

## New VARIANT 400 baler range

For 2017, CLAAS will be offering the new VARIANT 400 variable baler range. Compared to previous models, these provide an increased crop flow and feature a new netting system and a heavier duty bale chamber, making the balers more reliable and easier to use.



As before, there are four models and two bale sizes in the VARIANT 400 range. With the VARIANT 460RF and 465RC, the bale size is variable from 0.90m up to 1.55m, while bales up to 1.8m can be created using the VARIANT 480RF and 485RC.

Standard on all models is a 2.35m wide pick-up, but this is now fitted with a dual Roller Crop Press. This has four height settings so that it can be quickly and easily adjusted for a more uniform and even crop flow, so allowing the VARIANT 400 to be operated at a higher forward speed.

Also standard on all models is the PRO hydraulic drop down floor, which allows blockages to be quickly and easily cleared from the cab. The floor will also lower 30mm automatically to allow large lumps to pass through and be drawn into the baler. In the event of a blockage, the operator simply lowers the floor so that the blockage can be forced into the baling chamber and the floor raised again to commence baling.

The new VARIANT 480/460RF is fitted with the same ROTO FEED rotor system as before. However the VARIANT 485/465RC models feature a new ROTO CUT system. Feed into the baler is via a new design of star rotor for an improved feed, especially in wetter crops, into the ROTO CUT unit, which is fitted with 14 knives that achieve 6,000 cuts a minute.



On all four VARIANT 400 models, the bale chamber has been strengthened, in particular the front frame which has been reinforced, as has the tailgate. This has been redesigned so that it opens and closes faster, meaning that bales are now discharged in less than 6 seconds. Belt guidance has also been improved for greater reliability and reduced wear.

Another new standard feature on all VARIANT 400 models is the redesigned net spreading system. This incorporates a stainless steel plate over which the net is fed into the bale chamber.



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This has the benefit that net coverage across the full width of the bale is improved and also allows dust and dirt to fall away easily, resulting in more reliable netting.

A new option is the availability of an extra wide netting trough, that allows 1.30m wide netting to be used, so that the net is applied over the shoulder of the bale which provides better weather proofing, especially when bales are stored outside.