



EMS Ag Solutions
Wooster, Ohio

Technical Support
330-621-3057

EMSAgSolutions.com

info@EMSAgSolutions.com



Moisture Tester Instruction Booklet



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Contents:

Your kit comes with a specimen container, evaporation unit and digital scale. This product is used to accurately measure moisture content within a wide variety of materials including corn, rice, beans, hay silage, grains, seeds, nuts, wood chips etc.

Digital Scale Instructions:

Outline for using a digital gram scale

- Weigh empty specimen container. Note weight (Approx 250 grams)
- Zero out scale with container and add 100 grams of forage. Dry the sample according to recommend time. (See chart below)

Crop	Recommended Time at 110V	Recommended Percentage of Moisture Content for Safe Storage
Barley	30	15 or less
Corn	85 Cob	20 to 25
Corn	85 Shelled	15 or less
Hay	25	25 or less
Corn, silage	30	60 to 65
Oats	15	15 or less
Rye	25	15 or less
Wheat	30	15 or less
Haylage	25	40 to 60

- Weigh dry sample and record the weight
- Place back on the evaporator for 15 minutes and weigh

If weight does not change more than 2% you are done with the test. If the change is more than 2%, heat for an additional 15 minutes. Repeat this process until percentage is within 2%.

Note: You must subtract weight of specimen container if your scale does not hold the original container weight long enough.

Example:

Start with 100 grams wet weight	100% total
End up with -60 grams dry weight	60% dry matter
Weight lost 40 grams moisture lost	40% moisture

Accuracy Note:

If your scale does not hold the “zeroed weight” until your sample is dry, you need to manually calculate the container weight off the sample weight.

It is preferable to start making haylage from field at 60% moisture. By the time the field is harvested, it should be not less than 40%. The desired average is 50% moisture.

For recommended moisture content for safe storage in your locality, consult your local agricultural agent as the above are approximate for guidance only.

If putting up hay or grass silage, time is more important than 1% or 2% points or moisture content accuracy, experience will show that five minutes less testing time than recommended will furnish approximately 90% to 95 % accuracy.

When testing haylage or silage for dairy herd, knowing moisture content helps determine total digestive nutrients for maximum feeding of low-cost feed.

Caring For Your Moisture Tester:

- Turn off and unplug unit prior to cleaning
- Use a clean, damp cloth to gently clean all surfaces
- Do not spray cleaning liquid or chemicals on the unit
- Cleaning with compressed air is recommended
- Store in a safe place free of dust, straw, cobwebs and flammable items

Safety Precautions:

This unit produces high temperatures which could exceed 300 degrees. Please keep away from children and follow the instructions listed below to avoid the risk of fire, electric shock and other injuries:

- Always unplug the unit when not in use
- Avoid use of extension cords which may overheat
- Never operate near flammable materials
- Do not use the unit if any component is damaged
- Make sure the bottom of unit has proper ventilation
- Do not submerge in water or any other liquid
- Do not test or dry materials that are dripping wet