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## Novatex presents its new Technology to give life to the Netwraps of the latest generation

# ME Tech: A keen eye to the future

Novatex netwraps have always been well known throughout the globe, there is no need to introduce the company, since farmers and contractors know the Novatex history very well. It's high standards have been seen in all its products over the decades.

Times are hard and Novatex wants to give a tangible contribution to the agricultural world to help share the burden and go successfully throughout these crucial years. This is the spirit with which Novatex is introducing the latest Exclusive Advanced Technology ME Tech, developed thanks to industrial research, patents and expert farmers to create excellent products capable of meeting the increasing user's requirements: reliability, sustainability, efficiency in an easy-to-use solution.

ME Tech is the result of important partnerships with top level Research Institutes Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Piacenza and the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia to improve fodder preservation in accordance with sustainable targets.

The goal is to help farmers feel more satisfied about their job and their rewards, by supporting them in getting the right solutions in order to have easier baling activities, obtain good profits and prioritise animal welfare through their cattle's biological feeding.

ME Tech is the answer to all these key issues for a farmer who is demanding excellence in netwraps. First of all, efficiency and profitability, because netwraps have to be able to protect the highest number of bales. Then they should weigh very little to make the operator's work easier. Last but not least, they have to be sustainable, in order to help in reducing plastic waste and preserve the environment.

The results for ME Tech are amazing: more net per roll, but with lighter rolls. Reduced packaging, less plastic used, and time saved in baling activities.

ME takes netwraps performance one step further. ME not only improves performance in the field but



significantly increases ease of use and respect for the environment.

The revolutionary procedure obtained with ME Tech has made it possible to obtain lighter rolls, with much more net per roll, for a significant increase in time-saving during operations in the field.

**ME guarantees also the increased efficiency of Medium Mesh.** While hooking up immediately, ME spreads better and guarantees improved tension. In this way, the greater the compression on the bale's surface, the better the water resistance. ME is also much easier to remove from the bale when preparing the TMR mixer wagon



### ME Tech is all about this. A keen eye to the future and the right current solution to farmers demands.

#### Features of ME at a glance Medium-sized mesh

ME+ is a performing solution that allows producing netwraps made of fewer chains with reinforced and thicker threads.

#### Higher Specific Strength

Novatex ME Technology gives the threads an amazing superior Specific Strength. This means: perfect protection of the forage over time.

#### Mesh with fewer knots

Knots are the critical points of any thread. Novatex ME netwraps have half the number of knots compared to standard netwraps.

#### Eco Friendly

The proven increase in strength of Novatex ME nets allows a significant reduction in the use of plastic while maintaining the highest standards available.

#### ME Benefits at a glance Better cling on the crops

ME Tech ensures optimal cling on the crops. Thanks to the wider angle of the weft, the ME net wraps hook up fast and easily.

#### More efficiency thanks to longer rolls

ME allow longer rolls, able to assist in their day-long working session: less downtime machine to change rolls, more bales per day.

#### Less plastic per roll, fewer grams per meter

ME high-tech features ensure more net per each roll, but with lighter rolls. This has a direct implication in the reduction of plastic use, plastic taxes, CO2 emissions, packaging and transport costs, since you can load many more rolls in the same truck and cut down transport charges.

More details can be found at [www.agri-novatex.co.uk](http://www.agri-novatex.co.uk)

## APE: Supporting farmers in recycling plastics used for baling, protection, and crop growth

Agricultural plastics play a vital role in modern agriculture in saving farmer inputs, water, energy, fertilisers, and pesticides. They perform a critical function in the silage fermentation process, and in protecting crops against diseases, pests, and climatic hazards. Improving yields and farm income as a result.

Although plastics play a vital role, we cannot allow plastics to impact soils, waterways, and oceans through poor end of life management.

The challenge of dealing with non-packaging agricultural plastics is everyone's responsibility. Landfill, incineration, or dumping are not acceptable alternatives to effective recycling.

#### Why APE?

40,000 tonnes of new agricultural plastics used for baling, protection and crop growth are sold each year. This results in around 80,000 tonnes of used agricultural plastics, including soilage on farms. Currently just 25 - 30% of these used plastics are being collected.

