



The Blacks

York, South Carolina

OPERATION: Raise peaches, pumpkins and other produce, as well as hay, wheat and oats; also operate a seasonal roadside produce stand and corn maze.

NEWEST TRACTOR: MF2660

USES FOR TRACTOR: spray orchard, loader work, pull inline Hesston 4560 square baler (25,000 bales/year) and Hesston 540 round baler (1,000 bales/year). Also use MF2660 with MF1329 10-foot disc mower, MF39 6-row planter and MF43 grain drill.

DEALER: Nance Tractor, McConnells, S.C.

Above Proving he listened to advice from his father, Arthur (left), Paul Black recently purchased his own Massey Ferguson tractor, an MF2615.

WHEN ASKED IF HE OWNED ANY MASSEY FERGUSON EQUIPMENT prior to his MF2660, Arthur Black takes a deep breath and launches into the list. “We’ve had seven or eight 135’s. Had some 2705’s, some 175’s, some 265’s, a 699, an 1135, 1105’s, 1100’s, a 30B loader, planters and all that stuff with Massey.

“So,” he concludes, “I’ve been with Massey a good long while.”

He then answers the next question—why he uses Massey Ferguson—before the interviewer can complete the sentence. “Fuel efficiency,” he says.

He explains that he used a Kubota for sprayer work prior to his MF2660: “We’d crank up at 7:00 to start spraying peaches, and at 12:00, it was out of fuel. And this Massey, it’ll run till 3:00 or 4:00. We were pulling the same thing, you know? That makes a heap of difference when you spray peaches 25, 26 times a year.”

To be fair, Black notes that the Kubota, which he bought used because “the price seemed right,” was several years older than his MF2660, but it was also as much as 1,800 pounds lighter. That should’ve “meant something for fuel efficiency,” he says.

“The wheel base was shorter too, and it turned quicker, but it would beat you to death. It was just a lot rougher tractor.”

Black, who says he’s put 1,200 hours on his MF2660 in just two years, also likes “the hydraulics on the Masseys. I’ve got a couple of Hesston balers, and the hydraulics have enough flow to run the accumulator I have on them. They work a whole lot better than that Kubota, as well as a John Deere I tried once.

“I’ve got a lot going on here with the hay, the corn maze and all the produce for the roadside stand,” continues Black. “I’ve got to have tractors that can do lots of jobs ... that I can rely on.

“I’ve also got six different people that will get on these tractors and run them,” he says, “and it’s easier for them to operate these Masseys than it was some of these others. They’re just simple, basic tractors that do the job.”

>>