

Revolutionary new tillage system

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From the direct heart of the USA to Toowoomba in January, John McCoy, President of Orthman Manufacturing Inc journeyed with his Australian distributor, Peter Jack. Founded in Nebraska in 1965 by Henry Orthman, a farmer turned manufacturer, the Orthman company specializes in making tillage equipment and commercial and industrial conveyance systems. They employ 140 staff and sell their products to agricultural dealers in America and have been exporting to the Australian market since the 70's.

The purpose of John's visitation was to demonstrate a precision pre-plant tillage system called the 1tRIPr (pronounced one tripper). The revolutionary all in one tillage unit offers a unique combination of ripping, accurate placement of fertilizer and seed bed preparation. Developed in conjunction with a western Nebraska farmer Lynn Fleming who had the ingenious idea.



John and his team supported Lynn in his idea and worked on developing the 1tRIPr over a lengthy period of time. It evolved through lots of hard work, different engineering processes, trial and error and in conjunction with soil science research. It has been specifically built to till more acres with less labour, reduce soil erosion and retain more water in the soil. The innovative design means that the 1tRIPr can be run as a stand alone machine or can be directly attached to the planter to perform multiple operations in a single pass. According to one farmer in Nebraska he estimates that his labour needs, tractor hours, depreciation and fuel burn have been at least halved compared to how he was tilling and planting before. Soil compaction has been nearly eliminated too. To find out more about this great new tillage system you can speak to Jeff Jaques in our Toowoomba branch. The 1tRIPr is available now in Vanderfield branches.