In creating a national collection and recycling operation, APE is focussed on supporting farmers to increase the volume of plastics collected off farms and reducing the costs of recycling. Therefore, providing farmers with a long-term, sustainable solution for the responsible end-of-life management of their used plastics.

#### What is APE?

APE (Agriculture, Plastics, Environment) is the industry body supporting farmers and collectors in recycling plastics used for baling, protection and crop growth.

We are backed by the major plastics manufacturers, distributors, agricultural merchants, and collectors.

APE is also working closely with farming, Assurance and Government bodies as well as independent recycling organisations.

APE's core objective is to increase the quantity of used agri-plastics collected to 80% by 2027.

#### What APE does:

##### 1. Works with the agricultural industry to increase plastics recycling:

APE is working with a national network of approved collectors already managing farm plastics collection to provide nationwide access to the Scheme.

Without a national recycling scheme, the alternative of Government legislation would add significant costs for farmers.

##### 2. Supports farm recycling through the APE Recycling Contribution:

APE pays the gate fees that Recyclers charge to take in used farm plastics.

So whilst farmers pay for the cost of collecting used agri-plastics, recycling charges are paid directly by APE. A direct saving to farmers of £30 - £45 / t.

APE's contribution to farmers' recycling costs is funded through a small APE Recycling Contribution charged on new plastic sales.

This APE Recycling Contribution, as an example, amounts to under 5p a bale on silage wrap.

As the scheme develops, APE will be in a position to further support farmers in reducing the overall costs of plastics recycling.

#### What APE have achieved so far:

- Lower costs for the farmer in recycling used non-packaging plastics.
- Since March 2021, APE has supported the recycling of 13,000 t. of used agricultural plastics, paying over £600,000 in recycling fees.
- APE has negotiated lower recycler gate fees. Eg: On Silage bale wrap, down by 33% for 2022.

#### How to use the scheme?

Farmers can get in touch with a local collector who is part of the APE scheme. Details are on the APE website:

<https://ape-uk.com>

#### Products in the APE scheme?

- Silage Bale Wrap
- Silage Sheeting / Cover
- Bale Net Wrap
- Bale Twine
- Crop Cover / Mulch Film
- Greenhouse / Tunnel film

COMING SOON:  
**IMPAX™**  
TOTAL WORKABILITY



YOU CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO USE IT

# Bringing home the best in netwrap

**Turmoil in global supply chains has put the pressure on farm inputs. To ensure farmers and contractors get what they need the market leading netwrap maker is drawing on its global strength, as Aviv Tron explains**

**First, can the latest developments in bale netwrap products really help British farmers and contractors be more efficient, more profitable, and more sustainable?**

"Yes, as farmers ourselves we believe we understand what farmers want and we've worked with all the baler manufacturers to help meet those needs. Farmers and contractors don't want to get down from the tractor cab, they want a perfect bale every time, with no stops, and as few roll changes as possible.

"We have always been about adding value for end users. Ever since the 1980s we've been first with every netwrap innovation, from roll-end warnings to edge-to-edge coverage, and TamaNet-Plus technology giving longer roll lengths, with the same or greater strength than competitors. That means better efficiency, cost control, and output – and 20-25% less plastic waste per bale."

"Cutting-edge products, top quality service and an uncompromising supply chain are what every customer can expect, allowing them to focus on what they do best, running their farm business."

**How have you coped with the rising costs of raw materials and energy, disrupted supply chains and the impact of covid?**

"The past two years have brought some big challenges. But despite it all Tama has been able to use its scale to work around the issues and supply loyal customers on time.

"The explosion in raw materials prices, which doubled after a 70% rise in oil prices, has been a big issue, and we could see it rise further. Energy costs in Europe trebled too. But as a global business we have been as prepared as anyone, with stocks of raw material and end product, so no market has gone short.

"The covid pandemic also meant we had to adjust to big swings in staff numbers. However, our skilled workforce

has kept production plants running at full capacity throughout.

"Logistics has been a major focus too. With group factories around the world, including Europe, Asia, Brazil and the USA, and logistics experts within the business, we have been able to organise freight movements so product supply to customers has not been affected.

