

JASOPELS WRAP MACHINE T5 MAXI STRETCH

Konrad Piwoński, a farmer and co-owner of Kozfur Sp. z o.o. in Poland, uses Jasopels WRAP Machine T5 Maxi Stretch. "After completing tests on the farm, we see that there's a chance of stretching a few percent longer skins when using Jasopels WRAP Machine T5 Maxi Stretch", says Konrad Piwoński.

As mink breeders, you went to using machines for the production processes a long time ago. You are using the latest solutions. Was WRAP Maxi Stretch a technological leap for you?

At present, the machine grabs the skin from four sides, holds it and pulls at the same time. When it's getting stretched, the skin is automatically processed. Such facilitation was unheard of in the past.

How much time have you saved thanks to Jasopels product?

Based on my example and experience, I can say that the latest solutions, like WRAP, reduce the processing time by half. Without machines, the stretching of the skins was a hard and time-consuming process. In the past we had to do it manually using wooden boards. Later, we introduced first machines, and processing was based on two-sided stretching technique - first the back, then front and tail. It took a long time. Then, latest machines, like WRAP and other machines performing all the steps, started to be introduced.

However, WRAP Maxi Stretch is not only making the work easier. Kozfur's example shows that Jasopels solutions improve skins' specifications.

Many breeders are hesitant to introduce Jasopels' stretching machine. They say that it's slower than other solutions. They are somewhat right, but for most breeders the speed of work is not the only important factor. You should also pay attention to the stretching precision and size of the skin obtained.

What were the results of testing at Kozfur?

Very good. We are able to stretch the skins by a few per cent, at least one size. We could not get such results on the previous machines. It must be remembered that the skin's length is the most important. This specification directly translates into profit and allows for savings throughout the production cycle.



Have you checked how the latest technology translates into the final result?

It's a massive gap. Even if Jasopels WRAP is slightly slower, we are able to stretch several more skins on it than we were able several of years ago. Apart from that, the drying process is quicker.

Is WRAP easy to use?

Yes, even very easy.

Have you tried yourself?

Certainly. As in case of any machine, you need a few days to become proficient at using it. Operating WRAP is not a big problem. Working with minks was one of the most difficult jobs in Poland even twenty years ago. Nowadays, with the use of Jasopels machines, it's much easier. With such automated solutions, it is not a problem to find people willing to work with minks. Employees definitely appreciate all the changes that help to reduce the effort needed.

Can you imagine going back to the previously used solutions?

Without the machines, we would have reverted to the Stone Age. I doubt that people, who do pelting nowadays, would want to perform their jobs in the manner we used to work in the 90s. I think that 90 per cent of the team would resign.

How long have you been doing this kind of business?

We established the company in 1995, so we have been breeding minks for 20 years. It's been a long time - I haven't even noticed the time passing.

Where did you get the machines you used first?

The first machines and necessary equipment was brought from The Netherlands. We have learned everything there. I and my friend worked on breeding farms, and when we returned we came up with an idea to open our own mink breeding farm. Initially it was difficult to buy the equipment in Poland, because it was quite a new field. People heard about mink breeding, but such breeding was not at all popular.



- **Selection of parameters depending on the skin**
- **"Pull and release" method**
- **Optimal skin stretching**
- **Quick switching between skin types**