# Ag Equipment Intelligence

News, Information & Analysis for the Ag Equipment Marketer

- Private Equity
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- Dealers' Concerns

### **CNHI Estimates \$900 Million in Precision Revenue for 2022**

CNH Industrial held its first ever Tech Day on Dec. 7-8, highlighting recent advancements in its tech portfolio, including its own autonomous electric tractor prototype and the world's first tractor powered by liquefied natural gas. But it was the details revealed on the company's financial side that drew the attention of analysts.

Precision & Recurring Revenue. Precision revenue is what caught the attention of Shane Thomas, analyst of Upstream Ag Insights, in his Dec. 11 analysis of the event. He specifically pointed to a quote from CNHI President of Agriculture Derek Neilson, who said, "When this all rolls up within our ag revenues for 2022, we estimate that precision technology will account for over \$900 million. And we expect that number to continue to grow at about 10-15% annually, and in the near term

we expect to deliver in excess of \$1 billion in 2023." CNHI also noted margins on its precision business are in the 30% range, which Thomas said is an increase from the traditional <14% earnings before interest and taxes margin.

On the topic of recurring revenue, CNH Industrial CEO Scott Wine stated during the Tech Day that the company's CFO Oddone Incisa has given CNHI "the ability to get paid by customers any way [we] want. If they want to pay us on a subscription basis, we can do it, if we want another recurring revenue contract ... We're not going to tell them how they want to pay us."

Thomas pointed out that questions around recurring revenue specifically in technology often assume a higher margin level of 60-80% that involve software-as-a-service business models. Based on an additional comment from

Incisa that CNHI's \$900 million in 2022 precision tech revenue would come from sources including factory components, aftermarket kits and technology sold by Raven to third parties (in addition to software fees), Thomas said there's "legitimate room for skepticism" if there's a lack of recurring revenue associated with CNHI's software.

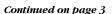
"As a consumer or user of a software or tech driven product, I want there to be an incentive for the seller of the software to continually upgrade and progress the technology, software, AI model, etc.," said Thomas. "If it's a one-time unlock, it brings into question how the necessary maintenance gets done to have a best in class experience. Not to mention, I question whether that hinders farmer adoption due to up front capital needs for some of the *Continued on page 4* 

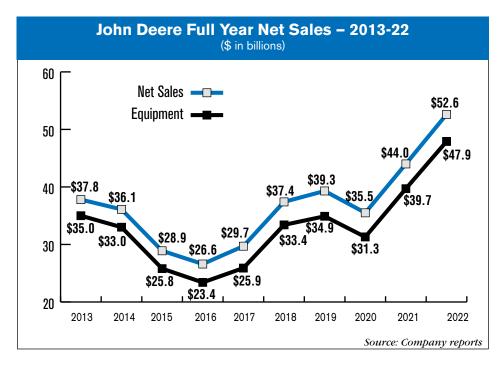
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## John Deere Reports Unfinished Inventory Reaches 'More Normalized Level'

In its latest earnings release on Nov. 23, John Deere Director of Investor Relations Brent Norwood stated the company had cleared around \$400 million of partially complete machines in its production and precision ag segment in its 4th quarter. When asked about partially completed inventory in the coming year, Norwood said Deere's partially completed inventory is at a "much more normalized level."

"We have made a lot of progress on the partially completed machines we've had in inventory since the 2nd quarter," said Norwood. "That's really where we saw that figure peak. We took down about one-third of that over the course of the 1st quarter, and then we took another \$400 million down in the 4th quarter. I would





### **Titan Machinery Reports Record Quarter, Talks Allocation & Consolidation**

Case IH dealer Titan Machinery announced its 3rd quarter earnings for fiscal year 2023 on Nov. 30, 2022. Revenue for the quarter came in at \$668.8 million, up 47% from \$454 million in the same period last year. This was the 3rd consecutive quarter of record results for Titan.

Commenting on the results, Mig Dobre, senior research analyst with Baird, wrote in a note to investors, "Titan is undoubtedly executing well amidst the best demand environment in a decade. Looking through the

numbers two things stood out: strength in equipment sales (Titan was able to secure OEM shipments) but also unusually strong equipment gross margin (a function of attractive new and used pricing environment)."

**Allocation.** As Dobre pointed out in his investor note, Titan's equipment sales strength was closely tied with the dealership's ability to get inventory from CNH.

Titan President and COO Bryan Knutson confirmed that the inventory Titan has is due to allocation, saying, "What we're seeing is still on allocation, still have long lead times and still have demand while outstripping supply. We continue our concerted effort here with our teams out on the ground communicating daily with growers, where we're getting with those customers booking presells, watching for any more allocation as it becomes available."

Knutson added that Titan is also watching for other dealers in drought impacted areas who do not take any of their allocation "or allowed some allocation to free up due to that." Titan is also watching the impact rising interest rates are having on dealer balance sheets. "We're in a great position here with our strong balance sheet and our strong cash position … to be able to make decisions quickly and react very quickly as anything becomes available," he said.

