

# Special Reprint

from 6/2007

Driving impression: Tanco Autowrap 1300 EH handler-mounted bale wrapper

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*For front-mounting, the 1300 EH comes with an additional frame to sit between the handler carriage and the wrapper headstock. Control valve block (top) regulator wheels allow for fine-tuning of arm speed and roller speed.*

**W**rap out in the field or wrap at the stack? It’s one of those topics that divides opinion among farmers and contractors who bale silage.

Market movement over recent years has certainly favoured the former, with the development of combi and integrated baler/wrappers that cut man hours and machinery requirements by wrapping on the same machine immediately after

*Tanco suggests its handler-mounted 1300 EH round bale wrapper offers similar time and labour savings to a baler/wrapper combi – but at a lot less cost.*

baling. But, of course, there are some key downsides to in-field wrapping, the chief among these being the real potential for damaging the wrapped bales when they are placed back on field stubble, stacked onto trailers and then handled again from trailer on to stack. And with any of these operations, as soon as the wrap is ‘holed’, silage quality is compromised.

Irish wrapper maker Tanco went so far as to build its own integrated baler/wrapper, the Bale Processor, back in the early part of the decade. That project is currently on hold, though, as the firm says the future





*With the single satellite arm sited to the left of the wrapper when out of work, it's necessary to begin each bale row from right to left.*

Originally worked upon by Norwegian company Tellefsdal, whose bale wrapper business Tanco duly bought way back in 2001 to form Tanco Autowrap, the 1300 EH was designed, in

the main, as a rear linkage-mounted unit for farms requiring a manoeuvrable and lightweight round bale wrapper, and the machine is still available in this format. Then, back in 2004, Tanco began looking at completing the Tellefsdal development work on loader-mounting the 1300, be it on a telehandler, wheeled 'shovel' or tractor front-end loader. For a relatively modest extra sum, the 1300 EH model can be supplied with a front-mount frame and the required longer extension cable that's

of wrapping remains as a separate task to baling, citing baler and wrapper output advantages and the reduced risk of wrap damage as the main reasons behind its decision to focus on wrappers rather than combi or integrated outfits. Moreover, the company also reckons that one of its more recent wrapper developments represents a useful alternative to the wrapper/baler for those who wish to carry out their own silaging and achieve similar time savings over the whole silage-making process.

necessary for loader mounting. Tanco says that, currently, only 5% of 1300 EH units are sold with this extra compatibility; nonetheless it still reckons there remains potential for significant growth in this handler-mounted wrapper business.

**Key to the claim is that in one operation, the same machine can be used in the yard to wrap the bale and stack the finished item; including a self-loading trailer in the process is the 'ultimate' to enable one man to clear the field and unload each trailer-load at the stack, while the other sits on the handler, wrapping each bale as it is moved from trailer to stack.**

It's also possible, if preferred, to wrap in the field behind the baler, loading up a trailer at the same time, although it is the former system that the firm recommends, avoiding as it does that risk of film splits from later handling of wrapped bales, as well as from bird damage immediately after wrapping. Either way, critical Tanco assertion is that the result is significant time, labour and machinery savings over the multiple handling of a conventional operation, and Tanco is primarily, but not

## Square and Round Bale Wrappers



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DATA SHEET

**Tanco Autowrap 1300 EH bale wrapper**

Wrapper type:	Single satellite arm, two independently driven rollers
Wrapping arm speed (recommended/max):	22/27rpm
Max bale diameter:	1.5m
Max bale weight:	1,200kg
Capacity:	25 bales/hr approx
Film width:	750mm standard
Pre-stretch:	Range from 70-33%
Hydraulic requirement:	One single-acting service plus free-flow return, 25 litres/min
Min oil pressure/flow req:	150 bar/ 20 litres/min (30-35 litres/min best for optimum working speed)
Dimensions:	Height 2,420mm, width 1,300mm, length 2,450mm, weight 590kg
Price:	£10,750 excl VAT for complete package. This includes the 4m extension cable and a front-mount frame

exclusively, targeting farmers who use static wrappers at the stack as the main potential 1300 EH buyers. Tanco theory: If wrapping at the heap, it makes sense to 'stack' as part of the same process.

