

SEED AND CROP TESTING



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19.30 Grass height meter

A useful aid for estimating the amount of grass in a paddock is the grass height meter developed by NMI (Nutrient Management Institute). The grass height meter is particularly practical for livestock farmers who want to optimize their pasture management. It is also a much-used tool in research and advisory services.

For effective use of pasture it is important that the grass is mown or cattle are brought in at exactly the right stage. If the grass is too high in the paddock, the result can be unnecessarily great losses when animals are put out to pasture. If there is too much thickness of grass when clipped, the quality of the grass can leave a lot to be desired and the regrowth is likely to be poor.

Moreover, fertilizing advice is often based on the thickness of the next cutting. If grazing or mowing is done too soon or left too late, this can often result in avoidable crop losses or unnecessarily low uptake of the fertilizer that has been applied.

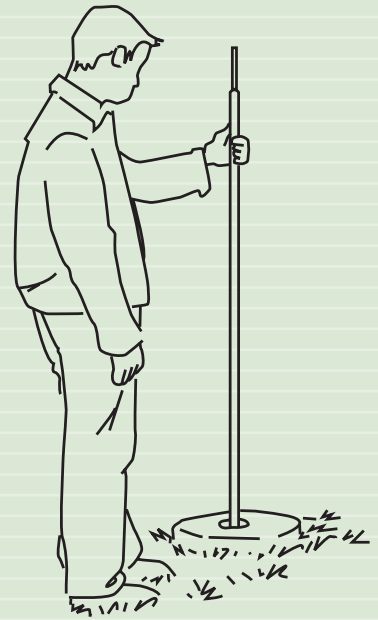
Advantages

- Simple, non-destructive method for measuring the grass height of an area of pasture during the time of growth.
- Divides into separate parts for easy transport
- Reasonably accurate estimation of dry matter yield (kg/ha) with the aid of the accompanying table

19.35 Grain moisture meter, analogue

The grain moisture meter is a handheld analogue measuring instrument for moisture and temperature measurements. The instrument is provided with a moisture measurement chamber on top. For temperature measurements a probe is to be connected to the instrument. The analogue grain moisture meter is suited for measuring the humidity in different kinds of cereals, such as barley, wheat, oats and rye. For other cereals a conversion table on top of the instrument is used, as well as a conversion table in addition to the user manual. On top of the instrument three keys are

The grass height meter is used to estimate the grass production.



Grass height meter



Analogue grain moisture meter

Grains are poured in the measuring chamber.



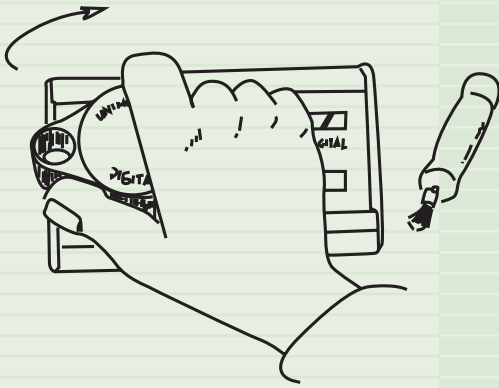


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After the measuring chamber is closed the grain moisture is determined



located as well, allowing the user to perform the desired measurement, to perform a battery check, or to perform a special high moisture measurement for maize. All moisture measurements are temperature compensated, as it is known that temperature affects the electrical conductivity of a crop as well. The instrument is to be supplied by a 9 Volt battery, having a typical lifetime of 1 year in this application. The grain moisture meter is supplied including temperature measurement probe, user manual and a conversion table.

19.36 Grain moisture meter, digital

The digital grain moisture meter is a robust, transportable and easy to use measuring instrument for moisture measurements. The instrument is provided with a measurement chamber on top that can be closed. A liquid crystal display (LCD) screen and four keys allow the user to select a crop type, to perform the moisture measurement, and to switch the instrument on and off. The instrument is suited for measuring the

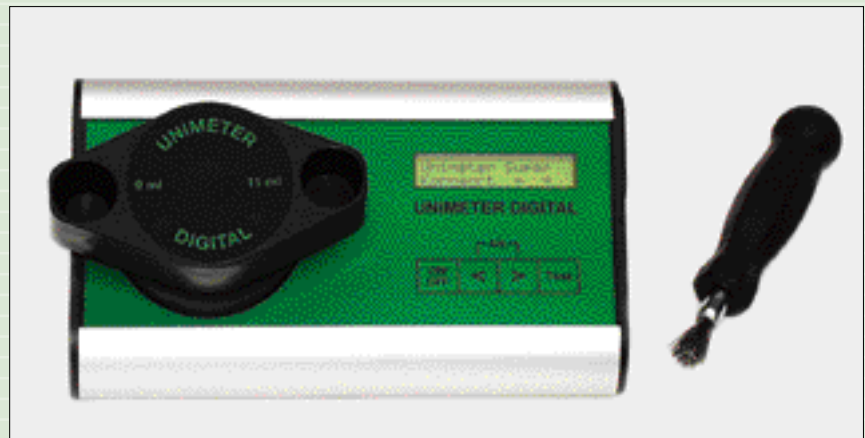
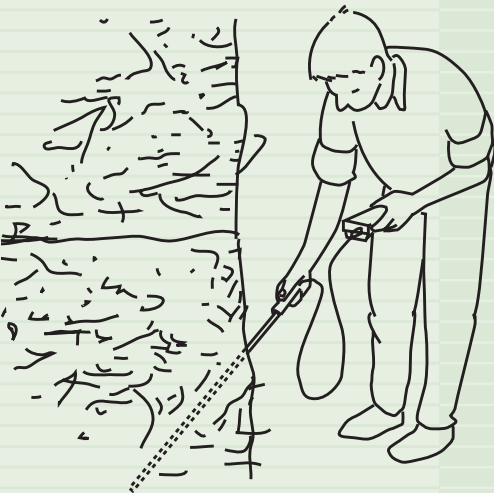
humidity in 12 different kinds of crops. The last 4 measurements are automatically averaged. The digital grain moisture meter is temperature compensated. Due to the combination of temperature compensation, averaging of measurements, selecting an individual type of crop, and closing of the measurement chamber, an optimum measurement accuracy is achieved.

19.39 Haymeter

The haymeter is an easy to use analogue handheld portable instrument for measuring moisture in hay or straw. The moisture measurement is performed by driving a special lance into the bale. The lance is to be connected at the rear side of the instrument. At the rear side two keys are placed, allowing the user to perform a measurement, by pressing one of the keys. If both keys are pressed simultaneously, a battery check is performed.

The instrument is to be supplied by a 9 Volt battery. The haymeter is supplied including lance for moisture measurement and a robust ABS plastic case.

The probe is pushed into the bale to determine the moisture content.



Digital grain moisture meter



Analogue hay meter