## Energy savings in drying

# Need for drying

- During drying water is removed from the material
- For every evaporated water kg 0.15 l of oil is needed
- To dry 1 ha yield 30 70 l of oil is needed depending on moisture content of grain



Grain moisture content %

# Energy savings in drying

- Technically it is possible to decrease energy consumption more than 50%
- Oil usage can be stopped by moving to renewable energies – drying can be done with biofuels
- Drying can be omitted by changing to other preservation techniques
- Remember that to save energy investments must be done – economy is for the farmer more important than energy savings



# Energy savings



- Adjustment of oil burner, effect 0 – 15 %
- Drying during good weather, effect 0 – 20 %
- Insulation of dryer, effect 10 20 %
- High drying temperature, effect 10 – 15 %
- Avoiding overdrying, effect 0 – 20 %
- Heat recovery from outlet air, > 50 %

# Oil burner adjustment

### Laskentaperuste

Vilja-ala Puintikosteus Varastointikosteus Sato

100	ha
22 %	
13 %	
3500	kg/ha

## <u>Öljypolttimen säätö, vaikutus 0 – 15 %</u>

Energiansäästö	_
Kustannus €	400
Säästö	5,0 %
Säästö €/v	190
Takaisinmaksuaika v	2,1



## Efficiency in oil burning



Liekkilevy

Öljyn esilämmitys-

vastus

Liekinvartija

Adjustment of burner air amount has effect on

- SFlue gas temperature
- CO<sub>2</sub> content
- losses



# Insulation

### Dryer insulation effect is 10 – 20 %

Energiansäästö	
Kustannus €	2000
Säästö	10,0 %
Säästö €/v	379
Takaisinmaksuaika v	5,3









20 C - 20 C 70 C 10 C House Dryer

Insulation also increases dryer capacity!

# High drying temperature

- High temperature increases water movement speed inside the grain
- Hot air can engage more water from the grain
- Increase of temperature
  - Decreases energy consumption
  - Increases dryer capacity
  - Increases dryer heat losses insulation becomes more important
  - High temperature damages baking properties and germination



## **Results of experiments**



Lähde: Suomi et al. 2003. Viljan korjuu ja varastointi laajenevalla viljatilalla. Maa- ja elintarvike 31.

# Effect of drying air temperature on germination



Drying air temperature 119°C, fast grain circulation

# Heat recovery

- Outlet air heat can be used to warm up inlet air
- Recovery rate can be over 50%
- Difficult to realise and expensive
- Outlet dust complicate heat recovery unit functions



## Renewable energy in grain drying

- Wood chip
  - Fuel must be reserved in advance
  - Investments must be doen, new furnace, automatic fuel feed, automatic ash removal
- Bio-oil
  - Existing furnaces can be used
  - Economical only if the crushed rape seeds can be utilised as animal feed
- Grain
  - Poor quality grain could be used to heat the furnace
  - Is burning of grain ethically acceptable?
- Utilize of biomass heat unit
  - Farms may have biomass heating units to heat dwelling and animal houses
  - In most cases dryer power demand is much higher than heating unit power
  - Dryer furnaces work wiht air and heating units with water, problems in assemblies

# Wood chips





- 1. Hakkeen syöttöputki, 2. Hakkeen jakaja,
- 3. Tuliputki, 4. Arina, 5. Muuraus, 6. Tuhkatila

### Gasification unit

- Existing oil furnace can be utilised
- Heating power is lower than with oil



#### Näppärä-stoker

 Hakesiilo, 2. Vesipalosulku, 3. Syöttöruuvi,
Palamisilmapuhallin, 5. Hakepoltin, 6. Kuivuriuuni

Wood chip burner (stoker)

•New furnace must be purchased

# Economy of wood chips

Calculation basis	
Grain area	100 ha
Harvest moisture content	22%
Yield	3500 kg/ha
Oil price	56 cnt/l

Vaihtoehdot	Hake	0	€/m3
Investointikustannus	Uusi hakeuuni	25000	€
	Polttoainevarasto	3000	€
	Hakkuri	<u>5000</u>	€
	Yhteensä	33000	€
Polttoaine	Kosteus	35 %	
	Tiheys	200	kg/m3
	Lämpöarvo	11,5	MJ/kg
		3,2	kWh/kg
		639	kWh/m3
	Hyötysuhde	0,8	
Määrät	Määrä	0,02	m3/ha
	Määrä	2	m3
	Hinta	0	€
Säästö €/v	Säästö €/v	1	
Takaisinmaksuaika v	Tak.maksuaika v	36666,7	

Calculation basis	
Grain area	100 ha
Harvest moisture content	22%
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Oil price	100 cnt/l

Vaihtoehdot	Hake	0	€/m3
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	Tiheys	200	kg/m3
	Lämpöarvo	11,5	MJ/kg
		3,2	kWh/kg
		639	kWh/m3
	Hyötysuhde	0,8	
Määrät	Määrä	1,11	m3/ha
	Määrä	111	m3
	Hinta	0	€
Säästö €/v	Säästö €/v	6384	
Takaisinmaksuaika v	Tak.maksuaika v	5,2	

# Cold (ambnient) air drying

- Energy consumption is only one quarter of hot air drying energy consumption
- Good reception capacity -> storage dryer, large areas can be combined before the dryer is full
- Long drying time
- No grain sorting devices, more trash in the grain
- Trade moisture content 13% is very hard to achieve without extra heating unit
- Not good with several species



# Cold air drying

- If grain layer is thicker than 1m, sentrifugal fan is needed
- Wet grain with over 60 cm layer begins to spoil from the surface
- With thick layers mixing of wet grain is a necessity
- Large dryers need large fans, demand for good electrical lines or the fans must be operated by diesel engines
- Handling of the grain is many cases more difficult and man power is needed



# Other preservation methods



Palva R. Tuoresäilöntä on entistä kiinnostavampi vaihtoehto. Teho 5/2008



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- MTT Agrifood Research Finland Agricultural Engineering
- Estonian University of Life Sciences

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