

Güttler SuperMaxx 70-7 Bio cultivator:

Tine tilling versatility

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Gütler SuperMaxx 70-7 Bio cultivator:

Tine tiling versatility

Spring-tine cultivators, capable of moving most if not all of the ground with a shallow pass, are bang in vogue. The SuperMaxx can do more than just tickle stubble ground, as we discovered

Although the SuperMaxx has been in the Gütler price list for some time, the range has been expanded and refined over the years. As it stands today, the tines on the 3.0m to 9.0m wide line-up can be spread across either five or seven rows.

The Bio moniker on our test machine means it has a following harrow rather than a roller at the rear. For the five-row and 3.0m-6.0m cultivators, Gütler has a lightweight plastic prisma ring press, these versions identified as 'Culti' rather than 'Bio'. The 6.0m model we looked at in the 9/2017 issue had the packer.

No roller

We used the SuperMaxx 70-7 Bio on our test farm for nearly two seasons doing all sorts of cultivation work. The 2.5t implement was used with 200hp to 400hp tractors, although the latter was much more than was needed. If you want to quickly get from A to B then 200hp with a decent front weight is a good pairing for the 7.0m harrow. Most of the time our Claas Axion 810 model was up to the job, and in good conditions it didn't even need a front weight.

The test Bio had four leading gauge wheels that are hydraulically adjustable. There is the

option (£850) of fitting some additional gauge wheels to the rear tine row bar. These two wheels help keep the machine running level and achieve consistent depth control. Only downside is these extra wheels can only be manually adjusted; ideally, they would move simultaneously with the front gauge wheels. At the very back, the spring tines are followed by one (standard) or two rows (optional) of 12mm lighter levelling tines.

Substantial double-leaf spring

Each of the main tines measures 45x12mm and comprises a double-leaf spring design. This



The four 185/65 R14 gauge wheels positioned out front give effective depth control. They are hydraulically adjusted, with a decent-sized scale making changes easy.



The optional 18.5x8.5-8 wheels at the rear keep the cultivator running level. Unfortunately, these only have manual adjustment.

allows Gütler to achieve a higher break-back pressure and helps to prevent the tine moving back and upsetting the working depth. Over the two seasons we didn't break a single tine, and that included work in hard, dry soil. Even when working deeper, at 10-14cm, the double leaf is able to keep the tine in the ground and break through any hard spots.

A total of 55 tines across the 7.0m working width translates into a cut spacing of just under 13cm. Obviously the seven-bar layout gives you a better inter-point clearance than the five-row frame. The 50mm points were

carbide-coated, a £1,940 extra. The tines are positioned at an optimum angle and didn't have any issues penetrating dry soil, despite the mere 2,480kg all-up weight of the Gütler machine. It's worth noting here that other similar cultivators will put significantly more pressure on the tines with their increased bulk. For instance, the semi-mounted Amazone Cobra 7000-2TX, also in this magazine, weighs in at north of 8.0t, although this figure does include a double-ring packer.

TEST ASSESSMENT

Gütler SuperMaxx 70-7 Bio

Attachment to tractor	+
Under-beam clearance	+
Inter-point clearance	++
Choice of tines	+
Penetration	++
Levelling	+
Susceptibility to clogging	++
Machine weight	++
Power requirement	+
Setting the working depth ¹⁾	++/○
Conversion to road transport	○
Lighting and warning panels	++
Build quality	+
Paintwork	+

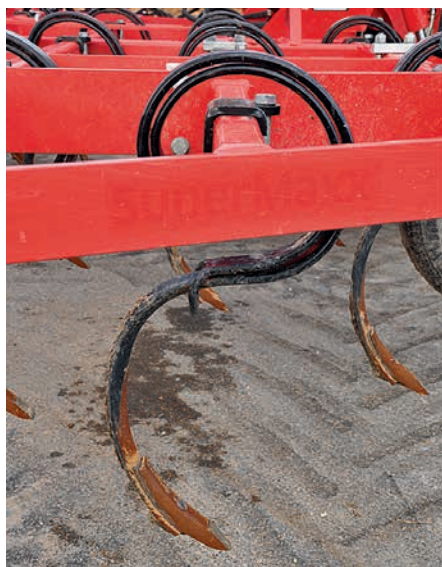
¹⁾ Front support wheels/rear support wheels

Grading: ++ = very good; + = good; ○ = average; - = below average; -- = poor

Weighing in at 2,480kg, the comparatively light 7.0m wide SuperMaxx is a versatile cultivator that can turn its hands to both primary and secondary cultivations.

