

Guide to the G B Foot “down on our farm” DVD/YouTube

YouTube Video 1

The opening scene is part of Manor Farm, Monk Sherborne, on some of the highest ground we rent from Queens College, Oxford. It is to the west of Basingstoke (behind the old Park Prewett Hospital) and the camera is facing northeast looking across to the Duke of Wellington estate at Stratfield Saye.

The new MF178 XOR314J dates it as being 1970 and is being driven by the then foreman of Manor Farm, William Cook drilling with a MF drill. Note the lack of gloves & dust mask! Next the young tractor driver Ted Isaacs is seen to be jumping on a bicycle to ride home for lunch (his wife having ridden it to the bus stop nearby on her way to work & left in the hedge!) another MF can be seen approaching the cross roads. Note the Flints!

Ted Isaacs is back from lunch to harrow in with a set of parminster harrows on a 1967 MF 178. Into shot walks Jessie Cook the farms dryer man amongst other things. In the background is Shothanger farm (now B&V masonry), which is where we go to as they attempt to pull out & start the farms flatbed lorry

Next is a 178 with a ferti-liquid sprayer putting on liquid nitrogen, then a fast forward to the field of the opening drilling scene where harvest with a Massey 178 & trailer is corn cart is followed by William Cook driving a 1967 515 series combine. There is also his son Billy Cook with the older cabbed 500 combine. One of them must be a Multi-flow model according to the straw hood, then follows stubble burning, look closely & you may spot the blue lights of the fire engines!!

Baling with a Howard Big Baler, and an all too common knotter problem. Ted Isaacs again trying to sort it out!

Tea break while discussing the merits of how the Massey weight bracket was made to fit the new Ford 5000. Note Ted eating an apple; never ever saw him have a flask, always an apple or the like!

Combining again, this time with a new 525 for Billy Cook together with a scene of cameraman John Evans wife driving their restored Fordson.

Irrigation at Vyne Lodge Farm, Sherborne St John using a Massey on a Wright rain pump to supply a boom irrigator mounted on a MF65.

YouTube video2

Combining, but this time at the 2000 acres G B Foot rented from Eagle Star Assurance, Egbury Farm, St Mary Bourne, Nr Andover. Still Massey here but watch how many!! Up to 7 in one field!! Note the damage to the straw hoods where the poor starters were bump started with the loader tractor. The "Basingstoke" teams would help out the all arable Egbury lads while in between crops, note some airstream helmets and the odd 625 combine. Egbury owned the Doe triple D tractor that recently made a record figure at auction followed by many County tractors due to the steep hills with flints worse still than Monk Sherborne!

Potato harvesting at Vyne Lodge Farm (& marketed as Vyne Farm Potatoes) a new Ford 7000 is powering a Whitstead Pacemaker two-row harvester. A very complex machine for its day. Under the cart elevator is a MF65. Jessie Cook is seen in action picking off what the automatic grading has missed (an unknown Kiwi dismounts)

Grass mowing at Manor Farm, Monk Sherborne, note the homemade bar with dangly chains to spook the sitting pheasants. We move to the Ford 7000 with a tipped over Massey silage trailer!

Over the hill comes a four cylinder County with a Bamlett-Tive fertispread on the grass stubble.

Next is the 7000 on a New Holland double chop throwing grass into a Massey trailer towed by a mere 5000

Blight spraying Potatoes by helicopter at Manor Farm. (been in one of these once!!)

Pea Vining at Manor Farm with a trailed Mater & Platt harvester dwarfing a Roadless tractor with a Fritzmier cab. Then to a Warwick Hi-Tip trailer tipping peas into a lorry for delivery to HFD peas plant at Cowdown Farm, Micheldever. Peas would be washed & chilled before taking in 1ton bins to freezing or processing factories. Farms in the growing group who were nearer the Cowdown plant would have peas taken by tractor & trailer direct, only the outer growers used the hi-tip & lorry

The Cameraman caught the other side of the lens while digging the garden!

