

# FARM MACHINERY



## INVERCARGILL

### USED TRACTORS

MF 6170; Brimar loader.....	\$39,500
Same 100.6; FX3760 loader.....	\$25,000
Renault 696RZ; Front weights.....	\$49,500
MF 6270; Factory cab.....	\$32,500
Same Exp 90; Complete with Pearson loader.....	\$25,000
Landini GHIBLI 100; Cab & loader.....	\$24,000
MF 7485; Complete with Quicke 75 loader.....	Arriving
Fendt 716; Complete with front linkage and PTO.....	Arriving
MF 6140; Complete with Quicke loader.....	Arriving
MF 6455; Complete with Quicke loader.....	Arriving

### USED EQUIPMENT

JD 578; 4x4, fixed chamber round baler.....	\$17,000
Snap Lock Duals; 14.9x38, 34" wheels, as new.....	\$4,500
Kuhn FC302; Trailed mower conditioner.....	\$10,000
Maschio; 3.5m power harrow.....	\$14,000
McHale 991BE; bale wrapper.....	\$25,000
Welger RP220; Master.....	\$28,000
Taege 5 Bale Round Bale Feeder.....	\$14,000
Taege 2 Bale, Trailing Round Bale Feeder.....	\$8,000
McHale Fusion; Baler Wrapper Combo.....	Arriving

All prices exclude GST

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## GORE

### USED TRACTORS

MF 6170; Duals, Brimar loader.....	O.B.O
Landini Mythos 110; Delta 5 trans, Trima loader.....	\$35,000
Manitou 730 LSU; Telehandler, 7metre, 3 ton.....	\$75,000
Fendt 716.....	Coming In

### USED EQUIPMENT

MF 185TB Baler, New Jan 2009, Tandem Axle, Knotter Blower, 3000 Bales

Save Thousands on New

McIntosh Bale Feeder; 3ptl.....	\$3,500
Fieldmaster 3mt Topper; 3ptl, tidy order.....	\$2,750
Lely 280TN; 2.8m multi-disc mower.....	—
Fieldmaster M70 Topper; Near-new condition.....	—
McHale Fusion; 43,000 bales, workshop serviced.....	Coming In

# Burn-off plans essential

LATE winter and early spring (August-October) is the time when high-country run farmers burn off scrub and tussock.

After a harsh winter, vegetation will be dry, so farmers need to be vigilant and the fires carefully managed and planned.

Most high-country runs require resource consent from the regional council and district council to burn, in addition to a fire permit from the appropriate rural fire authority. Check with local rural fire authorities whether a fire permit is required in your area.

To ensure that burns are undertaken safely and to achieve the desired result, the following need to be considered:

Timing of the burn: A narrow burn period is permitted in the high country. During this time, wind directions, among other things, will be unfavourable. Burns should not be lit in the morning as conditions, particularly wind speed and direction, may change.

Vegetation condition: Snow and frost dry tussock and grass by sucking out the moisture, making it easier to burn. If it is too dry, it becomes explosive and hard to control. Light a small test fire in an isolated area to see how the fire behaves before lighting up.

Control problem areas: Where are the areas the fire might escape or create problems i.e. cross-slope boundaries or up-slope areas with an ineffective top firebreak. Are tracks to be used as firebreaks grown over or



## Fire break

Advice by Mike Grant  
Southern Rural Fire Authority  
Principal Rural Fire Officer

steep-sided valleys, etc?

Weather conditions: This is the time of year for the equinox winds, strong to gale-force winds from the west and northwest, followed by south to southwest fronts. There may only be a few opportunities to burn safely and landowners/farmers should drop other work to take advantage of these windows rather than taking risks. Do not burn when strong winds are forecast or if they are forecast for two to three days after burning. Fires should be patrolled until they are out. Unstable air may create blow-up fire conditions and make the burn difficult to control. Inversion layers may result in pollution problems.

Firebreaks: Firebreaks will not stop a running fire unless they are wide, which is not possible in most situations. They should be used to demarcate the boundary of the area to burn and as a safe place to light your burn. An effective firebreak can be a natural barrier like rock scree, snowcap, rivers and streams, etc or they can be purpose-made, by clearing vegetation to mineral soil or using a chemical retard-

ant. Commonly in high-country areas, firebreaks are formed by burning the vegetation. This can be time-consuming and labour-intensive but effective if all vegetation is removed. The higher the vegetation close to the firebreak, the wider the firebreak needs to be. Any vegetation on your firebreak means the fire will burn across it so it must be removed.

Lighting patterns: Lighting patterns will quickly determine how the fire will behave and in many cases whether you will maintain control of the fire. If you are lighting from the air, tighter control is required as more area is lit quickly. If lighting from the ground, always light from the top and work down, as it is unsafe to light uphill. Use a buddy method and do not allow people on burners to work independently.

Communications: Always have a method of communication with all personnel working at the prescribed burn. Preferably, this should be two-way radio, so everyone is aware of what is happening.

Maps/plans: These should show the burn boundaries, roads/tracks, water points, hazards, escape routes, etc and be given to everyone involved.

Safety clothing: Synthetic clothing will melt and cause severe injuries if exposed to moderate heat. Everyone should be dressed in wrist-to-ankle clothing (including head protection) of either cotton or wool.

Access: Consider access into

and out of the burn area, escape routes and safety zones if things go wrong. Make sure everyone is aware of them.

Lookouts: Consider placing someone as a lookout at a safe location to report on weather conditions, fire progress, light-up progress and location of people.

Control: Someone must be appointed who will be responsible for and control all operations on the day. This person should not become personally involved in burning but should manage the operation, preferably from a static location.

Water supplies: Where are these located and what capacities are they?

Personnel requirements, numbers, experience and locations.

Equipment resources and requirements, especially if the fire gets out of control.

Plan for fire suppression: This is a crucial component of planning for the prescribed burn. Everyone must be fully prepared to quickly change focus from lighting up to fire suppression should you have an escape.

Safety briefing: A safety briefing should be carried out before the prescribed burn and must include all of the above points. Everyone involved must know exactly what is required of them.

Contact your local rural fire authority to clarify specific areas of concern relating to your particular location and environment.