CNH is keeping its order windows tight, Knutson noted, and Titan has "presold and locked in the allocation we do have so far." He expects it will be March at the earliest, if not into April and May, before Titan gets its final allocation for the end of the year, Knutson said.

Talking about product availability for next year, CFO Mark Kalvoda reiterated the dealership only has its allocations for the first part of the next year at this point.

"It's hard to say on the OEM side — in my opinion, plant capacity is there. They're not free of the labor challenges that the rest of the U.S. is facing right now," Kalvoda said.

**Consolidation.** Since December of 2021, Titan has closed on 3 acquisitions: Jaycox Implement (December 2021), Mark's Machinery (April 2022) and Heartland Ag Systems

Third Quarter Revenue Analysis (in millions of dollars)							
Q3 FY2023 Q3 FY2022 Change							
Total Revenue	\$668.8	\$454.0	+47.3%				
Equipment	\$509.0	\$329.8	+54.3%				
Parts	\$108.7	\$80.5	+35.0%				
Service	\$39.0	\$32.0	+21.7%				
Rental & Other	\$12.1	\$11.6	+4.2%				
Source: Company reports							

(August 2022). Titan's role as a consolidator will continue, said CEO David Meyer. "We're currently talking to a number of owners," he said. "As you're aware, this continues to be a fragmented dealer network out there with aging dealer principals and growing sophistication, equipment and needed support services to support this seasonal equipment today. With the growing dealer capitalization requirements and lack of succession alternatives out there — there's still a long runway of acquisitions out there."

Meyer said Titan "anticipates an orderly flow and quality acquisitions in the year ahead." Those acquisitions are likely to be in Titan's upper Midwest footprint. "We like these strong growing areas where we have synergies in our equipment," he said.

Kalvoda added that both smaller and larger dealer group acquisition opportunities exist. "I think there's going to be opportunities on all different sizes of acquisitions here," he said.

**3Q Results.** Equipment sales for the quarter were \$509 million vs. about \$330 million for the third quarter of 2022. Parts sales were up 35% to \$108.7 million during the quarter. Service revenue also grew during the quarter, but to a lesser degree at up 2.2% to \$39 million.

Ag segment revenues for the third quarter of 2023 were \$493.3 million, up 75% year-over-year. According to Titan, the sales increase was positively impacted by organic growth as well as the acquisitions of Jaycox Implement, Mark's Machinery and Heartland Ag Systems.

Floorplan and other interest expense was \$1.8 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2023, compared to \$1.3 million for the same period last year.



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say the level of partially completed inventory within the system right now is running at a much more normalized level.

"The benefit that you saw in the 4th quarter is not going to repeat in the 1st quarter. By and large, the tailwind from that has largely been completed in the 4th quarter."

\* represent year-over-year change for that quarter Norwood also stated during the call that dealer inventory to sales ratios are at 10% for high horsepower 4WD equipment and at 12% for high horsepower 2WD equipment. These ratios, he said, would historically be around 25-30%. Norwood added that combine inventory to sales ratios are "especially low, although that's a bit seasonal."

Full Year Sales. John Deere's worldwide net sales and revenues rose 37% to \$15.5 billion for its 4th quarter 2022 and rose 19% to \$52.6 billion for the full year.

This was a 10-year high for Deere's full year net sales and its second year in a row of year-over-year increase. Equipment operations net sales were \$14.4 billion for the quarter and \$47.9 billion for the year. Deere's 2022 equipment operations net sales made up 91.1% of its 2022 full year revenue, up from 90.2% in 2021 and 88.2% in 2020.

John Deere Production & Precision Ag Figures – 2021-22 (\$ in millions)								
	1Q21	2Q21	3Q21	4Q21	1Q22	2Q22	3Q22	4Q22
Net sales	\$3,069.0	\$4,529.0	\$4,250.0	\$4,661.0	\$3,356.0	\$5,117.0	\$6,096.0	\$7,434.0
Shipment volumes/mix*	\$185.0	\$235.0	\$325.0	\$201.0	(\$105.0)	\$212.0	\$492.0	\$894.0
Price realization*	\$196.0	\$297.0	\$257.0	\$280.0	\$244.0	\$502.0	\$646.0	\$873.0
Production costs (loss)*	(\$38.0)	(\$139.0)	(\$248.0)	(\$391.0)	(\$407.0)	(\$627.0)	(\$535.0)	(\$586.0)

Price & Production Costs. Deere's 4th quarter saw the manufacturer's production and precision ag net sales come in at \$7.4 billion, a 22% year-over-year increase and a 10-year high. Shipment volumes were up \$894 million yearover-year for the quarter, another 10-year high and well above the \$492 million year-over-year increase seen in the 3rd quarter.

Deere's price increases continue to add to its bottom line, with its total contribution to production and precision ag operating profit up \$873 million year-over-year in the quarter. This is a 35.1% increase from the \$646 million year-over-year increase seen in the 3rd quarter and 211.8% above the price realization increase seen in Deere's 2021 4th quarter.

Deere's production and precision ag production costs were up \$586 yearover-year in the 4th quarter, up from its 3rd quarter but below the 10-year peak of \$627 million seen in Deere's 2nd quarter this year.

