



Amazone Avant 6002-2 power harrow drill:

Advance the Avant

Amazone is well versed in the front hopper/rear folding power harrow drill set-up with its long-serving Avant. The new 6.0m machine gains a pressurised front hopper and several more updates, bringing it in line with the firm's other drill options

Avant is the name tag that Amazone has always assigned to its power harrow drills that work with a front hopper. Set to eventually replace the 6001-2 is the logically labelled 6002-2, which comprises three key components:

- FTender front hopper (previously the FRS or FPS)
- KG 6002-2 power harrow (this replaces the KG 6001-2)
- TSE 6000-2 TwinTec double disc coulters (these supersede the Amazone PS603-2 RoTec single disc unit).

Pressure for high rates

The FTender comes in two sizes, 1,600 and 2,200 litres (the price difference is £1,915). Both hopper sizes can also be used with 3.0m and 4.0 wide combis, but are not pressurised for these smaller drill working widths. The



One of two side cameras is sited under the calibration button on the left of the machine.

pressurised set-up is reserved for the higher seed volumes involved with feeding the two hoses and twin seed distributors on the 6.0m version. And looking beyond the featured cereal drilling combi, the FTender can also be employed for supplying fertiliser to a rear-mounted maize drill or other tillage tool. The electric-powered metering system has



Less than ideal, the calibration kit is left out in the open in this bracket under the bin.

already proven itself in our practical tests on the Cirrus trailed cultivator drill (*profi* 4/2020, 5/2020) and Centaya (*profi* 11/2019). Despite being a pressurised system, operators can still isolate the hopper from the metering unit with a slide door when they need to change the cell wheels but have a loaded hopper – very convenient.

Amazone has revamped its folding power harrow drill combination. There are TwinTec disc coulters out the back of the Avant 6002-2 and a new pressurised front hopper.



KEY POINTS

- ▶ Avant 6002-2 is Amazone's new 6.0m power harrow drill combi.
- ▶ The FTender is a pressurised front hopper with capacities of 1,600 or 2,200 litres.
- ▶ Updated KG 6002-2 power harrow now has a new levelling board and tighter fitting side plates.
- ▶ Weighing in at a minimum 5.5t, the rear unit requires the optional transport running gear to avoid overloading the tractor's back axle.

We have no issues with calibration, which can also be carried out using the 'My Seeder App' on a smartphone and a Bluetooth connection to the drill. As you would expect on a machine costing north of £90,000, the calibration kit is part of the standard spec.

Flexible tyre packer

If you want to reduce the amount of weight on the tractor's front axle, there's an optional steered tyre press unit (£6,775), which can be retrofitted and also operated on its own without the hopper. This option does shift the front tank forward by 30cm, so you need to monitor your front axle load rating.

With a loaded hopper, it weighs around 3.5t, but if you need a bit more counterbalance, then you can add up to twenty 25kg weights. However, this 500kg of ballast will cost you another £1,675.

For improved on-road visibility over the top of the hopper, the tyre

packer can be locked in its raised position enabling you to lower the front linkage by 25cm. Another useful extra is the camera system (one on each side of the hopper) and in-cab display. The £1,390 option has obvious benefits, and in Germany all manufacturers need to have these camera systems certified to prove they are up to meeting their safety responsibilities – this certification is currently pending for the Avant.



The metering system and pressurised hopper of the FTender 2200 are easy to access.



The tyre packer is bolted to the front tank, and it can also be removed to use as a front press.



For transport, the packer can be raised off the deck and locked in position.

DATA SHEET

Amazone Avant 6002-2

Front tank FTender

Tank capacity **1,600 litres (2,200 litres)**

Fan drive **Hydraulic, 281/min**

Tyre packer **Four 10.0/75-15.3 wheels**

Unladen weight **691kg (max 1,862kg)**

Power harrow KG 6002-2

Number of rotors **20**

Pto speed **1,000rpm**

Rotor speed **299-389rpm**

Toothed roller diameter **60cm**

Weight **4,260kg**

Coulters TSE 6000-2

Number of rows/row width **40/15cm**

Inter-row spacing/coulters pressure **20cm/
max 60kg**

Weight **1,300kg**

Drill combination

Work width **6.00m**

Tractor power **265kW/360hp max**

Transport width **3.00m**

Weight **From 6,194kg**

Price **£96,960**

Manufacturer information for basic equipment; values in brackets = option; ¹⁾ for shallow work and in light soils also 540rpm and 750rpm pto are approved for delivering rotor speeds of between 161rpm and 292rpm.

Familiar harrow

The KG 6002-2 itself is not really that new. The driveline, two-speed gearbox, trough and rotors are all the same as on the KG 6001-2, which remains in the price list. For now, the 'new' harrow will only be sold with the Avant 6002-2 package.

