

VARIANT
385 380 365 360

CLAAS

Maximum output every
time.



Perfectly coordinated.
Forage harvesting technology from
CLAAS.





For daily forage or straw harvesting operations, you need more than just robust operational machinery; you need technology that works and that is quite simply a pleasure to work with – reliable technology that works in unison when the going gets tough and when there seems to be no end in sight. And what's more, you need harvesting systems that piece together seamlessly.

As a leading equipment manufacturer of forage harvesting machinery, CLAAS provides the ideal harvesting chain for any farm or business size. Our coordinated machines support you in your day-to-day operations and enable you to achieve optimal results when harvesting.

Over 50 years of CLAAS in Metz.

In 1959, the foundations were laid for the present-day CLAAS France baler factory in Woippy. Over time, CLAAS consolidated its entire baler production activities at the plant. The pool of expertise and many years' experience in baler design soon led to a successful expansion of the range of balers on offer.

Today, there are four names that stand for innovation, performance and efficiency:

MARKANT – the conventional high-pressure baler

ROLLANT – worldwide, the best-selling round baler equipped with a fixed chamber

VARIANT – the round baler with variable chamber

QUADRANT – the large square baler

Since the start of production over 50 years ago, over 290,000 balers have been manufactured. Following the introduction of the legendary QUADRANT 1200, more than 10,000 large square balers alone have rolled off the production line.

All-round top performance.





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Simply the best baler around.

The agricultural cooperative in the French region of Armel sur Etang has four partners, one of whom is Marc Sanson, machinery manager for the contracting firm Arpiwelle, founded at the same time as the cooperative. As of last year, Arpiwelle's contracting firm has been home to a VARIANT 385. Prior to the 2011 season, the machine had successfully proven itself by compacting 19,215 bales, including 50 percent in silage.

For driver Dimitri Robert, the main advantage lies in the cutting rotor with its forced bale start, which gives greater yields than ever before: "Thanks to this cutting rotor, I can get maximum output from the machine without any problem."

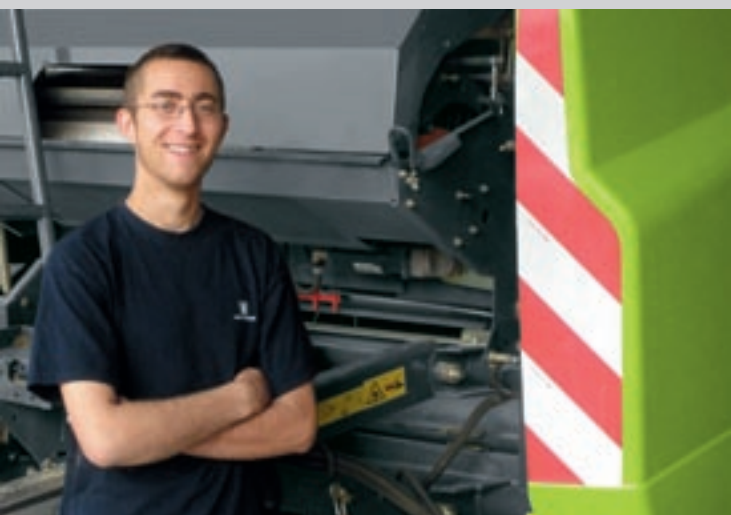
According to Dimitri, the quality of the baling pressure achieved by the VARIANT 385 was its biggest selling point: "Our customers first needed to be convinced that the machine could deliver really well-compacted bales, and, since it always does such a good job of compacting, if we ever need to look for a new baler, it will certainly be a VARIANT again."

The CLAAS COMMUNICATOR is extremely user-friendly, making it very easy to adjust the diameter, the compactness of the soft core and the overall diameter of the bale. It also takes no time at all to make the switch from silage to hay. "Our customers immediately pick up on the excellent cutting quality too", says Mark Sanson, "since the 14 knives of the ROTO CUT cutting rotor ensure a cutting quality that enables optimum forage fermentation, as well as better distribution within the diet mixer". Dimitri adds: "Thanks to the high operating speed and the density of the compacted bales, it's a pleasure to use the VARIANT, and there's very little daily maintenance to perform."



