Job Report

Crawler Tractor

PR 726 LGP

Litronic



LIEBHERR



Sports field refurbishment: precise removal of the lawn layer using 2D laser control

Situation

The company Schildecker is located in Freiburg, which is in the Breisgau region of Germany. Alongside the refurbishing and laying of sports grounds, the company has become a specialist in the cultivation and laying of lawn turf. Founded almost 30 years ago, the family business, run by Roman Schildecker and his father Franz, employs seven staff all year round. Due to seasonal demand, the workforce can at times increase to 25 people. The grass turf is cultivated on approximately 40 hectares of land, which must be filled up with soil, ploughed and precisely graded at regular intervals in order to create ideal soil conditions for the growth of high quality lawn turf.

Task

A special mix of soil is required for optimum results. This is made up of 60-70% sand with added humus and organic matter such as manure. Initially, this mixture is applied to a depth of 20-30 cm. The fields are then 'trenched', or ploughed, to a depth of 50-60 cm. Over the winter, the loosened earth is left fallow. In the spring, the fields are freshly graded and the lawn seed can then be sown. The layers that are more deeply ploughed act as storage for water during dry periods. In order to ensure that the ploughed ground is not compressed again, it is important that the machines used exert the lowest possible pressure on the ground and have high traction and excellent grading properties. These latter characteristics are necessary to avoid depressions in the areas where water could accumulate and damage the turf.

Technical data

Engine	Liebherr D 934 A7
Engine output according to ISO 9249	120 kW/163 HP
Operating weight	19,600 kg/43,210 lb
Blade capacity	$3.39 \text{ m}^3/4.43 \text{ yd}^3$

Solution

Schildecker selected the Liebherr PR 726 LGP crawler tractor as the ideal working tool for this demanding application. Because of its wide tracks, the machine exerts only minimal pressure on the ground while at the same time giving the best traction on soft subsoil.

Power and traction

The proactive adjustment of performance that distinguishes all new Generation 6 Liebherr crawler tractors is always available with sufficient power for dealing with heavy material. Franz Schildecker, senior partner and operator of the PR 726, particularly appreciates the simple handling of the machine through the stepless speed control.

High precision grading

Exact surfaces without irregularities or indentations are created using a 2D laser control system, which is pre-installed on the machine at the factory. Thanks to the sensitive working hydraulics and the ergonomically-matched joysticks, the equipment can also be very precisely and lightly controlled even under manual operation, thereby ensuring an optimum result.

Top marks for comfort

The cab of the PR 726 provides enough space for even the tallest operator. The comfortable seating position and the air-suspended seat, which is fitted as standard, provide good back support and reduce strain on joints. The large glass surfaces give excellent all-round visibility including the equipment and the ground area, which, for example, allows the operator to optimally preset the blade to the desired depth when ploughing.

Because of the seasonal nature of the workload, the PR 726 is only used for 10–15 weeks of the year and the machine is rented when required. The Liebherr dealer, Michael Welte Baumaschinen-GmbH, works in partnership with the family-owned Schildecker company continuing decades of excellent cooperation. Company founder Franz Schildecker has a passion for driving tracked vehicles and has high praise for the Liebherr PR 726. In particular, he finds that the pushing power, traction and grading characteristics of this compact machine are the key to efficient and time-saving execution of all the required tasks, and at the end of a very long working day he gets down from the machine feeling rested and relaxed, thanks to the exceptionally high standard of cab comfort.

Equipment

6-way blade with hinged corners
3-shank ripper
Laser/GPS preparation kit
LED headlights on operator's cab and lift cylinders