**Wrapping bales of up to 1.5m diameter and 1,200kg weight, in handler spec the 1300 EH comes with the same features** as Tanco's standard linkage machine, among them a dual stretch dispenser, hydraulic cut/start, and the bale stop roller support. Working comfortably with closed-centre, open-centre or load-sensing hydraulic systems – with an optional load-sensing block recommended for the latter – use of this neat load-sensing block also enables the 1300 EH to be fitted to any machines with fixed displacement hydraulics with outputs of up to 100 litres/min. Tanco recommends that the host power-plant gives a minimum 150 bar pressure



*Wrapping can be commenced as soon as the bale is picked up and, in an ideal yard system, will be complete by the time the handler reaches the stack.*



*Remote control for roller operation can be 'married' to the handler joystick for one-handed control. The load/wrap/unload-at-the-stack technique is easy to master, a little nudging required to slot the bale into place.*

for optimum operation, with, at the very least, 20-litre/min oil flow, although 30-35 litres/min is best for the most efficient working speed. First versions of the 1300 EH used a direct-drive 400cc motor for the bale wrapper arm, but this has since been swapped for a smaller but more efficient 100cc unit. The reduced gear speed as a result is claimed to make for smoother running without any 'shudder'.

**Setting up the machine involves installing the wrap roll and selecting the required pre-stretch level** via Tanco's 'Dual Stretch' dispenser; simply changing the securing bolt from the larger pair of gears to the smaller pair reduces pre-stretch from 70

to 55%. Located on the wrapper arm, a control valve block with a pair of regulator wheels allows for the fine-tuning of the arm speed and roller speed.

The bale is gripped by and sits on two independently driven rollers, one ribbed and one smooth, and when in the auto mode the electronically controlled wrap sequence begins automatically, the only manual tweak needed being to move the rollers in and out when loading or unloading a bale. This setting change is made via the separate remote control that can be married to the loader joystick with a bit of ingenuity, as on our test machine. All functions, including any manual operations such as adding on a layer, pausing or slowing the arm, plus recording functions, are taken care of via the in-cab RDS Expert controller. Tanco claims a potential output for the 1300 EH of up to 45 bales/hr wrapped and stacked, and on-end stacking two-high is possible with a rotate-after-wrap kit that pushes the bale onto its end.

Total implement weight is 590kg, plus 70kg for the front-mounting frame, and Tanco suggests that this, plus bale, can be handled capably by most farm handlers or a 100-115hp loader tractor with wheel weights or a big rear block. The model's design ensures that the majority of bale weight is carried at the optimum point.

**Summary:** While there isn't the instant 'wrapped before it hits the ground' plus of a baler/wrapper, the key advantage of this system is the initial outlay, and that the wrapped bales are handled only the once, reducing the risk of wrap damage. For the ultimate in output, a field-to-yard self-loading trailer extracts the most from the 1300 EH package, although for those looking to limit their labour or machinery outlay, using the loader wrapper in the field is entirely possible.



**1300EH WRAP & STACK SYSTEM BENEFITS**

- two in one process; major reduction in labour, machinery, handling & time
- versatile 3 point linkage - front loader mounting (telehandler; tractor, 4 wheel, skidsteer loaders; certain backhoe loaders)
- eliminates any damage to film as bale is stacked immediately once wrapped
- very low maintenance required
- bales can be wrapped on the move
- new optional end tip kit allows bales to be rotated onto their flat end for stacking
- satellite wrapping arm
- can stack bales as high as the loader reaches
- one smooth & and one gripped roller ensures consistent rotation
- output average of 45 bales per hour wrapped & stacked

For a free DEMONSTRATION of the Tanco 1300EH please contact your local machinery dealer or contact Tanco direct on 00353872062629