Visit Europe's most modern baler factory at claas.com – search term: FactoryTour Metz.

Unbeatable in the field.



Fighting it out.

Regardless of whether the meadows in the Loire-Atlantique Department in France happen to be under water or not, every member of the machinery syndicate ("CUMA") of Saint-Philbert-de-Grand-Lieu can be assured of a consistent standard of efficiency through the use of the VARIANT ROTO CUT, as Gérard Amiand, the head of this CUMA, which has 230 members, explains.

CUMA acquired its first VARIANT ROTO CUT in 2003, and today boasts more than three machines in this series. Pascal Clavier explains that it was one benefit in particular that tipped the balance when it came to deciding to opt for CLAAS balers: "These machines really fight it out – even in dense reed stands! The speed doesn't need to be reduced to get the baling process under way, unlike the balers of other manufacturers that we've used in the past", he says enthusiastically. The vehicle speed remains constant and the VARIANT machines offer an unrivalled operational throughout, which the CUMA also values elsewhere, as on the meadows surrounding Lake Grand-Lieu, for example.



"With our three round balers, our daily output usually tops 55 hectares, which meets with the approval of all our members."



Testimonial



Impressive performance from the word go.

The CLAAS VARIANT was the first round baler on the market with a 2.1-metre pick-up. This proven design includes enormous throughput capacity and outstanding performance features, and is also employed in the new VARIANT. Even the widest and most irregular swaths are picked up cleanly.

Thorough field clearance.

The pick-up is evenly suspended with large castor-mounted guide wheels, keeping it securely on track. This combination ensures precise following of ground contours and protects the grass stubble, even at high working speeds and when turning.

A CLAAS invention – the roller crop press improves the crop flow.

As an option, the VARIANT comes complete with the twin roller crop press, which has proven itself thousands of times over in other CLAAS balers. It compresses the crop perfectly, gives faster product flow, and ensures active feeding of the crop to the rotor.



With a huge appetite, nothing gets left behind.



The forced feed through the conveyor rotor makes a quick bale start a certainty and guarantees an enormous output.

2.1-m pickup
Roller crop press

A unique system that guarantees output: the rotor gets the bale rolling.

As close to a perfect flow as you can get – and it couldn't be easier.

Unique from CLAAS: the rotor gets the bale turning and forces the bale start – for each and every bale, under all conditions.

The benefits of this system pay for themselves in every minute of operation. You can always drive the VARIANT at full speed. Thanks to maximum core compaction, maximum bale weights are a certainty.

At the end of the day, you'll be pleased to see how you manage to work more effectively and produce far more perfectly compacted bales than ever before.

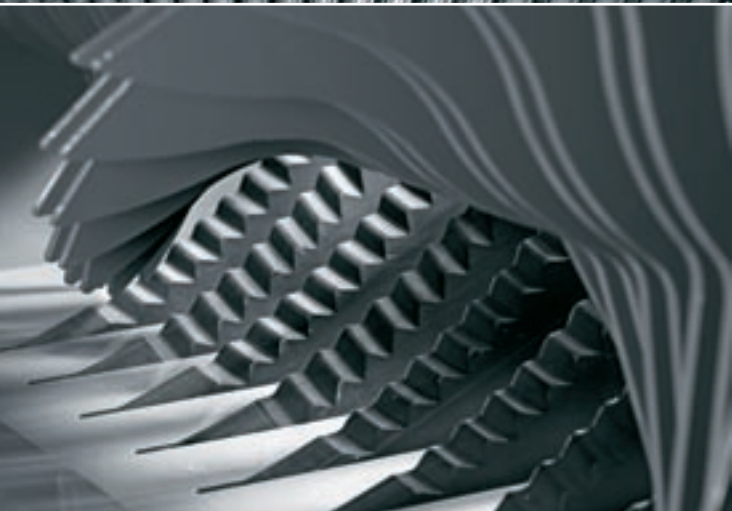
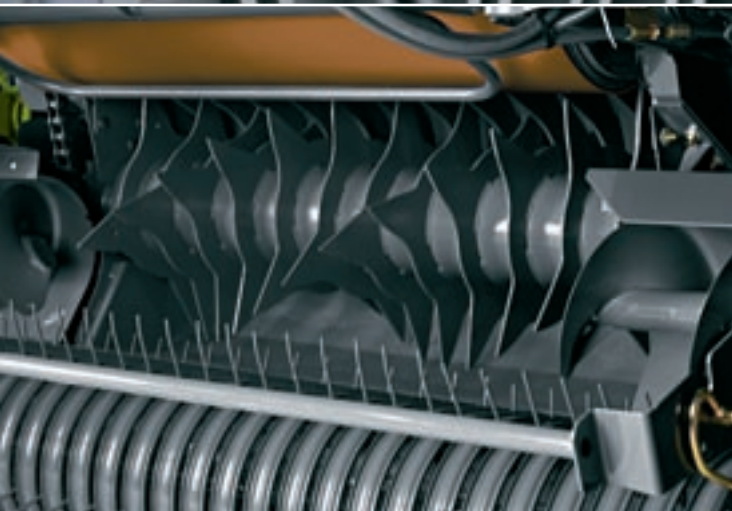
ROTO FEED: uniform crop flow.