THE SHORT VERSION

- ▶ On the SuperMaxx shallow cultivator, the tines can be arranged across five or seven rows. Working widths are 3.0m to 7.0m fully-mounted and up to 12.0m trailed.
- ▶ The roller can be replaced by a following harrow, which is better suited to heavy, wet soil and for mechanical weed control.
- ▶ The narrow tines produce a fine tilth and the duck feet cultivate across the full width.
- ▶ Manufactured at Kirchheim unter Teck, Germany



In addition to regular chisel points, Gütler markets carbide-tipped narrow points and 20cm wide duck-foot points.

We used the narrow points on the SuperMaxx Bio for a primary stubble pass as well as for incorporating slurry and seedbed preparation. For the second stubble pass we fitted 200mm duck-foot points (£640 for 55 points). These have a 35mm overlap on each side, ensuring that the SuperMaxx moves all of the ground across the full working width.

Finer tilling

The under-beam clearance is 56cm. Thanks to tine layout and large inter-point clearance, the Gütler copes well even in cover crops or areas with heavier weed growth. When set shallow, the vibrations from the tines produce a nice, even tilth, something we noticed when preparing a maize seedbed in fields that had not been touched after the winter.

It's also worth noting that the main tines are arranged in such a way that there is no lateral drag on the cultivator – an important factor if using autosteer. Gütler recommends forward travel at 12-15km/hr, yet even at higher work speeds, the SuperMaxx didn't start bouncing. We managed to cover up to 80ha per day while using fuel at less than 6.0l/ha.

Straightforward adjustment

At the rear, the following harrows have 12mm diameter tines. Both the height and pitch can be altered to suit the soil conditions and the amount of organic material present. To make an adjustment, you need to refit a dozen pins – Gütler says a more user-friendly approach is being developed.

Our test unit had the second row of following tines, a £2,800 option. This increases the rear tine tally to 104. If you spend a bit of time getting their height and angle right, the double harrow tines level the ground perfectly, or at least they did for us.

Gets the weeds out

Provided the weather is playing ball and the rear following tines are properly set up, they bring loosened weeds to the surface where they can start to rot. This allows the SuperMaxx to provide some mechanical weed control, adding yet another string to its bow.

We also tucked the test machine into wet soils ahead of sowing, another task the Gütler did well courtesy of its relatively wide working width, low-ish weight ... and the fact that it's mounted so can be carried in trickier spots. If there is one option we would like to see added to the SuperMaxx, it is a front knife roller to shred stubble and cover crops ahead of the main tines. Speaking of catch crops, the German machinery maker offers a 410-litre seeder with a hydraulically powered fan. This carries a price tag of £6,710 plus £2,990 for a mounting kit.



MEASUREMENTS

Gütler SuperMaxx 70-7 Bio

Working width	7.00m
Number of tines/spacing	55/13cm
Tine arrangement	Seven rows
Under-beam clearance	56cm
Row spacing	40cm
Number/size of rear harrow tines	104/12mm
Front support wheels	185/65 R14
Rear support wheels (option)	18.5 x 8.5-8
Transport length	4.24m
Transport width	2.48m
Transport height	3.65m
Three-point hitch	Cat. II/III
Weight in test spec	2,480kg
Price for base specification model ¹⁾	£20,210
Test specification ¹⁾	£29,050

¹⁾ List price excl. VAT

Summary: The SuperMaxx Bio is a light and versatile cultivator for shallow work. When kitted out with the duck-foot points instead of the narrow chisel tips, it can be used very shallow, moving all of the ground across the full working width – ideal if you are looking to ensure a good chit.

Without a roller, the Gütler can also be used in wet soil conditions. Despite the lightweight design, it is a well-built machine; even after several hundred hectares we couldn't find any weak points. With a recommended list price of just over £20,000 for the entry model and £29,050 for the tested version, it's a lot of cultivator for the money.

Jan-Martin Küper



The outer following tines can be removed and placed in a holder to reduce the transport height of the folded cultivator.

Harrow adjustment is done with a dozen pins for depth control, and the same number sets the angle – complicated but precise.