

Samasz XT340 mower:



The XT factor

Looking more stylish than previous Samasz mowers, the XT is part of a new range that currently encompasses two models, the featured 340 and larger 390. Although it has been around for a couple of seasons now, we only caught up with the XT for a closer look in 2021

When we looked at the Samasz KDD912 mower in our 4/2021 practical test, we were happy enough with the unit's in-field performance and overall build quality. But, while the price was equally attractive, the one detractor was that the machine just didn't look the part with its bulky frame and plethora of springs. Well, all of that changes with the introduction of the side-mounted XT. So far there are just the two working widths, 3.40m and 3.90m in the form of the aptly designated XT340 and XT390. However, the Polish machinery maker says it will be using the same central pivot/hydraulic suspension set-up on smaller working widths as well as a new variant with a conditioner. We can also imagine the same or a similar design being employed in a rear butterfly as an alternative to the mechanically suspended KDD unit.

Proven bed

There is no change at the cutting edge: the XT employs the same in-house PerfectCut bed as on other Samasz mowers. In the case of the 340 this is an eight-disc bed, with two knives per disc.

Last season Samasz also changed its knife design, going from a 105mm long blade to 110mm with a slightly different pitch for a better performance in bulky crops. The XT's standard skids under the welded bed give a cutting height of 6-9cm, though there is the option of high-lift skids which /do just that,

increasing the stubble height to 9-12cm. The top link also plays its part in determining cut height. The blades are all quick-change, with the supplied tool used to pry open the holder.

Two stages of protection

Like most side-mounted mowers, there is a hydraulic break-back system if the machine meets an obstacle in work. On the XT the main support arm swings back, simultaneously raising the welded bed to the point that the inner disc has 50cm of rearward travel.

Secondary protection is in the form of the ShearGear system. Which is exactly what it is, the shaft shearing when the disc smacks a stone (or anything else not forage) and preventing damage to the rest of the bed driveline. It is then a matter of replacing the shaft, or, if there has been some more serious mischief, the damaged module.



The Samasz XT is available in two working widths, 3.40m and 3.90m. Our profi Poland colleagues had a chance to try out the smaller version, which can produce a 2.00m to 2.25m wide swath

Swathing discs are used to control the row width, which can be adjusted from its widest 2.35m down to 2.00m. The latter may still be too wide for some pick-ups if working directly behind the mower.

Shaft drive, hydraulic ride

Samasz has used a shaft-based driveline for the XT, sourcing the gearboxes from fellow Polish firm Starosielski. Standard pto speed is 1,000rpm, but you can opt for 540rpm. To save the long-suffering universal joints from excessive grief when the mower is raised, a proximity sensor on the frame prevents the arm from lifting too far.

One of the main features that sets the XT apart from the 2.6m to 3.4m, vertical fold KT is the over-centre transport position. With the XT swinging over to 125°, the weight of the 3.4m or 3.9m machine sits much more evenly on the tractor's linkage. The four integrated parking stands mean that the mower can be stored in its folded position, taking up less overall shed space.

In the field, the work pressure of the hydraulic suspension is shown on a large gauge on the headstock. Two red arrows align on the dial to show you are in the right zone and make the gauge even easier to see from the cab. During our brief test the hydraulic suspension worked well, allowing the mower to follow the ground contours.

Other details

- A small, simple in-cab control box is used to regulate the bed pressure.
- Road lighting and marker boards are fitted as standard.
- Samasz pinpoints the top speed at 15km/hr depending on conditions.
- Blades are quick-change with a supplied tool for the job. The blade holder has an inward claw to reduce the risk of losing a blade.

- The blade holders are interchangeable, so, when worn, the complete disc doesn't need to be replaced.
- The tarp covers have the same turn button fasteners that were not very robust on the KDD we used in our earlier practical test. It also has the metal end guard with no protective hoop – something that would be useful on a plain mower when asked to do a spot of topping and encountering the occasional fence post.

Summary: The XT is the first of a new range of mowers coming from Samasz, so don't be surprised if you see a conditioner version in the not too distant future. Speaking of the future, the XT has a two-year warranty as standard. But perhaps the most striking thing on this new mower is that it looks a lot more upmarket, with its over-centre folding and less mechanical clutter. It will be interesting to find out how one of these units performs throughout a full season in the heavy grass crops of northern Europe.

Artur Jakubek, Mervyn Bailey



Lifting the mower in and out of work is done via this neat little in-cab controller.



Folding over centre to 125° helps to keep the 3.40m mower balanced on the tractor's linkage as well as reducing overall height.

DATA SHEET

Samasz XT340

Linkage	Cat II/III
Work width	3.40m
Swath sizes	2.00-2.25m
Discs	Eight, each with two blades
Transport width	2.35m
Transport height	3.85m
Hydraulic requirement	One double-acting
Pto	1,000rpm with 540rpm optional
Weight	1,240kg
Price	€18,000 (Ireland)

Manufacturer information

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