

## New design of threshers leads to sales successes

ALVAN BLANCH DEV Co UK, a widely recognised name in Africa for over 40 years, has begun a new policy of reviewing manufacturing processes and developing improved designs for those of its products that are principally aimed at African markets in a push to drive down prices and challenge its competitors. Worldwide sourcing of components and superior engineering has made this a reality, says the company. A good example is the Alvan Blanch range of threshers: to further improve their already competitive selling price, the machines are now produced in kit form at the factory in England for local assembly by engineers in Africa.

Alvan Blanch are able to offer threshers that are competitively priced, but nevertheless extremely robust and well-engineered. Efficient threshing takes place with a rasp-bar drum aided by a unique air-assisted straw separator and aspiration system for final grain cleaning. Each unit is offered with a choice of tractor PTO, diesel or petrol engine. There are two models, the 1 ton/hour Aspra-Master and the 1.5 ton/hour Aspra-Major.

The improvements in Alvan Blanch's manufacturing processes reflect an effort across the product range to drive down prices through a push for higher efficiency whilst maintaining a high quality precision build. The company believes that this policy enables it to remain highly competitive with its Far Eastern competitors. This new pricing policy has led to significant recent sales successes.

For more information about Alvan Blanch Products, including drying and milling, please visit the company website at [www.alvanblanch.co.uk](http://www.alvanblanch.co.uk). Prices are available upon request.



Final assembly of 30 Aspra-Master threshers for the Ministry of Agriculture in Freetown, Sierra Leone.



Preparing thirty Aspra-Major threshers for shipment to Yobe State in Nigeria.

## One-stop machine shop for biosecurity

BIOSECURITY IS A highly integrated and rigidly controlled programme comprising sequential steps of cleaning, wet disinfection and terminal disinfection by thermal (hot) fogging. Biosecurity is definitely not a 'one machine' job. Few companies have the range of machinery required to mount such an operation, but E. Allman & Company Ltd of Chichester, West Sussex in the UK, with almost everything from power washers and trailed sprayers to knapsack sprayers and thermal foggers, is one of the few that does. The equipment required for biosecurity operations, and available from E. Allman includes:

- Pressure washers, both petrol and diesel driven from the Honda and Yanmar ranges
- Mobile sprayers for wet disinfection including the Allman Utility Sprayer, the Allman Trolley Sprayers and the CR 125P Pedestrian Sprayer for pushing and pulling around hard to access areas.
- Portable sprayers including the L80A Knapsack Mistblower, the Allman

HD-16 16-litre manual knapsack sprayer, the X15 version with its bigger pump capacity and spray management valve for extra economy in application, and the hand-held Allman Electric-Spray.

- Last but definitely not least is the SN50 series of thermal (hot) foggers, completely portable and used for the crucial terminal disinfection of poultry houses, storage areas and other enclosed spaces such as trucks and poultry transporters.

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## Namibia Breweries gains global profile

WINDHOEK-BASED NAMIBIA Breweries Ltd (NBL) took a major step forward in gaining global awareness for its leading premium lager beers by scooping a gold medal in the prestigious bi-annual UK Brewing Industry International Awards presented in London on 15 March. In the first award ever made to an African brewing company, NBL's Windhoek Light brand (2.4 per cent alcohol content) gained a gold in the non-alcoholic and low-alcohol beer category. The best of 753 individual beers from 43 countries had previously been chosen through "blind-tasting" by 31 professional brewers from 17 countries, in Germany in September 2005.

The brewing process used for Windhoek Light, as for all Nambrew's premium lager products (Windhoek Lager, Tafel Lager) conforms to the German "purity law", in which only natural ingredients - malted barley, hops and water - can be used. NBL manager for Southern Africa, Solomon Willis says by brewing according to the Reinheitsgebot, "we also benchmark the quality of Windhoek beers against the high standard of global competitors".

NBL is one of Africa's few remaining independent breweries, and the only one to brew its beers without the use of chemical preservatives or artificial ingredients. It is the second-largest of eight local firms listed on the Namibia Stock Exchange with a current market capitalisation of N\$454mn (US\$74mn). NBL exports to some 22 countries in all.

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