So, what has changed to warrant the new model designation? Well, the 6.0m harrow has the tighter fitting side deflector plates as used on the 3.0m KG (see *profi* 5/2018 and *profi* 11/2019). It also shares the central adjustment system for the levelling board with the smaller



With a min rear weight of 5.5t, the optional running gear is recommended for transport.



The transport kit can be removed in double-quick time, and, with a bit of skilled shunting, it can be attached almost as quickly.

models, and this is now mounted on the same parallelogram linkage as the packer, making it possible to have hydraulic depth control, as everything moves in unison. This £3,760 option was fitted to our test machine. The new linkage system also means Amazone has been able to include its QuickLink demount system for taking the drill off quickly.

Ready for the road

Because the rear combination weighs more than 5.5t, there's the option of a transport kit for £6,315. When you arrive at the field the pair of 10.0/75-15.3 castor steer wheels are dropped off by removing a central pin system. Attachment is a bit trickier because you have to keep an eye on the upper coupling points and refit them exactly. This and the manual pin locking system work well as long as you are on a level surface. To allow the running gear to follow the ground the transport kit includes a hydraulic top link. Its valve is deactivated from the cab. At £2,000 it's far from a bargain as far as hydraulic top links go, but it can be used with other implements.

One coulters for all

The new Avant is only offered with Amazone's double-disc TwinTec coulters. With the press wheels and covering tines, the double-disc coulters are heavier than the RoTec single-disc set-up, which is still available on the older Avant 6001-2 (on sale for now).

We were impressed by the parallelogram-mounted TwinTecs when we tested the Centaya. However, Amazone doesn't offer the excellent Exact harrow for the Avant – presumably due to the extra weight. You can add the single-tine harrow for just £925. This can be folded up out of the way in loose soil.

Coulters lift

The supplied tool used for setting the levelling board is also employed to adjust the coulters depth. The robust scale helps to keep both sides equally set. Amazone says the maximum coulters pressure is 60kg. Hydraulic adjustment is standard on the 6.0m combi, so it's possible to raise the coulters about 15cm when you just want to do a tillage pass on the headland. The coulters lift-out function is automatically retrieved when the combination is folded up, so the coulters tuck within the 3.0m transport width. Having to tug on a cable to release the unfolding locks is a bit dated on an otherwise modern machine. With this in mind, Amazone is working on a slicker solution.

Further details

- Apart from the 6.0m folding unit, the new Avant 02 is only available as a rigid 3.0m and 4.0m.
- The supplying dealership is responsible for routing the seed delivery tube and electric wires between the front hopper and harrow.
- To operate the power harrow on its own, Amazone supplies parking stands for the sowing unit, including the distributor heads, which takes around 30 minutes to take off.

- The front hopper and coulters on the Avant 6002-2 are ISObus-controlled. The £2,385 Amatron 4 terminal is optional.
- According to Amazone, the list price for the base spec machine is £96,960. The featured machine had the larger 2,200-litre hopper, tyre press, bout markers, pre-emergence markers, the company's Amatron 4 in-cab terminal and transport kit ... and this bumps the final price to over £130,000.

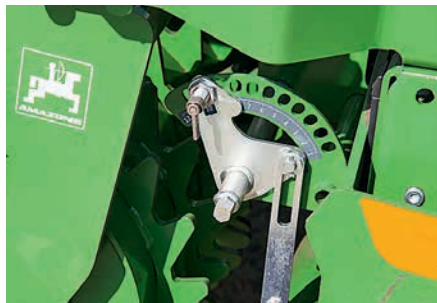
Summary: With the launch of the FTender front hopper and KG 6002-2 power harrow, Amazone can now offer a 6.0m wide power harrow drill combination with double-disc coulters. The front hopper has capacities of 1,600 and 2,200 litres with the optional central tyre press, which can be used on its own. In the cultivator department, there isn't too much difference between the KG 6002-2 and the long-serving KG 6001-2 as far as the actual harrow goes. Main change is that the levelling board is attached to the packer, so, when you alter the working depth of the tines, you don't change the position of the clod board at the same time. If you do need to adjust its height, then this is done from a central position as on the smaller models along with the new side deflector plates.

Like any of these big output power harrow drill combinations, the Amazone Avant 6002-2 is a hefty piece of equipment ... which is why the German machinery manufacturer is offering a transport kit for the 6.2t rig.

Gottfried Eikel



With the hydraulic coulter pressure adjustment, it's also possible to lift the seed coulter by 15cm.



The self-locking pin is used for setting the height of the levelling board.



Also new is the seed depth control with the universal tool.