Source: Company reports

Deere is forecasting its production and precision ag segment to see net sales up 15-20% in 2023 and price realization up 11%.

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Producer Price Index Percentage Changes – Ag Equipment & Parts Segment								
	Unadjusted 12- Month % Change	Unadjusted 1-Month % Change						
	November 2021 – November 2022	July Aug. Sept. Oct. No						
Agricultural machinery & equipment	14.4	0.3	0.7	1.0	1.9	-0.1		
Commercial turf & grounds care equipment, including parts & attachments	10.6	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.6	0.4		
Farm plows, harrows, rollers, pulverizers, etc. & attachments	29.3	0.0	2.5	3.3	0.0	0.0		
Farm dairy equipment, sprayers and dusters, farm blowers & attachments	13.5	3.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.3		
Planting, seeding, fertilizing machinery & attachments	14.2	-6.2	0.1	3.4	0.0	0.0		
Harvesting machinery (except hay and straw) & attachments	19.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0		
Haying machinery & attachments	16.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.1		
All other farm machinery & equipment, excluding parts, including attachments	8.2	0.8	1.3	0.4	-0.4	-0.8		
Parts for farm machinery, for sale separately	9.0	1.3	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.3		

Farm plows, harrows, rollers, pulverizers and attachments reported the greatest year-over-year price increase in November, up 29.3% from November 2021. Commercial turf & grounds care equipment had the highest month-over-month price increase at +0.4%.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, November 2022

technology if it isn't thought about in a different business model context.

"There could be an argument that that isn't how farmers want to pay for things. Though, I think farmers are savvy and just like anyone else, they don't like change, but they adapt when it is in their best interest. If CNHI hasn't modelled out how they see the payment structures working, I wonder whether they understand what actual take rates will be, churn rates, etc."

Comparing OEMs' Precision. A Dec. 8 note from analysts at J.P. Morgan compared the details from CNHI's Tech Day to the precision offerings from other OEMs. The analysts concluded that, "the common investor perception that John Deere is the clear leader in precision ag tech-

nology is likely overblown."

In comparing the tech stacks of AGCO, CNH Industrial, John Deere and Trimble, J.P. Morgan analysts said the manufacturers have more in common than not.

"All [these manufacturers] have developed technologies in-house and through acquisitions. For example, all have L3 autonomy (autonomy with operator assistance) for select applications and are currently working on L4+ solutions. Sense & act (through the use of lidar and AI technologies) is also a core capability being developed by each, albeit John Deere is likely to be the first to commercialize (beyond limited pilots) green-on-green spot spraying technology as early as 2024."

J.P. Morgan analysts also pointed out

that CNHI's estimated \$900 million in 2022 precision revenue could have been higher without supply chain constraints and that while operating margins among its precision tech is on average 1.5 times its ag segment margins, some products and services could be over 30%.

"Recall, CNHI acquired Raven in 2021, which had annual precision ag sales of around \$160 million at the time of the acquisition (CNHI has since divested its Engineered Films and Aerostar businesses) and was expected to generate around \$400 million and \$150 million run-rate sales and adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization synergies by 2025, respectively," the note from J.P. Morgan said.

### John Deere's Autonomy Plan: Late 2022 Investor Call Notes

In the Dec. 4, 2022, edition of *Upstream Ag Insights*, Shane Thomas highlighted a couple of interesting comments in the John Deere investor call.

Deere has emphasized that it will be equipping its new tractors and equipment with autonomy and autonomous functionality. But because the equipment upgrade cycle is only so fast, this could limit some of the growth potential and utilization of some of its new capabilities into its huge install base.

"The other thing that's really important with the rollout of autonomy is — and this is a little bit different than what you've seen in the past — is that we will roll out this technology, really retrofit first or field kit first as opposed to most of our technologies have

gone factory installed first," said Brent Norwood, director of investor relations, Deere & Co.

Referencing his October 2022 analysis on AGCO and John Deere surrounding retro-fit kits, Thomas noted that as Deere moves further into new revenue models for its business, one area it needs to ensure stays top of mind is its dealer network. Today, the dealer incentives are strongly aligned with Deere's: sell more equipment, make more revenue. As Deere shifts toward a service based model for some of its "intelligent" capabilities on the tractor, that could lead to misaligned incentives for the OEM and the dealers, leading dealers not to invest in understanding how to sell those enhanced capabilities to the farmer nor enabling farmers to derive the most value from them.

"We've also made a change to our dealer pay for performance. So we're including precision ag execution in that pay for performance," said Josh Jepsen, CFO, Deere & Co. "And that's a really important step as we think about continuing to drive the outcomes that we wanted to deliver and really a shift from adoption to utilization to make sure we're delivering on that and we're showing and demonstrating the incremental addressable unlock that we can create, which we think is differentiated for Deere."

John Deere has also reinforced a vision to have entirely autonomous soy and corn cropping systems available by 2030. **AEI** 

# South American Ag Equipment Intelligence

#### **Argentinian Company Agrometal Expands Factory**

Agrometal, a major seeder manufacturer from Argentina, is expanding its factory located in Monte Maiz by 21,528 square feet. The expansion includes new offices, improvements for production and more space for storage of raw materials.