The standard feed rotor delivers a uniform crop flow to the bale chamber. This in turn accelerates the bale formation process, which means higher speeds and faster work rates.



Short chop, high compaction pressure and minimum oxygen. This results in silage that is tasty, rich in energy and gives enhanced lactic acid fermentation – all essential factors for high milk yields.





ROTO CUT – 14 blades for a better cut and easier bale breakup.

The perfect combination, ROTO CUT and VARIANT for maximum efficiency and profitable returns. The ideal short-chop baler bringing superior technology to the field:

- Spiral tine arrangement
- Helical rotor for a short chop
- Combined stripper system between and within the double tines
- The aggressive knives are well secured
- Hydraulic knife engagement

The 14-blade chopping rotor on the VARIANT ROTO CUT works precisely, quickly and effectively with helical double tines for a consistently good feed quality. Because the crop is cut short and precisely into small lengths, it can be compacted more densely and broken up more easily.

NEW

VARIANT PRO.



Hydraulically lowerable floor.

The VARIANT, whether ROTO FEED or ROTO CUT, can also be equipped with a floor that can be lowered using two hydraulic cylinders. Any blockages that may occur can be conveniently cleared from the comfort of the cab.

The hydraulically lowerable floor can be opened to the front by activating the ancillary dual-acting spool valve. The rotor forces the blockage directly into the baling chamber. Now just close the floor and you're back in action.

On machines with a chopping rotor, pressure is released from the blades at the push of a button, before the lowerable floor is opened. The blades automatically swing back in upon closing.

The double-tempered steel blades are much more aggressive and have a greatly extended service life.