**Is overall production capacity at risk?**

"Our focus is to concentrate on supply – so everything gets delivered, and on time. Significantly, Tama was also able to keep to its pricing plans, with more than 50% of UK netwrap sold at pre-season prices last year. That is the peace of mind we want our customers to have.

"We continue to grow and throughout it all we have continued to meet customer needs. We now have over 50% of the global netwrap market. Our next closest competitor has roughly 10%. We can only imagine how some producers have been suffering, especially with the threat of a plastics tax, so we're keeping watch for fresh opportunities!

**How does your approach help British farmers and contractors?**

"Having a dedicated team in the UK makes a big difference. They're familiar with the day-to-day business needs of customers, visit them regularly, and have a supply chain manager and a technical manager on-hand, all speaking the same language.

"That level of on-farm support, trouble-shooting and technical expertise is unique to Tama. It ensures issues can be anticipated and resolved fast, which is very different to competitors, who may have only one or two people travelling to farms and selling direct.

"Tama is a global business, with over 2000 employees, bringing the full breadth of expertise to everything we do. Our staff, facilities and scale of production mean we are successful worldwide. Customers can have faith in our business and our robust range of baling products."

**So, what is the next big netwrap advance farmers should look forward to?**

After many years of development TamaNet+ ROYAL highlights all that's best about our netwrap, drawing on 70 years of innovative farming experience. Using our Bale Lok Technology it needs just 2.5 wraps per bale in high-density cereals, which usually need 4-5 wraps per bale (see p??).

"Designed for high output contractors and farmers in tough baling situations it highlights the strengths of Tama netwraps. In on-farm evaluations it proved to be ultra-cost effective, saving up to 26% cost per bale, faster

than ever, requiring 40% less downtime, and uses 45% less plastic per bale, equivalent to 1000m less plastic for every 100 bales."

**How are you helping farmers meet their sustainability goals?**

"We are investing heavily in sustainability, both in time and resources, to develop first of a kind ecological solutions for crop baling products, which we are branding Tama Cycle.

"Our cooperation with Healix in the Netherlands, which is already supplying post-consumer recycled twine raw materials for us to replace virgin resources, underpins our Tama Cycle Twine.

"The challenge for netwrap is tougher, due to the contamination issues with used netwrap. So far we have produced Tama Cycle Netwrap using 30% recycled raw material from other sectors. It has performed just as Tama netwrap should in the field.

"The real goal, of course, is closed loop recycling, using recycled netwrap processed by Healix. We are looking forward to the first samples this year and we firmly expect to be first to market with closed loop netwrap. We really see Tama Cycle as the future of sustainable crop baling (see p??)."



**Tell us about yourself and how you became involved with netwrap.**

"You could say I was born into netwrap, in a village where one of Tama's netwrap production facilities is located. I started work there aged 15 and rose to be production manager before doing the same role at a factory

Tama had in the UK, in Nottingham. Upon returning to Israel I was production manager of our biggest site, producing 10,000 rolls of netwrap a week, before spending time in sales, then managing our plant in Galed, before moving to my current role as Netwrap Product Line Commercial Manager for Tama Group. I now oversee netwrap development, production and sales, using the best new technology for farmers and contractors all around the world. I am married with two young daughters and still live in the village where I was born. But my mother is from Scotland, so I have a UK passport, and enjoy visiting family in Glasgow and friends in Manchester. I'm a lifelong Manchester United fan too – which has been a bit of a tough ride over recent years!"

**"Farmers and contractors want a perfect bale every time, with no stops and as few roll changes as possible."**

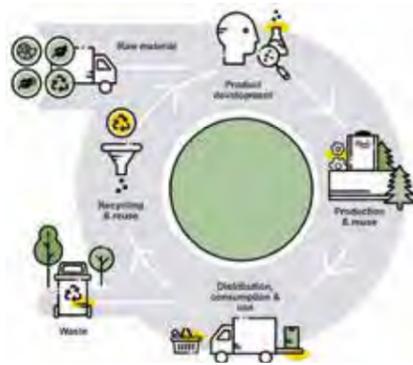
**"Tama has been able to use its scale to work around the issues and supply loyal customers on time."**

**"We really see Tama Cycle as the future of sustainable crop baling"**

# Rani Plast set to offer more flexibility and faster delivery

With nine factories in five different countries, a €250 million plus turnover, and 50 export countries, Rani Plast is one of the world's largest producers of agricultural film.