#### Parts Distributor to Open 5 New Units in Mato Grosso

Rech, an agricultural machinery parts distributor, has announced an investment of over \$1 billion in the Brazilian state of Mato Grosso. The investment will add 5 new stores

in the state. In Brazil, Rech has 50 stores currently. Fabiola Montelmi, marketing manager at Rech, said the goal is to strengthen the company's presence in all the Brazilian regions, but especially in promising producing states like Mato Grosso. "In the next 3 years we will be in more states of the country. We use e-commerce, but physical stores are still important," said Montelmi. Since 2018, when Rech was acquired by Aqua Capital, the largest agribusiness fund in Brazil, it has expanded from operating in Mato Grosso only to 17 other states.

### Majors Plan for Electric, Alternative Fuel-Powered Equipment

During the Major line OEM panel at this year's *Ag Equipment Intelligence* 2023 Executive Briefing on Dec. 9, executives from 5 of the majors spoke about the main challenges impacting the ag equipment industry in the next 5 years. One topic they discussed was electric equipment and where they see its potential in the ag equipment industry.

Kubota. "Like everyone, we're working very diligently on electrification," said Alex Woods, vice president, sales operations, supply chain & parts, Kubota Tractor Corp. "We just had a meeting with our dealers in late October and showed them some concept prototype machines in several different segments — excavators, zero turns and tractors. Obviously the key is how to find value proposition for the customer and how to make sure we have an appropriately priced machine that is actually going to be saleable. With that in mind, we told our dealers we like to corner ourselves as 'smart followers' instead of 'early adopters.' We're looking at technologies being developed in other industries like the car industry and how we can start to adapt that. And you'll see us taking a pretty phased approach to how we move into electrification.

"We'll start with basically a 'first phase,' removing the diesel engine and then putting electric motors in machines. The next phase, we'll get more innovative and start to incorporate electric drives and so forth. What we're working diligently on is what that third phase will look like — a fully developed electric built machine. We're probably going to be 5-10 years out before we get to that phase, but I think you'll see us moving pretty quickly here within the next 1-2 years in getting into that first phase. And we'll probably start with a simpler machine, probably around zero-turn lawnmowers."

Case IH. "I'm not an electrification engineer, but I've spent a lot of time sitting around the boardroom table seeing where this technology could go, and it comes down to duty cycles, the time to charge and the infrastructure," said Kurt Coffey, vice president of North America Case IH. "A machine that runs 3-8 hours a day, has 40-80 horsepower

and stays within a certain distance of the home can fit within the duty cycle. There's infrastructure to recharge or to battery swap. But when you start talking about 400-600 horsepower tractors that leave the farm and come back a month later, the infrastructure is not there. The density of the power in a battery stack is not there, so you might look at other alternative fuels.

"It's exciting to see where electrification is going to go on rudimentary implement control up to 80 horsepower, but where it's going to be in 10 years is difficult for me to telegraph."

Claas. "Infrastructure is something we're really going to have to pay close attention to, given the remote nature of a lot of the machines," said Eric Raby, senior vice president of Claas Americas region. "One thing that Kurt hit that we're looking at from the standpoint of Claas, is trying to determine what functions on a machine [we can address]. So

"Infrastructure is something we're really going to have to pay close attention to..."

if I take a combine for instance, instead of electrifying the power source only, are there certain aspects of a combine harvester that can be electrified? This would allow us to reduce the size of the diesel engine and have a battery on board. Are there certain parts of that machine that we can take away from each other, desegregating those different things, and what power sources can we use for that?

"When we start looking at other implements on the seeding side of the market in general, we can translate some of the requirements for those machines to run blower fans, help with the seed metering, etc. Hydraulic capacity is only going to take us so far. We as an industry are at a crossroads again where we're looking at the interactivity of the different machines. What role does a tractor play, and what role does an implement play?"

**AGCO:** "AGCO's leaning hard into these areas, especially into alternative fuels, because without a doubt there's a benefit to the farmer," said Bill Hurley,

vice president of distribution Americas AGCO. "We just announced a new line this year of AGCO power engines called Core. Those engines are in place today in some of our products, and they're designed to be compatible with renewable fossil-free diesel fuels. With their base design, we've got the availability, as these things become reality, to operate those on other alternative fuels with some additional development.

"We have been public with our Fendt E100, which is an all-electric tractor that's in the advanced pilot stage. Our expectation is we'll see a commercial launch on that before 2025. We're working on other things, such as prototype tractors powered by hydrogen based fuel cell technology. The advancements of what our farmers will see over the next 5 years will be significant."

John Deere. "Across the customer segments we serve, the energy requirements from a lawnmower to production ag, the density is vastly different," said Joel Dawson, director, production & precision ag marketing John Deere. "We look at it in two different buckets. The first is battery electrification, the power of propulsion. And the second and more important for ag is electrically enhanced implements. When I say implements, it could also be a self-propelled machine that has electrified features. So often today we think about it in the terms of the implements, like an electrified row unit on a planter. But near-term opportunities for us are going to be on turf and small horsepower tractors.

