



With its unique design, the Massey Ferguson RB 4160P Protec baler's wrapping unit is rugged enough to easily wrap silage bales that could weigh nearly 3,000 pounds. Yet it's compact enough for greater maneuverability in the field and ease when transporting and storing.

Massey Ferguson RB 4160P Protec Baler Redefines Forage Production

Versatile baler-wrapper combo offers unparalleled flexibility at harvest, allowing growers to maximize the nutritive value of their forages.

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With the new Massey Ferguson RB 4160P Protec combo baler from AGCO, producers can focus on harvesting forage at optimum condition, preserving it at peak nutritive value for livestock. The baler features an integrated bale-wrapping unit, allowing producers to harvest and ensile high-moisture forages in one simple process.

News at a Glance

- The Massey Ferguson® RB 4160P Protec baler combines features found on the company's RB Series silage balers with an integrated bale-wrapping unit. This allows growers to produce high-quality "baleage," ideal for both dairy and cow-calf operations.
- With the Protec baler, a single operator can produce "hay in a day," especially in damp environments where traditional hay drydown would be a challenge. Onboard net wrap and film capacity allows an operator to wrap up to 280 bales in one trip to the field.
- With the exception of replenishing net wrap and film, all aspects of harvest are controlled through the in-cab monitor. Operators can easily remedy issues such as pickup plugging without leaving the cab, thanks to the exclusive HydroFlex Control™, the baler's hydraulically controlled floating floor. More time in the seat increases productivity.
- Like other RB Series balers, the RB 4160P is equipped with a cam-less pickup. Fewer moving parts makes the baler quieter and more reliable. The compact wrapping unit also folds for transport and storage.

DULUTH, GA – [AGCO Corporation](#) (NYSE: AGCO), a global leader in the design, manufacture and distribution of agricultural machinery and precision ag technology, introduces the Massey Ferguson® RB 4160P Protec combo baler. Now, producers can focus on harvesting forage at optimum condition, preserving it at peak nutritive value for livestock — even when Mother Nature doesn't cooperate.

With the Protec, AGCO continues its legacy of offering innovative hay and forage solutions. The unit combines all the features found on the RB Series silage balers with an integrated bale-wrapping unit, allowing producers to harvest and ensile high-moisture forages in one simple process.

"In climates with high humidity and lots of rain, putting up hay traditionally can be a challenge, so many forage growers are turning to baled silage," says Dane Mosel, marketing product specialist for hay

and forage at AGCO. "Not only do they avoid the drydown issues, but they can harvest their forage at the ideal growth stage for maximum nutritional value."

Whether harvesting forage for a dairy or beef operation, the versatile RB 4160 Protec can handle any crop a grower wishes to bale. In addition to plastic-wrapped baleage, the machine can be used to mesh wrap forage before bagging as silage, as well as to bale dry hay, straw and even course material such as corn stover.

Individually wrapped bales offer feed quality and transport advantages

Capturing and preserving a forage's nutritional value is one benefit of silage. Mosel says that by wrapping a silage bale as soon as it leaves the bale chamber, more protein and nutrients are retained for animals to consume.

"It takes less than a minute from the time forage enters the Protec's pickup to the time the wrapped bale is released," he says. "That preserves the nutritional quality the grower worked so hard to achieve in that crop. Feeding such premium-quality forage may actually lower ration costs because you don't need to feed as much or need as many supplements."

In 2020, AGCO hay and forage specialist Jessica Williamson conducted a field trial comparing forage quality from silage bales that were wrapped at varying intervals after baling. She found that delaying the wrapping process by as little as 24 hours led to a nearly 4 percent decrease in the availability of digestible proteins, as well as reductions in total digestible nutrients and volatile fatty acid score, an indicator of the success of the ensiling process.

Mosel notes that inline tube wrapping delays the ensiling process, because the bales must first be moved to the field edge or a central location. Air can be trapped in the space between tube-wrapped bales, reducing effective fermentation. Quality also may be lost when the tube is opened and oxygen is reintroduced to the bales inside.

"Once that seal is broken, the forage inside is susceptible to spoilage, especially when the weather gets warm," he adds. "That's not a concern when bales are wrapped individually. They also can be transported, stored or sold with relative ease."

Commercial-strength engineering ensures reliability

Built with durability and long life in mind, the Protec baler has a robust chassis and rides on high-flotation tires selected to handle the machine's 14,000-pound weight. The baler components — including the pickup, bale chamber and net-wrap system — are identical to the RB 4160V silage baler, which debuted at the 2018 Farm Progress Show and produces 4-by-5-foot bales.

"We have standard RBs in the field with 50,000 to 60,000 bale counts and still going strong, so these balers are built to handle whatever you can throw at them," Mosel says.

With a tine-to-tine width of 73 inches, the cam-less pickup ensures that even heavy, wet forages feed smoothly into the bale chamber. Because there is no cam track, there are fewer moving parts, making the baler both quieter and more reliable with less maintenance and fewer adjustments.

The Protec baler features two banks of Xtracut™ hydraulically operated knives. Operators can select zero, eight, nine or 17 knives to attain forage cuts as small as 2.65 inches in length, allowing for improved forage digestibility. Once the crop is inside the bale chamber, the Constant Pressure System (CPS) ensures density stays consistent through the entire baling process.

"The denser the bale, the less oxygen when it's wrapped, which improves the ensiling process," Mosel says, adding that the Protec's variable chamber forms bales that are 4 feet wide and 35.5 to 63 inches in diameter.

Wrapping is easy with Protec

With its unique design, the combination baler's wrapping unit is rugged enough to easily wrap silage bales that could weigh nearly 3,000 pounds. Yet it's compact enough for greater maneuverability in the field and ease when transporting and storing.

In addition to two rolls of net wrap, the RB 4160P can carry 14 rolls of 750mm or 500mm film on board. Three film pre-stretching options are available, depending on manufacturer recommendations.

"With that amount of mesh and film, the unit can wrap 224 bales in eight layers of plastic or up to 280 bales in six layers, so the Protec can run all day," says Mosel, adding that the Easy Load System (ELS™) makes mesh roll replacement a cinch. "Sensors automatically detect if film breaks or if a roll runs out, and the baler compensates to ensure that bales are always completely wrapped."

Innovative features maximize baling opportunities

The entire RB Series is engineered with productivity in mind. An operator can track bale formation, control cutter engagement and select knife banks all from the intuitive E-link Pro™ touch-screen monitor inside the tractor cab. The only reason to leave the seat would be to replenish net wrap and film.

Even a plugged pickup can be remedied from the cab thanks to the HydroFlex Control™ system with its hydraulically controlled floating floor.

"Should the baler get plugged, the operator can disengage the knives and lower the rear of the feed table floor from the in-cab monitor, allowing the crop to enter the bale chamber," Mosel explains. "Then, the machine can be re-engaged and baling can continue. There's no jumping out of the cab. No need to get hot, sweaty and dirty crawling under the baler."

The baler comes standard with a rear-mounted camera, providing the operator with a view of the wrapping table and the ability to monitor bale transfer, wrapping and release. Maintenance is simple. The baler features easy-to-access grease banks and an automatic chain lube system.

"The RB 4160P Protec combo baler is an ideal tool for producers who want to maximize the return on investment from their forages and provide their livestock with the absolute best feed," Mosel says. "It's an all-in-one solution for forage."

To learn more about the Massey Ferguson RB 4160P Protec combo baler, contact your local Massey Ferguson dealer or visit [masseyferguson.us](https://www.masseyferguson.us).

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