Press Release

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New camera improves detection of hues of blue

LEMKEN introduces the new IC-Light+ camera control, which also detects the near-infrared range, for its Steketee hoeing machines. The new camera control makes detection easier in crops with a high proportion of blue in the leaves. This offers clear advantages in mechanical weed control, especially in the cultivation of onions, leeks, broccoli or red cabbage.

The internally developed standard IC-Light camera system in LEMKEN Steketee hoeing machines captures the RGB colour range and reliably distinguishes between hues of green and red. Thanks to its self-learning mode, the system continuously develops as it is being used. The new IC-Light+ camera now also captures hues of blue as well, allowing even very young plants or plants with a particularly fine structure to be better identified and shown. The camera easily handles even onions the size of a pin.

The IC-Light+ camera is operated via the IC-Light terminal and allows hoeing as close as two centimetres from crop plants at forward speeds of up to 15 km/h. The camera detects up to five rows of plants at a time and controls the steering of the hoeing machine between the rows.

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About LEMKEN: LEMKEN enjoys a worldwide reputation as a visionary, sustainably operating company that makes an important contribution to profitable agriculture. A medium-sized German family company, LEMKEN has applied its expertise and passion for progress for 243 years, delivering solutions for the challenges confronting agriculture today and tomorrow. The company's product range includes tillage implements, seed drills, hoeing machines, fertiliser spreaders and smart solutions for agricultural data management.

Press Contact
Marie Ehses
Phone +49 2802 81 - 250
m.ehses@lemken.com
www.lemken.com

Fig. 1: Camera image of the LEMKEN Steketee IC-Light+ camera system while hoeing an onion crop

Fig. 2: LEMKEN Steketee EC-Weeder with IC-Light+ camera system