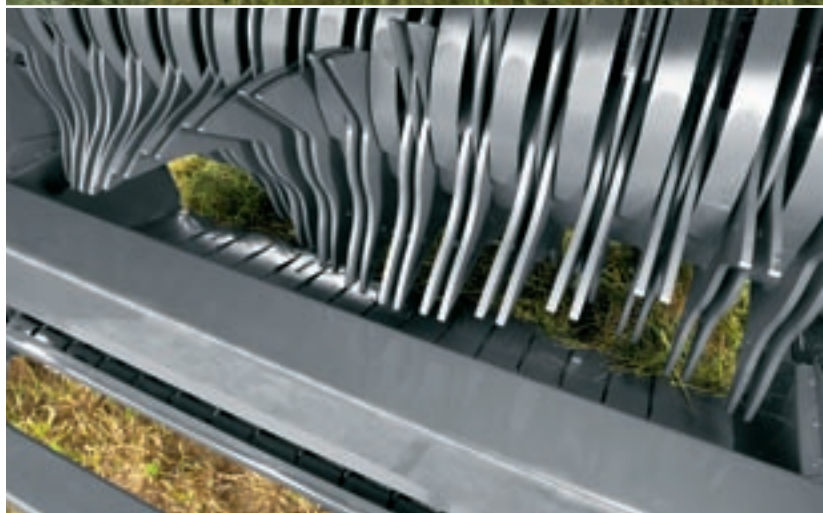
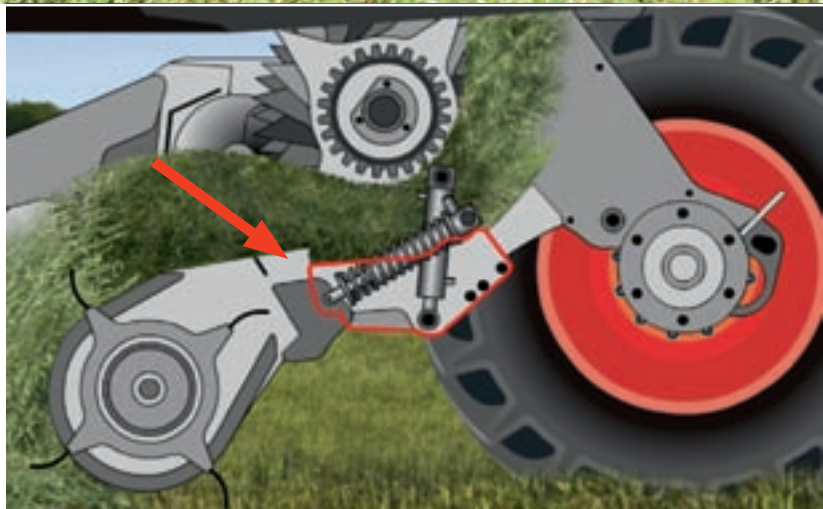


In a class of its own – the early warning system.

The baling process generally needs to be fast, and high daily outputs are a must. Drivers need systems that "think" as well, and offer them invaluable support.

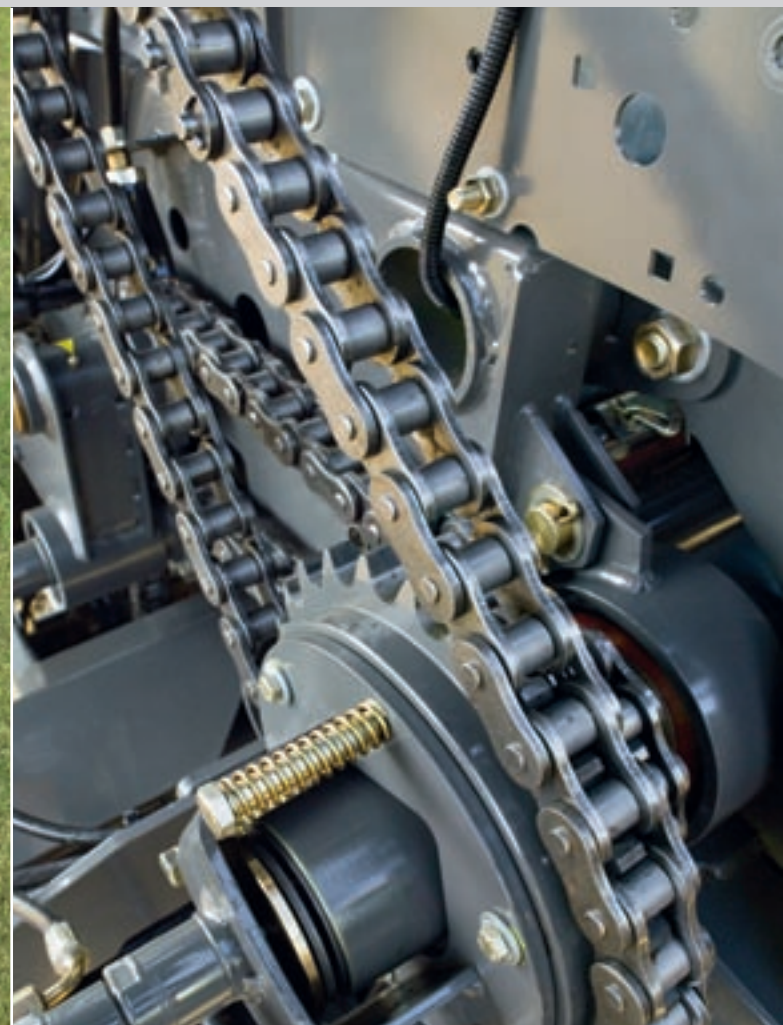
The lowerable PRO floor actively adapts to the crop flow. Automatic lowering by up to 30 mm enables uneven swaths to be continuously drawn in by the rotor, with no loss of excellent chop quality.