Continuous investments in innovative production equipment fuel Rani Plast's drive for more flexibility and faster delivery times. In fact, several new production lines will come into operation this year to better serve the company's customers and speed up its transition to a circular economy model.



In the summer of 2021, the company increased its production capacity through a seven-layer line for agricultural films. The line was an addition to the previously made investment: a 5-layer line installed in 2016. Another four extrusion lines are on order for agricultural and industrial films and will boost the factory's production, and its delivery times, from autumn onwards.

## Circular economy high on Rani Plast's agenda

Rani Plast aims for carbon neutral production by 2035. The company has already taken numerous steps to minimise waste and make the most of its resources. With the circular economy high on their agenda, Rani Plast ensures their products are manufactured, utilised and recycled in an environmentally friendly manner.

A new state-of-the-art re-granulation facility will be operational by autumn 2022. The new facility will melt down Rani Plast's production waste into new plastic granules and may well be used to re-granulate plastic waste from outside the company in the future.

## Reduced carbon footprint & unrivalled performance with RaniWrap Ecol

One of Rani Plast's latest launches is RaniWrap Ecol, a bale wrap containing 30% recycled raw material. Devised in response to customers demand for products with a reduced carbon footprint, the wrap's raw material is derived from recycled agricultural bale wrap. The new bale wrap has delivered excellent results!

Rani Plast distributes RaniWrap Ecol using Easy Pack to further boost sustainability and reduce the products' carbon footprint. The Easy Pack method enables Rani Plast to pack 20 rolls per pallet with robust cardboard end-pieces and makes boxing unnecessary. "This represents an 80% reduction of cardboard, further reducing the carbon footprint," said Christer Vidjeskog, Rani Plast Sales Manager.



Supporting Rani Plast's sustainability policy, the product's recycled content comprises recycled bale wrap and originates from a closed loop process.

## RaniRepel: the bale wrap that minimises losses

A new pest-repellent bale wrap, designed to protect against bird and rodent attack and, ultimately, reduce financial losses, was launched in 2019.

RaniRepel contains a non-toxic, natural active ingredient that repels crows, ravens, rats and mice but can't transfer to the baled crop or soil. RaniRepel is an excellent repellent that doesn't harm animals or interrupt the role they play in biodiversity.



# "You've got to be in it to win it!"

A spur-of-the-moment decision to enter a Tama CPA News competition is paying dividends for Pembrokeshire farmer and contractor Neil Batchelor.

Neil was one of two winners of a top-of-the-range crop preservative applicator system and moisture sensor – courtesy of PFC Agri Solutions – from a reader competition in our last issue.

"I was over the moon when I got the phone call – it was completely unexpected," said Neil. "I've never used anything like this before and, when I saw the prize, I thought it might be handy so it was certainly worth entering. In fact, if I hadn't won it, it's something I'd be thinking about buying."

As part of prize, Neil got the full five-star service, with PFC Agri's Andrew Snell coming out personally to fit the system to Neil's Claas 3200.

"It was probably a morning's work for him – it all looked fairly simple, although I suppose he knows what he's doing!"

"You drill a few holes, the main tank that holds the additive goes on and then just run the pipes out," explained Neil. "Getting the moisture sensors in position by the knotters looked like it took a bit of work, but it all works brilliantly."

The sensors hook up to a tablet in the cab so Neil can constantly monitor moisture and then adjust how much additive to use.

"We had just finished the hay when we got the system up and running but we had a couple of straw customers where it was a bit catchy so we used it on there to help them out.

"I'm definitely looking forward to using it more this year."

Neil takes the view that you've got to be in it to win it, when it comes to CPA News competitions.

"I do like to enter the competitions," he said. "You get these big ones on TV and social media and you're just one of millions who enter.

