Case study Incrops Knowledge. Innovation. Enterprise.



Hemp Harvester

Straw harvest using conventional forage harvesters is problematic and does not produce optimum yields. InCrops worked with agricultural engineer Stephen Eyles to design and manufacture an innovative hemp harvester.

Hemp can be used in construction blocks, automotive parts, composites, paper, cloth, building insulation, food and animal feed.

It is known as the 'hospital plant' as it cleans the soil, does not need herbicides or pesticides, smothers weeds, requires small amounts of fertiliser and encourages birds and wildlife.

Drawing on the expertise of growers over the last few years, the harvester has a considerable advantage over existing methods, especially on difficult ground conditions on the Fens and Breckland areas of Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire, where most of the UK hemp crop is grown.

Since 2011, the harvester was leased to Anglia Farmers and used for cutting hemp grown by several farmers in the East of England. It has been shown that with the appropriate skills, this hemp harvester is able to deliver excellent results.



Partner interaction

Easton

College

We worked closely with InCrops to develop the hemp cutter and their support was essential to the successful development of the prototype.

Stephen Eyles, agricultural engineer pictured above

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