kg (5lb) heavy duty flails and also with hydraulic offset. The machine is fitted with two sets of pivoting double wheels to give great stability. The collector bin tips at a height of 1.95 metres (6'5"). Available in 1.5 metre and 1.8 metre working widths with either 3 cubic metres or 3.5 cubic metres capacity respectively.



BMV Trimmers

These trimmers are suitable for both winter and summer pruning in modern orchard plantings. In winter (brown wood) you would use the saw blades which can cut 6-8cm diameter material and in summer (green wood) you would use the knives which can cut 2-3cm wood. The machine is incredibly adaptable with the top blade cutting horizontally normally but can be folded back or even vertically, the bottom blade being adjustable in angle to under-cut and the whole machine adjustable in working angle. That means it can be used for other work around the site for example windbreaks or different crops such as bush fruit. Other models are available including double sided versions for vineyards.



Felco and ARS pruning saws and secateurs

We are currently able to offer 10% discount on any two or more items purchased from our ARS and Felco range. Beware that from January prices of Felco products could be going up as the Importer is changing terms!



West Midlands Tour

Alan is planning to spend much of next week (5th – 9th Dec) in the West Midlands area and will have with him a new Carraro fruit tractor and a BMV trimmer mounted on the front. If you would like him to call in to demonstrate these machines or alternatively have a chat about any other machinery, please do let us know!

Kind Regards,

Claire Dunn