The "weaving" movement of the ground is indicated on the control terminal as visual and acoustic signals via a sensor, enabling the driver to push the baler to its limits and avoid unnecessary downtime resulting from blockages.



VARIANT PRO

A robust drive line that eliminates glitches in operation.



The CLAAS heavy-duty drive train transmits the power where it's needed and with maximum efficiency.



Fully equipped with an impressive specification, even on the standard version.

The four heavy-duty seamless baling belts on the VARIANT also contribute to consistently high performance and bale density:

- Reliable drive via two cambered rubber-coated rollers
- Soft profile for good traction, secure crop transport and gentle crop treatment
- Maximum surface coverage for minimal crop loss
- Stays clean in all conditions, thanks to strippers on the deflecting rollers and at the rear

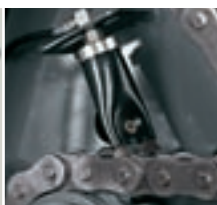
With a belt speed of 3.0 m/sec, the VARIANT turns faster and compresses more densely than any other baler. The intake area of the machine can easily be seen from the cab. You can match the working speed perfectly to the crop conditions and always stay close to the output limit, whatever the conditions.

The VARIANT 365 and 385 models also come equipped with the new heavy-duty drive line. The main transmission, drive chains, cutting system and protection devices are designed for the toughest conditions and heaviest loads you'll ever encounter.

Heavy duty from CLAAS.

- Heavy-duty drives for the toughest crop conditions
- Heavy-duty gearbox for increased throughput
- Heavy-duty long-life 1 1/4" chains
- Heavy-duty chopping system with dual knife mounting

This heavy-duty design has been developed for high reliability and long service life, regardless of how much you expect of your new VARIANT in everyday operation.



Heavy-duty drive train of VARIANT 385 / 365



Active control: precise guidance and quiet running.

The VARIANT features a specially developed hydraulic bale density control system designed to produce maximum bale density in all conditions. The active hydraulic system combines three hydraulic cylinders with a dual tensioning arm system.

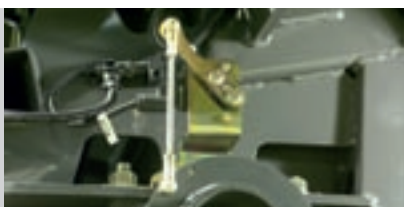
Core type preferences?
We can accommodate them.

The continuously adjustable soft core device is another unique feature from CLAAS. It means you can comfortably select the soft core diameter and determine the baling pressure of the core from the cab. Dry straw is baled with a rock-hard core. When the crop is moist, you can reduce the baling pressure to enable the bales to break up better.

CLAAS MEDIUM TERMINAL.

With the handy CLAAS MEDIUM TERMINAL (CMT), you'll quickly be able to manage all important functions and keep your baling tasks fully under control from the comfort of the cab. Baling pressure, bale size and the left/right display are conveniently arranged within the driver's field of vision. Moreover, thanks to the pressure release function, you can rapidly clear any blockages that may occur, without leaving the cab.

The PRO model hydraulically lowerable floor can also be controlled via the CMT. You will also have a visual and acoustic indication of the current load, enabling you to modify the vehicle speed accordingly to suit the crop flow.



Thanks to a sensor on the tensioning arm, the driver is always kept in the picture regarding the current bale diameter.

Rock-hard, for perfect bales.



Task menu:

Monitoring and information on all machine functions: bale count, tying, current bale diameter, position of blades, position of tailgate, left/right display, etc.