"We plan to have battery electric options in each of those categories, but we do not plan to have a battery electric power propulsion in large ag equipment. We would look at 130 horsepower and below as opposed to the production ag propulsion business. There's a lot of other alternative fuels and alternative propulsion opportunities out there for ag, and we're certainly looking at that, but we really are going to see the small 130 horsepower and below segment lead the way for electrification."

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### **AEI Newsmakers**

## German Tractor Registrations Down in November, UK Registrations Up

According to a Dec. 12 note from J.P.Morgan, tractor registrations were down in October in Germany but up in the UK. Germany's over 100 horsepower registrations were up 14% year-over-year in November and up 1% year-to-date. In the UK, 50-plus horsepower tractor registrations were up 34% year-over-year and down 2% year-to-date.

#### **CEAT Increases Radial Tire Production**

CEAT Specialty Tires increased its production capacity of ag radial tires by 50% this year to meet growing demand in North America, according to a Nov. 28 report from *Modern Tire Dealer*. CEAT reportedly plans to increase radial ag tire production to 160 tons per day within the next 2 years.

## Canadian Bill Addresses Majors Locking Shortlines Out of Their Equipment

According to the Dec. 12 SwiftCurrent Online, Canada's

Private Members Bill C-294, which addresses shortline manufacturers' ability to access majorline equipment for ensuring interoperability, has passed a second reading in the House of Commons. Member of Parliament Jeremy Patzer, said, "[They are] locking them [shortline manufacturers] off the platform using these technological protection measures (TPMs), and it's under the guise of the Copyright Act that they're doing this. What we're doing is creating an exemption, so that these manufacturers have the certainty to be able to go around that TPM, get the information they need to make their product work on the platform of another company and be able to do so legally."

## Dana Inc. Secures Long-Term Semiconductor Agreement

Powertrain manufacturer Dana Inc. announced Dec. 7 it had signed a long-term agreement with Semikron Danfoss to secure the supply of silicon-carbide semiconductors, which are designed to be scalable in multiple-chip formats. The semiconductors will be used in Dana's silicon-carbide inverter designs, including in off-highway markets.

#### Analysts Call EPA's Latest Biofuel Mixing Mandates 'Disappointingly Low'

A Dec. 6 note to investors from J.P. Morgan broke down the implications of the EPA's recently announced biofu-

els volume mandates for the next 3 years. The portion of the biofuels mixing mandate that is mainly fulfilled by biodiesel and renewable diesel will increase by only 300 million over the next 3 years vs. an annual average increase of 320 million renewable identification numbers over the last 7 years. "The EPA's volume mandates assume that total biomass-based diesel consumption increases by only 123 million gallons over the next 3 years, which could quite abruptly change the outlook for renewable diesel growth in the U.S.," the note said.

#### **CEMA Business Climate Index Up in December**

In its Dec. 14 update, CEMA's Business Climate Index rose to a reading of +30, showing the EU ag equipment industry has "solidified its first significant upward trend since the sharp declines in the course of the Russian war against Ukraine." Survey responses indicated supply chain issues have become more prevalent only in tractor and harvesting equipment production vs. other market segments "increasingly able to realize their orders."

## Ag Equipment Data Points®

## Investment in Public Agricultural Research and Development – 2009-19

Inflation-adjusted 2015 U.S. dollars, billions

12

10

China

European Union

6

United States

4

2

0

2000

2005

2010

2015

2020

Notes: R&D spending is presented in constant 2015 purchasing power parity (PPP) dollars by first deflating by national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) price indexes and then converting into dollars using the 2015 PPP exchange rate, allowing for comparisons over time and across countries.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service (ERS) using data from the ERS data product Agricultural Research Funding in the Public and Private Sectors (U.S. expenditures); ERS Economic Research Report 249. Agricultural Research Investment and Policy Reform in High Income Countries (European Union expenditures); International Food Policy Research Institute's Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (expenditures for China, India and Brazil); and the World Bank's World Development Indicators (GDP price indexes and PPP exchange rates).

# **Combine Sales Growth Strong in November**

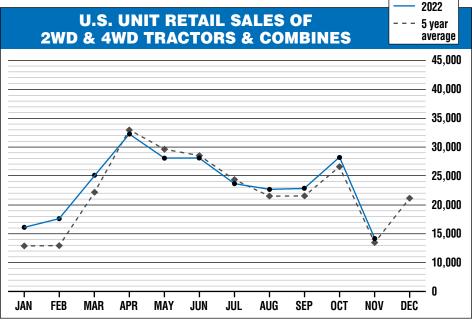
Large ag equipment unit sales rose 7.2% year-over-year in November. Combined U.S./Canada large ag equipment unit sales rose 7.2% in November vs. rising 29.6% in October. U.S. large ag equipment sales were up 6.7% (October: +33.5%), Canada large ag equipment sales were up 9.8% (October: +10.2%). U.S. dealer inventories were up 89.8% year-over-year in 2WD, down 19.2% year-over-year in 4WD, and up 34.3% year-over-year for combines. "Large vs. small ag equipment divergence continues, a key element to watch in 2023. USDA selling price estimates lowered \$0.10/bushel for corn and wheat, unchanged for soybeans," said RW Baird analyst Mig Dobre.

