

Kelly



MODEL 1204

KELLY TILLAGE SYSTEM



WEED CONTROL

Weed control is a major challenge faced by orchardists. Weeds compete with the trees for moisture and nutrient, negatively affecting growth and yield. Properly controlling weeds is essential for maintaining a healthy orchard.

Herbicide applications are only viable in certain conditions, and unfavourable weather (such as rain or wind) can halt spraying for many days. These delays mean that weeds can grow unchecked, making them harder to control and leading to extra loss in productivity.

The Model 1204 Kelly Tillage System doesn't have these limitations and is able to work effectively in a wide range of conditions, allowing for effective weed management at any time of the year. The shallow working depth of Kelly Disc Chains allows for fast and effective weed control, pulling weeds out by the roots without damaging the trees.

The Kelly Orchard Leveller mitigates the need for herbicides in the harvest row, meaning that spraying is only required around the base of the trees. This can reduce herbicide requirements by around 60%, leading to huge cost savings and environmental benefits, as well as reducing chemical resistance in weed varieties.

HARVEST PREPARATION

One of the most important tasks in an almond orchard is to create a level harvest row between the trees. Regular orchard work disturbs the soil, leaving ruts and ridges that interfere with almond harvest. It's important to repair this damage by levelling the rows before harvest begins.

The Kelly Model 1204 fills in wheel tracks and levels mounds and ridges, leaving an even surface that enhances harvest productivity; all with just one pass. The Model 1204's shallow-working discchains only disturb the top inch of soil, repairing the surface while leaving the root layer untouched. With a 9 mph working speed, the Kelly Model 1204 is one of the most efficient soil management tools on the market.

Pre-harvest soil management is not the Kelly Model 1204's only strength. With an added seeder unit, it can be used to sow a cover crop that improves soil structure and attracts bees. It can also mulch the cover crop back into the soil, integrating the organic matter and increasing soil carbon.





COST SAVINGS

Reducing costs and increasing efficiency is essential for any industry, and especially so for agriculture, with its high overheads and varying returns. The Kelly Model 1204 leads to savings in several areas of orchard maintenance, both immediately and in the long-term.

Maintaining the harvest rows is an ongoing task, requiring regular soil management and levelling. Many tools currently available for orchard work are only effective in a narrow range of weather conditions.

The Kelly Model 1204 isn't held back by wind or rain, and can work in almost any conditions. The Kelly Model 1204 can be used after harvest to level wheel tracks and incorporate residue, returning nutrients to the soil to potentially increase soil carbon and reduce the need for fertilisers.

The Model 1204's range of powerful chains pull weeds out by the roots, able to largely clear a row in just one pass. This reduces the need for herbicides, leading to immediate cost savings. Mechanical weed control is also uniquely effective against herbicide-resistant weed varieties, leading to potential long-term increases in weed control effectiveness.

MACHINE SPECIFICATIONS

Model Range	3.5 metres	4 metres	4.5 metres
Cut Width	3.4 m	4 m	4.4 m
Maximum Working Width	3.79 m	4.29 m	4.8 m
Transport Width	2.31 m	2.31 m	2.31 m
Transport Height	2.17 m	2.42 m	2.56 m
Transport Length	8.98 m	8.98 m	8.98 m



AROONA FARMS

Orchard size: 1450ha, light red sand to heavy clay loam

Kelly Model: Model 1204 Prototype with CL1 & Spiked Disc

The Aroona Farms Group manages an almond orchard near Lyrup in South Australia's Riverland region, and contains almost 500,000 almond trees; measured together, it has 2100km (1134 mile) rows.

Every farmer knows that orchard farming requires care and precision, and this is no different for the Aroona Farms Group. Experiencing issues with weeds during summer rains, achieving a level harvest bed and not wanting to destroy any irrigation or tree root structure, Aroona Farms decided to trial the Model 1204.

“With the Kelly, you can use the machine anytime for weed control [rain, hail or shine],” said Orchard Manager, Kelvin Trezise.

Mr. Trezise was very satisfied with the Model 1204 trial - he's confident that the Model 1204 is a sustainable option for the Aroona Farm Orchards and recommends it to any other orchard farmers.

To read the full Aroona Farms case studies, visit www.kellytillage.com

SELECT HARVEST

Orchard size: 1133ha, clay loam soils

Kelly Model: Model 1204 Prototype with CL1 & Spiked Disc

Located in South Australia's Riverland region near the town of Paringa, Select Farms' orchard has 450,000 trees, planted in rows that vary 6-7 metres (21-23ft) in length.

"At this point in time we've put a few hours on it and it's been really good," Select Farms' South Australian Operations Manager, Mike Ward said, "we've had comments back from orchard staff saying 'this is great!'"

The Model 1204 was able to assist Ward and his team with a saving on herbicides, greater working speeds, and the ability to work throughout any time of the year. "We've had nothing but good reports about [Model 1204]," Ward said, "we have an operator who's been here for over 10 years, and he thinks it's the best piece of trial equipment we've bought on site, and he doesn't give compliments out lightly."

To read the full Select Harvest case studies, visit www.kellytillage.com





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