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Media Release

Do your tyre maintenance and have a Goodyear

Goodyear admits that farmers can't influence the weather to get the most out of their land, but farmers can improve their bottom line through efficient management of machinery, including tyres.

Goodyear farm tyre specialist, Steve Ryan, said that tyre management – choosing the correct tyre, regularly checking tyre pressure and annual wheel alignments – shouldn't be dismissed when doing machinery maintenance.

"For each machine, I encourage farmers to seek advice when selecting tyres, regularly checking tyre pressure and having wheel alignments yearly, otherwise you're not getting the most out of your tyres and this will cost you money each time you go around the paddock," Mr Ryan said.

"For example, incorrectly aligned tyres on a tractor can increase tyre wear by an average of 40 per cent. In monetary terms, if your front tyres cost \$700 a pair you could be losing \$280 in unnecessary wear and tear. Also, ensure that you aren't carrying more ballast than required. Excess ballast will decrease your tractors performance as well as waste fuel.

"Add to that the extra fuel used because of the increased effort needed to move the tractor and you can see why it makes sense to check wheel alignment at least once a year," he said.

To maximise the benefits of Goodyear's range of high-tech farm tyres, it is essential that tyre pressures are checked and adjusted as required to suit the implement that you are working with. In simple terms, tyres that run at the correct pressures have a longer life, are safer and give better fuel economy.

The correct pressure depends on both the load the tyre is subjected to tractor and implement and the application the vehicle is undertaking.

So without carrying around a tyre pressure gauge all of the time, how can you tell if your tyre is under or over inflated? Simple really, just look at the tread pattern the tyre makes on a flat hard surface.

"In an under-inflated tyre the lug reveals wear towards the shoulder of the tyre with less pressure in the centre; wear will also be seen towards the rear of the lug," Mr Ryan said.

"In an over-inflated tyre, wear is more pronounced in the centre section and on the front of the lug.

"Ignore this advice and a range of damaging consequences can ensue: uneven or heel and toe wear leading to a shortened life; reduced driver comfort and the possibility of back and productivity problems associated with this; rim slipping inside the tyre and poor vehicle handling leading to significantly increased safety issues; increased wear of axle

and cab suspension components and finally an increased possibility of puncture, damage or premature removal of the tyre carcass,” he said.

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About Goodyear

Goodyear is the world's largest tyre company. The company was formed in 1898 and manufactures tyres, engineered rubber products and chemicals in more than 80 facilities in 28 countries around the world.

The Goodyear tyre range incorporates technology and advances in tyre design gathered from Goodyear's research and development teams located around the world. The company manufactures tyres for many applications including car, van, truck, farm, earthmover and aviation.

For more information on Goodyear, visit www.goodyear.com.au