Potato Planting I think at Sherborne St John with the 7000 on a 4 metre Carnfield Power Harrow (we had 3, similar to the Gyro-Tiller they had a big rotor with long tines so a depth of 14" was possible in theory!) knocking the ground down in front of the Howard Rota-Planter hitched to Ted Isaacs's 1976 John Deere 3130 with Hydraulic front wheel assist. Note the wooden extensions & Jessie Cook on the made up seat working the rate levers to overcome seed jamming!!!

YouTube video3

Two Ford 5000 and a Massey all lined up for corn cart with new Weeks 6t grain trailers, known as “Weeks by name & weak by nature” ever since. Driven by bare footed Kiwi’s!

Picking up swathed Oil Seed Rape with a pair of Massey 625’s before moving on again to helping Egbury out again, now also with the more modern 625’s.

The 3130 on a Bamlett-Tive sow-jet 4-metre Suffolk coulter drilling at Monk Sherborne again. Followed by a bit more OSR combining, note the new 1977 Ford 6600 now on the Weeks trailer before a glimpse of Billy Cook with his new Massey 750 also in the rape.

David Isaac’s loading grass into Vyne Farms silage pit with Manor Farms 1971 International Harvester Hough 30 Payloader, normally fitted with a cab.

Back to corn cart, a 6600 & 3130 servicing a 20foot1980 New Holland 8080 (Egbury had 2, all bought in the same deal and all those MF combines as trade-ins!!)

Iceberg Lettuce harvesting in 1980 with the 1st home built rig made on an old County 1164 with cab removed & a creeper box fitted approx 15’wide by 14’tall. Lettuce in the front wrapped & boxed then out on pallets. Followed by lettuce spraying by a hardi sprayer on a MF135

The 1977 JD3130 baling with a New Holland 276 super hayliner with a McConnell Balepacker. Nearby Kingsclere Estates had a bale packer as well, poor devils!

Team ploughing, Billy Cook with his 1980 Ford TW20, followed buy a David Brown and a later 1978 JD3130 (one of 3 + 2x2130’s bought in one deal that year)

The Grimme SP77/2000 two row selfpropelled potato harvester, a 1977 ex demo machine bought from Richard Pearson of Boston.

The TW20 pulling a 1983-4 Elbar Soil Preperator. About machine number 5, basically a destoner/declodder with own seed storage & an Underhaug 2 row planter. Note the on farm control platform for Jessie Cook to control & watch for its many problems. Also note the handsome Farm Mechanic descending the ladder and later walking hand on hips!!

One of the 1978 JD3130’s with the 40ft Sequip trailed sprayer

1984 and a MF515 we inherited when taking on some rented ground nearby.

Potato planting 1984 with a new Grimme Tornado destoner on a County 974, at the headland is a Ford 7710 on the Rotaplanter, a Ford 6610 on a blench ridger/scrubber and a Sanderson 227TS teleporter

YouTube video4

A few general views of some Mather & Platt 8000 pea viners

The County lettuce harvester being loaded for its new home in Kent

1989 and one of the 4 Ford 7810s on the 1984 Grimme Q harvester loading a new AS Marston 14tonner trailer (one of 2) pulled by a “rubics cube” Ford 6610.

Destoning with 2 Grimme Tornados and next doors Ford 6610 as well. In the background is the 1987 Ford TW25 with the Simba 10ft series 2B discs

A Ford 7810 topdressing with an Amazone spreader

Various views of our New Holland TX36 with our NH8070 chasing it

Various views of destoning for potatoes, and the yard forklift with a few handy wafer weights on the back

Potato digging with next doors Silver Jubilee 7810 stuck on one of our Michael Brunton tandem trailers

Finally pea vining with a Shelbourne Renyolds SR9000 viner.

YouTube Video links

- 1 <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=fGCFe-tgsyQ>
- 2 <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=JuOxIxKtcqk>
- 3 <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=wHJsWsWwWr0>
- 4 <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=u2JYr17L6os>