U.S. sales of 4WD tractors were up 7.1%, row-crop tractors were up 6.2% and combines were up 8.3%. Canada 4WD tractors were up 170.6%, row-crop tractors were down 14.5%, combines were up 105.3%.

- 4WD tractor sales were up 23.4% year-over-year in November following a 10.5% increase in October (L3M sales +0.5% year-over-year vs. -1.3% in October). U.S. dealer inventories of 4WD tractors were down 19.2% year-over-year in October.
- Row-crop tractor sales were up 2.5% year-over-year in November following a 21.1% increase in October; November L3M sales were up 15.2% vs. a 17.2% increase in October. U.S. row-crop tractor inventories were up 39.7% year-over-year in October, the 7th consecutive month of inventory growth and the highest growth since June 2013.
- Combine sales were up 19.5% year-over-year in November after a 64.7% increase in October. November L3M sales were up 42.6% year-over-year vs. 41.1% in October. U.S. combine inventories were up 34.3% year-over-year in October.
- Mid-range tractor sales were down 10.4% year-over-year in November (October +0.8%, September -8.3%) while compact tractor sales fell for the 9th consecutive month, down 26.3% year-over-year (October -22.1%, September -16%).

NOVEMBER U.S. UNIT RETAIL SALES							
Equipment	November 2022	November 2021	Percent Change	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	Percent Change	Beginning Inventory November 2022
Farm Wheel Tractors-2	2WD						
Under 40 HP	8,266	11,470	-27.9	163,105	200,768	-18.8	82,707
40-100 HP	4,055	4,542	-10.7	60,969	68,316	-10.8	27,499
100 HP Plus	1,278	1,203	+6.2	23,665	20,878	+13.3	7,337
Total-2WD	13,599	17,215	-21.0	247,739	289,962	-14.6	117,543
Total-4WD	165	154	+7.1	2,949	3,137	-6.0	311
Total Tractors	13,764	17,369	-20.8	250,688	293,099	-14.5	117,854
SP Combines	314	290	+8.3	6,535	5,646	+15.7	670

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Equipment	November 2022	November 2021	Percent Change	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	Percent Change	Beginning Inventory November 2022
Farm Wheel Tractors-	2WD		,				
Under 40 HP	1,274	1,482	-14.0	18,102	19,952	-9.3	7,938
40-100 HP	646	703	-8.1	6,247	6,534	-4.4	2,676
100 HP Plus	224	262	-14.5	3,409	3,357	+1.5	1,406
Total-2WD	2,144	2,447	-12.4	27,758	29,843	-7.0	12,020
Total-4WD	46	17	+170.6	669	679	-1.5	45
Total Tractors	2,190	2,464	-11.1	28,427	30,522	-6.9	12,065
SP Combines	78	38	+105.3	1,812	1,654	+9.6	165



- Assn. of Equipment Manufacturers

## AG EQUIPMENT INTELLIGENCE LISTS

## **Private Equity Companies & Ag Equipment Holdings**

Presented below is *Ag Equipment Intelligence*'s fourth rendition of its Private Equity Companies & Ag Equipment Holdings list, newly updated after the last publishing in December 2021. This edition features new firms, including some involved in the recent fundings of Sabanto and Verdant Robotics.

Below is an abbreviated version of a much longer list

including company descriptions, key contacts, assets under management (AUM), years founded, etc.

For comments regarding companies that are or are not cited, or to submit your feedback on additional lists and how they may be helpful to you in your business, send an email to bthorpe@lessitermedia.com. **AEI** 