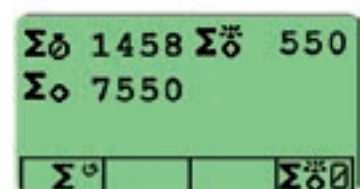
Settings menu:

Configuration of bale diameter, baling pressure, soft core diameter and pressure, configuration of net and twine tying.



Counter menu:

Recording of work hours, total number of bales produced, number of bales made per day.



Compaction
Bale density control system
Soft core setting
CMT

Advanced operator control technology boosts output.

CLAAS COMMUNICATOR.

The CLAAS COMMUNICATOR, with its large, clearly laid-out display and ISOBUS technology, greatly simplifies working with the VARIANT.

There are 20 job memories available for professional job data collection, with which you can record the bale count, baling duration, percentage of chopped bales and amount of net used for each customer. This gives you all the information you need for accurate invoicing.

You're constantly kept up to date regarding the operational status of your machine, you can quickly and easily change important setting parameters, and you have access to important data at all times, such as acoustic and visual information about the position of the hydraulically lowerable floor. These features enable you to push your machine to its limits.

Saving you time and money.

The high comfort version is controlled directly from the cab via the COMMUNICATOR, which calculates the exact net or twine wrapping length for any bale size. The VARIANT automatically uses only as much net as you configure, even where diameters vary.

Inner values.

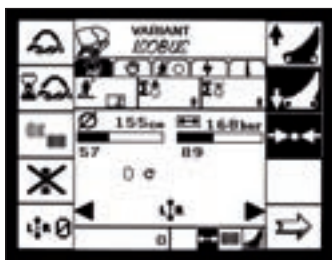
Convenient pressure configuration is a new feature on the VARIANT. Five presettings enable the configuration to be set at the push of a button, as dependent on the harvesting conditions. Whether you require rock-hard densities in dry straw or a large soft core in delicate hay, the VARIANT is optimally equipped for the job. Needless to say, customised settings are also possible.



Task menu:

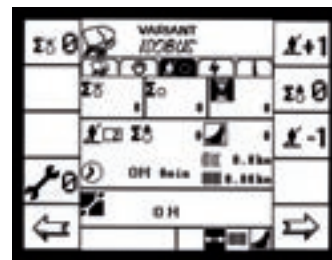
All work data in perfect view:

Bale diameter, baling pressure, PTO speed, right/left display, blade position and bale count.



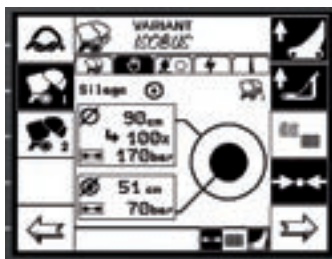
Operating menu:

Up to 20 work records can be stored – details include total hours, number of bales, bales cut and volume of net consumed.



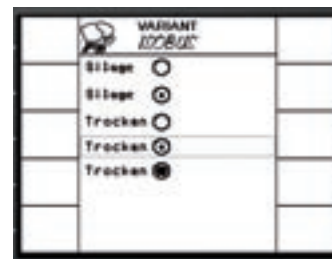
Settings menu:

Bale diameter, baling pressure, soft core diameter and soft core baling pressure.



Pressure configuration:

The VARIANT offers five different settings: rock-hard bales in dry straw or a large soft core in hay or silage.



You determine the bale size in the VARIANT yourself. Every crop is baled with the diameter and pressure that you want.

CLAAS COMMUNICATOR



Mature performance profile.

Round baling systems require the machine to stop briefly while the bale is wrapped or tied. However, even in this respect, the VARIANT is impressive with its speed and efficiency.

