

New technology saves 16% fuel

TRACTOR ENGINE

technology known to save 16% on fuel costs was amongst the 'innovations for profit' shown by AGCO at National Fieldays.

Embodied in the group's Massey Ferguson high-powered 8600 series, this new selective catalytic reduction (SCR) technology – common in large trucks – is the first seen in a tractor, the company reports.

New Zealand manager Peter Scott says "because it is a dedicated ag machinery organisation, AGCO's R&D investments are aimed at producing innovative equipment that make life easier for customers and save time and money".

Also on display were examples of Valtra technology and Fendt Vario transmission. Fendt is the world pioneer in constantly variable

transmission (CVT). It has produced at least 100,000 units since launching it in 1995.

Also on the site AGCO released the Valtra Direct 120-200hp range, the new Fendt horticultural range featuring the world's first CVT transmission in a specialist tractor, and Massey Ferguson hay tools and MF2600 series utility tractors.

Tel. 027 270 8027



Agco's MF8600 tractor engines use new selective catalytic reduction technology to save fuel.

Dry gumboots good for schools

CHATHAM ISLANDS paua diver and fencer Tony Blunt was sick of soggy gumboots.

Working there to finance his first farm, he found his gumboots always wet either with sweat or rain.

Then he recalled an idea for a boot dryer – insert it into the boot, face it into the wind, leave overnight.

He got some plywood and went to work. It worked, crude but effective.

Blunt went on to become a Skellerup Young Farmer of the Year and now owns Steepdown high country farm in the inland Kaikouras.

In the early 1990s Blunt met Skellerup textile and footwear designer Tony Smith, whose Quattro and Schoen boot designs

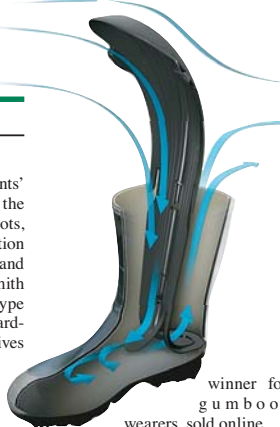
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are Skellerup staples.

During a meeting at Blunt's farm the two men revisited the problem of wet gumboots, and Blunt's solution – convection and evaporation. Smith made prototype dryers using cardboard, chopsticks, plastic knives and sticky tape.

He trialled wet gumboots, ski boots, ski boot inners and boating boots, logging temperature, wind velocity and weather conditions. He turbo charged the drying effect using a 1200W fan heater.

With input from mechanical engineer Jonathon Prince the dryer emerged as the Windry and it's a



winner for g u m b o o t wearers, sold online.

But there's more: Windry supports rural schools with education fundraising.

Windry will deliver a box of 50 pairs to a nominated school contact for the children to sell for \$25 per pair; normal retail is \$29.95. (No GST is payable.)

www.windry.co.nz

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