Company	Ag Equipment Category	Portfolio (Current & Previous Holdings)	Headquarters	State
AEA Investors	Manufacturers	Olson Irrigation Systems (2017)	New York City	NY
Ag Solutions Group Holding Company	Dealerships	Livingston Machinery (2021), Ag Solutions Group (2021)	-	-
AgFunder	Manufacturers	Verdant Robotics (2022), Aigen, Tevel, Bear Flag Robotics, Solinftec	San Francisco	CA
Alumni Capital	Manufacturers	Art's Way Manufacturing (2022)	New York City	NY
Anthos Capital	Manufacturers	Carbon Robotics (2021)	Menlo Park	CA
Arable Capital Partners	Manufacturers	Hydratec, Lodi Pump & Irrigation (2018), Universal Irrigation (2018), U.S. Irrigation	Bakersfield	CA
Argonne Capital Group	Dealerships	Belkorp Ag, LandPro Equipment, Lakeland Equipment and Z&M Ag and Turf (2017)	Atlanta	GA
Astanor Ventures	Manufacturers	Monarch Tractor (2021)	Brussels	Belgium
At One Ventures	Manufacturers	Monarch Tractor (2021)	San Francisco	CA
Aurelius	Manufacturers	Moveero (2020)	Munich-City	Germany
AutoTech Ventures	Manufacturers	Verdant Robotics (2022)	Menlo Park	CA
B12 Capital Partners	Manufacturers	Arrow Material Handling Products (2013)	Kansas City	MO
BDC Capital Inc.	Dealers	JLD Lague Group (2019)	Montreal	QC
Black Cliff Partners	Dealerships	BCP Equipment, Cache Equipment, Sunset Kubota, Valley Kubota (2020)	Salt Lake City	UT
Black Diamond Capital Management	Manufacturers	Arclin (2010)	Greenwich	СТ
Blackthorne Partners	Manufacturer	Berlon Industries (2012)	Delafield	WI
BMO Capital Partners	Dealerships	JLD Lague Group (2019)	-	-
Catapult Ventures	Manufacturers	Advanced Farm Technologies (2021)	Los Altos	CA
Cavallo Ventures	Manufacturers	Verdant Robotics (2022), Agtonomy, Sabanto, Bountiful Ag	San Francisco	CA
Champlain Financial Corp.	Dealerships	JLD Lague Group (2011)	Montreal	QC
Charlesbank Capital Partners	Manufacturers	GSI (2005-07)	Boston	MA
Cibus Fund Enterprise	Manufacturers	Burro (2021), Connecterra (2020)	London	UK
Cooperative Ventures	Manufacturers	Sabanto (2022)	-	-
Cyprium Partners	Dealerships	United Ag & Turf (2018)	Cleveland	ОН
DCVC Bio	Manufacturers	Verdant Robotics (2022), Sabanto, Halter, Blue River Technology (exited)	Palo Alto	CA
Dyson, Dyson & Dunn Inc.	Manufacturers	Roto-Mix	Winnetka	IL
EverWatch Financial	Dealerships	Booth Machinery (2014)	Providence	RI
F-Prime Capital	Manufacturers	Burro (2021)	Cambridge	MA
Fernandez Holdings Inc.	Dealerships, Manufacturers	Green Source Automation, United Ag & Turf	Los Angeles	CA
ffVC	Manufacturers	Burro (2021)	-	-
Fondaction CSN	Dealerships	JLD Lague Group (2019)	Montreal	QC
Fonds de Solidarité FTQ	Dealerships	JLD Lague Group (2019)	Pointe-Claire	QC
Forage Capital Partners	Manufacturers	S3 Enterprises (2021)	Calgary	AB
Fuse Venture Capital	Manufacturers	Carbon Robotics (2021)	Bellevue	WA
Future Ventures	Manufacturers	Verdant Robotics (2022)	Los Altos	CA

Company	Ag Equipment Category	Portfolio (Current & Previous Holdings)	Headquarters	State
GENNX360 Capital Partners	Manufacturers	Salford (2013)	New York City	NY
Genstar Capital	Manufacturers	Arrowhead Engineered Products (2021), Stens (2021) Tiger Lights (2021)	San Francisco	CA
GV	Manufacturers	Agtonomy (2022)	San Francisco	CA
Hanover Partners Inc.	Manufacturers	Westside Equipment Co.	San Francisco	CA
Hico Capital	Manufacturers	Sabanto (2022)	-	CA
Idaho Legacy Fund	Manufacturers	Double L (2021)	Boise	ID
Ignition Partners	Manufacturers	Carbon Robotics (2021)	Los Altos	CA
Impact Ventures	Manufacturers	Advanced Farming Technologies (2021)	Dallas	TX
Kinderhook	Suppliers	All Stages Ag Parts (2018)	New York	NY
KPS Capital Partners	Manufacturers	Briggs & Stratton (2020)	New York	NY
LFM Capital LLC	Manufacturers	Fecon (2018-21), IronCraft (2022), Construction Implement Depot (2022)	Nashville	TN
Lifco	Manufacturers	Solesbee's (2017)	Enköping	Sweden
Lineage Capital	Manufacturers	Diamond Mowers (2018)	Boston	MA
Liquid2 Ventures	Manufacturers	Carbon Robotics (2021)	San Francisco	CA
Little Engine Ventures	Manufacturers	Stable'N (2018)	Lafayette	IN
Mason Wells Inc.	Manufacturers	L.B. White (2017)	Milwaukee	WI
McCombie Group	Dealerships	Atlantic Tractor (2017)	Coral Gables	FL
Midwest Growth Partners	Manufacturers, Dealerships	Jack Rabbit (2019), Maytag Dairy Farms (2019), Van Becelaere Machine Works (2018), Fast Ag Solutions (2020), Livingston Machinery (2021), Ag Solutions Group (2021)	West Des Moines	IA
Mutares SE & Co,	Manufacturers	Japy (2020), Royal de Boer (2020)	London	England
Northcreek Mezzanine	Dealerships	Ag Solutions Group, Livingston Machinery (2021)	Cincinnati	ОН
October Capital	Equipment Sharing Solutions	MachineryLink	Kansas Clty	MO
ONCAP	Manufacturers	Ingersoll (2015), Bellota (2015), Venanpri Group (2015)	Toronto	ON
One Equity Partners (OEP)	Manufacturers	Walterscheid Powertrain Group (2019)	Chicago	IL
Paine Schwartz Partners	Manufacturers	Rivulis (2018)	New York City	NY
Prospect Partners	Manufacturers, Dealerships	Irrigation Components International (2012), Landmark Irrigation	Chicago	IL
Radicle Growth	Manufacturers	Burro (2021)	San Diego	CA
Riverside Company	Manufacturers	Arrowhead Engineered Products (2015-21), Stens (2016-21), Tiger Lights (2021-21)	New York City	NY
Rockmont Capital	Manufacturers	Timpte, SpeeCo	Denver	CO
Roynat Equity Partners	Manufacturers, Dealerships	S3 Enterprises (2021), JLD-Laguë	Calgary	AB
S2G Ventures	Manufacturers	Burro (2021), Arable,	Chicago	IL
SeaX Ventures	Manufacturers	Verdant Robotics (2022)	Millbrae	CA
Summit Equity Group	Manufacturers, Dealerships	Ag Solutions Group (2021), Dalton Ag Products, Fast Ag Solutions	Des Moines	IA
SVG Ventures (THRIVE Accelerator Program)	Manufacturers, Software Solutions	Arable, farm(x), VeriGrain, Tensorfield, Burro, MagGrow	Los Gatos	CA
Syngenta Group Ventures	Manufacturers	Greeneye Technology	-	-
TA Associates	Software Solutions	e-Emphasys Technologies (2022)	Boston	MA
Tecum Equity Partners	Dealerships	Tidewater Equipment Company (2018)	Wexford	PA
Toyota Ventures	Manufacturers	Burro (2021), Agtonomy (2022)	Los Altos	CA
Trimble Ventures	Manufacturers	Monarch Tractor (2021)	Sunnyville	CA
Trivest	Manufacturers	Northfield Industries (2014)	Coral Gables	FL
True Wind Capital	Software Solutions	e-Emphasys Technologies (2022)	San Francisco	CA
TVV Capital	Manufacturers	Bigham Brothers (2013), Pityonak Machinery Corp. (2013)	Nashville	TN
Voyager Capital	Manufacturers	Carbon Robotics (2021)	Seattle	WA