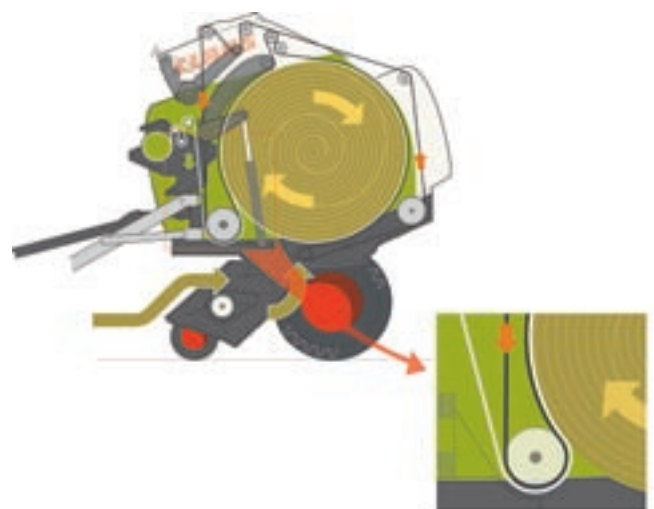
The process starts automatically once the desired bale diameter has been reached. The high belt speed of 3.0 m/s ensures an extremely fast tying cycle, making it possible to continue baling right away without wasting any time.

Whether using net wrapping or tying with double twine, the VARIANT is highly impressive in the field. Once started up, the easily adjustable precision tying system grips the bale tightly, producing solid bales that hold their shape – just the way you want them.

A cover for the net is available as an optional extra for extremely wet conditions. It provides protection against moisture, ensuring that the net unrolls smoothly.

Good visibility.

As in all CLAAS balers, the VARIANT is designed so that tying and wrapping take place in a highly visible area. You see exactly when it starts, follow the action as it progresses, and can tell the moment it's finished.



Developed by CLAAS and designed for CLAAS balers: highly secure tying and optimal reliability when using ORIGINAL CLAAS BALETEX binding twine and CLAAS ROLLATEX PRO net for optimal edge coverage.



A simple calculation: faster wrapping means more bales per day.



The wide-opening panels provide good access for convenient cleaning and maintenance work.

Convenient wrapping



Guaranteed
faster.

Road safety is a priority.

If your operation requires you to cover long stretches of road between fields, if you use small tractors on hilly terrain or if you just want to take advantage of your tractor's top speed, the VARIANT can be equipped with two different braking systems. The ultimate choice depends on local regulations, with the choice of air brakes or a hydraulic braking system.

Rolling on the shoulders of giants.

Three different large tyre sizes provide optimum ground protection and smooth running, even in wet conditions.



15.0/55-17

19.0/45-17

500/50-17 F+

This baler is fast, not only in the fields, but also in between. The VARIANT cruises smoothly at speeds up to 50 km/h. The optional axle-mounted brakes ensure safety at high speeds on the road as well as enhancing operational safety on sloping terrain.





More versatility with the flax kit.

The VARIANT is even more versatile with the optionally available kit for harvesting flax.

To produce the best fibre yield and length, the flax plants, including the roots, are pulled out of the soil mechanically. This avoids the losses that result from stubble being left behind when mowing.

For the production of long fibres, the stems are kept parallel with the help of special row gatherers. During the baling process, which follows the drying period, the pick-up on the VARIANT collects the swath with the stems parallel. The roots point down and the seed pods face up. The tying twine is fed in continuously so that the flax is wound in layers with a clearance kept from the edges of the bales. In this way, the bales can be unwrapped easily and the required parallel layering of the stems is ensured.



The easy-to-operate parking brake is included in all braking systems.

Brakes
Flax kit

High daily work rates when baling silage.



When combined with a bale wrapper, the VARIANT's enormous throughput and high bale density can also be used to maximum advantage for baling silage.



When you give your best every day, you deserve the best service.

You can always rely on the professional and reliable support of your FIRST CLAAS SERVICE® team. CLAAS dealers provide fast spare parts supply and dependable customer service around the world.

We are there for you, wherever you are.

You can always rely on us to provide you with the necessary spare parts – ORIGINAL CLAAS parts, characterised by top quality, superb function and a long service life.

Our central spare parts warehouse delivers all ORIGINAL CLAAS parts quickly and reliably all over the world. Your local CLAAS dealer is there to make sure that they reach their destination as soon as possible – wherever you may be.

We speak the same language.