"But it's a much smaller community with these agricultural ones, so you've always got a chance.

"I'm proof of that!"

# Perfect prize

The prospect of a new moisture meter was enough to prompt Douglas Wright to enter last year's CPA News competition in partnership with PFC Agri Solutions.

"I've had one for quite a few years, but it's not particularly accurate so I was interested in a new one.

"So I'm pleased I entered because this one is definitely much better than the one I was using before."

Douglas, who runs a small mixed farm of beef and sheep alongside his P&G Wright contracting business in Coldingham on the Berwickshire coast, said he was amazed when he got the call to say he had won. "You enter these things and tend not to think about it again," he said.

Andrew from PFC Agri Solutions came to install the system personally, taking just a few hours.

"I've not had a chance to use the additive applicator yet I'll be looking to use it when the new season starts – we tend to use additives if we're doing haylage for horses and we've got a couple of people who use it for sheep silage.

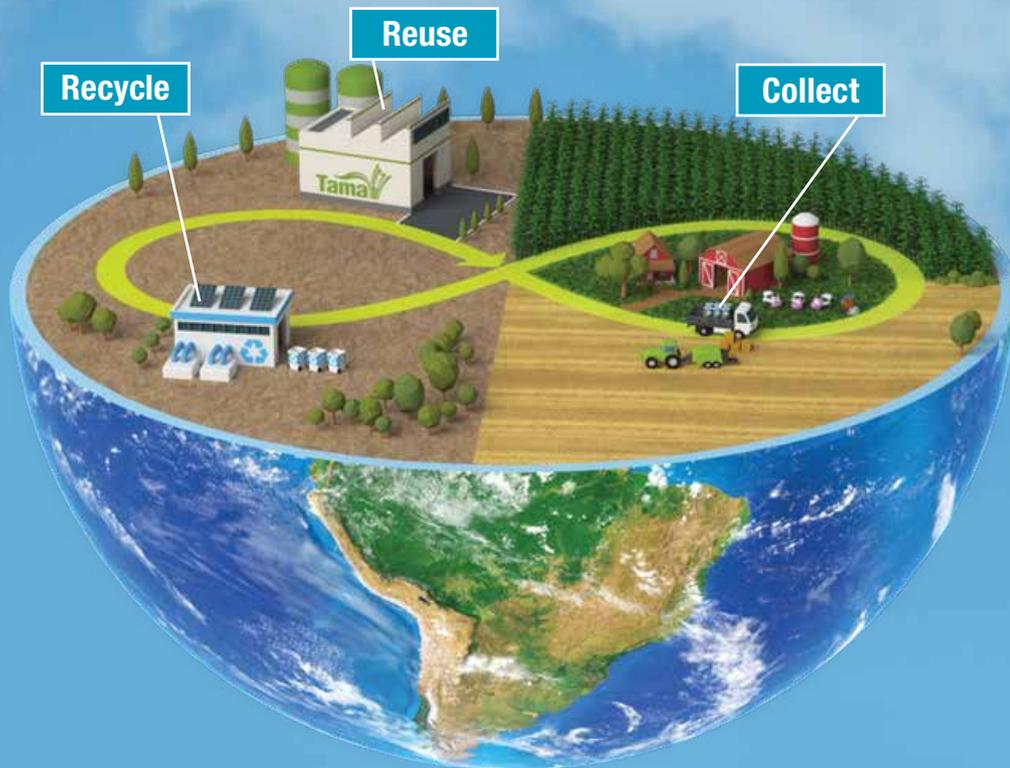
"But the moisture meter has been great – I enter these competitions sporadically and I'm really pleased I entered this one!"

Contractor Douglas Wright on his farm in Berwickshire



# Competition time!

You win - the environment wins



Join the draw for your chance to win Tama Cycle products -  
The first-of-its-kind made with recycled content.



Winners will be drawn in May 2022 and delivery of prizes will be made very shortly afterwards, to make sure you can use it for the harvest.

Register at any of the numerous tradeshows that the CPA will be attending, including Lamma. Look for the Tama team and come fill in your competition card.

Scan the QR to enter  
the competition online:



Crop Professionals' Association®

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