Company	Ag Equipment Category	Portfolio (Current & Previous Holdings)	Headquarters	State
W3 LLC	Manufacturers	Ingersoll (previous)	Boulder	CO
Westcap Management	Manufacturers, Dealerships	Degelman (2020), Riteway, Rocky Mountain Dealerships (2021)	Saskatoon	SK
Windjammer Capital	Manufacturers	Fecon LLC (2022)	Waltham	MA
Yamaha Motor Ventures & Laboratory Silicon Valley	Manufacturers	Advanced Farm Technologies (2019), Verge Ag (2022)	Palo Alto	CA
Yorkville Advisors Global LP	Manufacturers	Future Farm Technologies (2019)	Mountainside	NJ

## AG EQUIPMENT INTELLIGENCE LISTS

## **Equipment Dealers' Top Concerns for 2023**

The 2023 Ag Equipment Intelligence Dealer Business Outlook & Trends report included survey data that shared what issues are keeping North American dealers "up at

night" along with how those same concerns ranked on the list in 2022.

Dealers' Issues & Concerns – 2023 (% of all dealers)						
	Most Concerned	Not Concerned	Least Concerned	2022 rank		
1. Increasing Cost of New Equipment	64.8%	34.3%	0.9%	4		
2. Technician Availability	73.3%	25.7%	1.0%	2		
3. Interest Rate Increases	49.0%	46.1%	4.9%	NA		
4. Farm Input Costs	46.1%	49.0%	4.9%	5		
5. New Equipment Inventory	56.3%	35.0%	8.7%	3		
6. Energy/Fuel Costs	36.4%	52.5%	11.1%	10		
7. All Other Employee Availability	30.1%	58.3%	11.7%	1		
8. Farm Commodity Prices	28.0%	55.0%	17.0%	8		
9. Cybersecurity/Ransomware	10.0%	70.0%	20.0%	NA		
10. Shrinking Farm Customer Base	25.0%	54.8%	20.2%	6		
11. Product Reliability	31.6%	47.4%	21.1%	11		
12. Health Care Affordability	20.6%	56.9%	22.6%	9		
13. Used Equipment Inventory	26.7%	48.6%	24.8%	7		
14. Labor Regulation	10.1%	59.6%	30.3%	12		
15. Financing Availability – Retail	10.7%	48.5%	40.8%	17		
16. Dealer Succession Requirements	13.5%	45.2%	41.4%	15		
17. Dealer Consolidation	20.4%	34.0%	45.6%	16		
18. Dealership 'Purity' Efforts by Majors	18.5%	35.0%	46.6%	14		
19. Financing Availability – Floorplanning	11.7%	38.8%	49.5%	18		
20. Business Loss from Right-to-Repair	6.8%	42.7%	50.5%	NA		
21. Manufacturer Consolidation	6.1%	37.8%	56.1%	19		

In its first time on the survey, interest rate increases became North American dealers' #3 issue for 2023, with 95.1% "concerned" or "most concerned" about it (topics were ranked by percentage of dealers who were least concerned).

Source: Ag Equipment Intelligence Outlook & Trends surveys