CLAAS dealers include some of the world's most efficient agricultural machinery companies. They are highly trained, equipped with specialist tools and have intimate knowledge of how farmers and contractors work. They understand your expectations and can meet your requirements when it comes to professional support and reliability.



FIRST CLAAS SERVICE®

Customised bale diameters.

Rapid wrapping for reduced downtime and more baling

Bale density control system with active hydraulics and dual-tensioning arm

Exclusive: bale size, soft-core diameter, baling and soft-core pressure controllable from the cab

CLAAS COMMUNICATOR with ISOBUS technology

Unique from CLAAS: the rotor gets the bale rolling

High-performance XL pick-up with 2.10-m working width
Optional: roller crop press for accelerated crop flow

Convenient net and twine wrapping

Fully reliable, high-strength endless belts

High drive torque, coupled with 3.0 m/s belt speed

Bale diameter is infinitely adjustable

VARIANT PRO with lowerable floor



VARIANT

		385 RC / 365 RC	380 RF / 360 RF
Hitching			
PTO shaft speed	rpm	1000	540 / 1000 (○)
Main drive		Heavy Duty, 1 1/4"	Standard, 1"
Drive chains		Heavy Duty, 1 1/4"	Standard, 1"
Wide-angle drive shaft with freewheel and shear pin / Cam control		Cam-type overload clutch	Variable**
Pick-up			
Width	m	2.10	2.10
DIN raking width	m	1.90	1.90
Hydraulic pick-up lift		●	●
Ground tracking via two oscillating pick-up castor guide wheels		●	●
Hydraulic connection			
One-way spool valve for pick-up lift and dual-acting spool valve for tailgate cylinders		●	●
Additional dual-acting spool valve for PRO models		●	●
Crop feed			
Forced feed with		Heavy Duty ROTO CUT	ROTO FEED
Number of knives		14	–
Hydraulically lowerable PRO floor		○	○
Variable baling chamber			
Four high-strength seamless belts		●	●
Soft-core device, pressure and diameter adjustable		●	●
Supplementary belt drive		●	●
Bale chamber dimensions			
Width	m	1.20	1.20
Diameter	m	0.90–1.80 / 0.90–1.55	0.90–1.80 / 0.90–1.55
Control terminal			
CLAAS MEDIUM TERMINAL (CMT)*		●	●
CLAAS COMMUNICATOR*		○	○
Wrapping and tying			
Net wrapping with automatic start		●	●
Number of net turns (optional)		9 steps (●) / continuous (○)	9 steps (●) / continuous (○)
Dual twine wrapping with automatic start of tying		○	○
Number of twine turns (optional)		10 steps (●) / continuous (○)	10 steps (●) / continuous (○)
Flax package		–	○
Tyres			
15.0/55-17		●	●
19.0/45-17		○	○
500/50-17 F+		○	○
Oscillating pick-up castor guide wheels 16/6.50-8 4 PR		●	●
Air brakes*		○	○
Hydraulic brakes*		○	○
Active hydraulic braking system*		○	○
Dimensions and weights			
Length with bale ramp	m	4.68	4.68
Width with 15.0/55-17 tyres	m	2.49	2.49
Width with 19.0/45-17 tyres	m	2.66	2.66
Width with 500/50-17 F+ tyres (radial)	m	2.67	2.67
Height	m	2.99–3.03 / 2.79–2.83	2.99–3.03 / 2.79–2.83

Additional equipment:

Roller crop press, ISOBUS connection cable, convenient net wrapping or twine tying

● Standard ○ Optional – Unavailable * Subject to national regulation ** Shear pin as standard / cam type overload clutch optional

CLAAS continually develops its products to meet customer requirements. This means that all products are subject to change without notice. All descriptions and specifications in this brochure should be considered approximate and may include optional equipment that is not part of the standard specifications. This brochure is designed for worldwide use. Please refer to your nearest CLAAS dealer and their price list for local specification details. Some protective panels may have been removed for photographic purposes in order to present the function clearly. To avoid any risk of danger, never remove these protective panels yourself. In this respect, please refer to the relevant instructions in the operator's manual.



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