

Typical Transducer Installation



Speedo-Area Recorder measures ground speed, distance traveled, total area worked since a planter or sprayer was last filled.

MONITORS SPEED, AREA, DISTANCE AND RATE OF WORK

Slickest Speedometer We've Even Seen

Everything you've ever wanted in an all-purpose speedometer for your tractor, combine, sprayer, fertilizer applicator or other equipment has been built into the revolutionary Speedo-Area Recorder.

Plans for marketing it throughout U.S. were being finalized by RDS Agricultural, Walworth, Wis., as this issue of FARM SHOW went to press.

With the new Speedo-Area Recorder mounted on the dashboard, you get:

- A continuous direct reading of ground speed.
- A continuous reading of area worked, using any implement.
- A reading of distance traveled or "incremental area"—the exact area covered with a grain drill, corn planter or sprayer since the last loading of hoppers and/or tanks.

• When metric comes, the Speedo-Area Recorder you buy now will be ready for it. Just flip a switch and all the readings automatically convert to metric.

"One of the most important of the Speedo-Area Recorder's exclusive functions is accurate measurement of ground speed," Jim Brown of RDS Agricultural, told FARM SHOW. "This enables the driver to achieve consistent accuracy with a crop sprayer, fertilizer spreader or other equipment. It also makes for optimum efficiency in operating tillage and harvesting equipment," explains Brown.

Here's how he sizes up other features of the new-style "does everything" speedometer:

Distance covered readings: "They're included in the Speedo-Area Recorder because they're essential for calibration of crop sprayers and fertilizer spreaders."

Incremental area readings: "They give the driver a completely new extra item of information not provided by any other instrument. If the button marked 'reset' is pressed whenever a drill, spreader hopper, planter or sprayer tank is filled, the incremental area reading will show what area the first filling covers, and

will subsequently give an instant indicator of how soon—in area terms—another refill will be due."

Brown points out that selection of any read-out on the digital display—switching from "Area" to "Speed" or "Incremental Area" for example—does not cancel the other readings, which are retained in the instrument's memory and continue to add up.

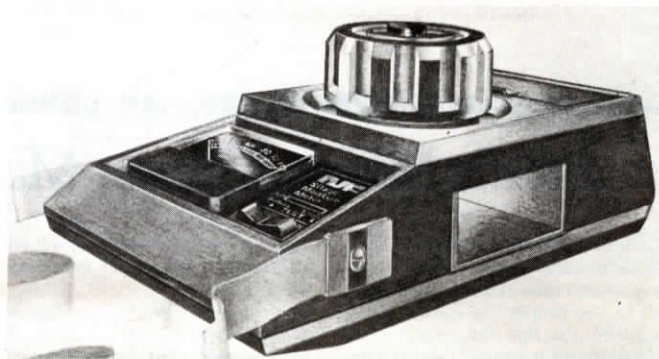
The signal for operation of the instrument is taken from two magnets attached to a non-driving wheel—the front wheel of a tractor or the rear wheel of a combine. A signal is picked up every turn of the wheel by a transducer fixed to the king-pin assembly. Operation is not affected by mud or other field conditions.

When the Speedo-Area Recorder is fitted to any tractor or other self-propelled machine, an initial figure for distance traveled per revolution of the non-driving wheel is entered into the instrument's memory. You simply set the selector switch to "Wheel Revs" and drive the tractor forward until the display shows a given number of revolutions—10 is a convenient number. The distance covered is then measured on the ground, divided by 10 and entered into the instrument memory by turning the selector switch to the appropriate position and pressing the "Adjust" button to increase or decrease until the required figures appear on the display.

When starting in the field with any implement, its working width is entered into the instrument in the same way as distance covered per wheel revolution. Once this has been done, the instrument has all the necessary information in its memory to calculate area worked.

The new Speedo-Area Recorder, complete with mounting brackets and wheel magnets, costs \$547.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, RDS Agricultural, Box 814, Walworth, Wis. 53184 (ph. 414 275-5128).



Forage sample is placed in plastic bag and inserted into side opening. Top control knob is then screwed down to apply pressure to the sample. By averaging readings of four samples, tester's accuracy is within 2% of oven drying, says manufacturer.

FAST, ACCURATE AND PORTABLE

Forage Tester Gives "Instant" Reading

New from Gel-Co, Cedar Falls, Iowa, is a new forage tester that gives an instant reading of moisture content of hay and silage.

It is manufactured in England where it has been extensively field tested for almost two years. In experimental tests at the University of Minnesota's Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston, 97% of the forage samples tested with the Froment 1209 fell within 10% of the official oven-drying method, 87% fell within 5% and 64% within 2%. Researchers at the station note that "to date, we have only found one electronic tester—the Froment 1209—on the market that is satisfactory for testing moisture in forages that are preserved as haylages or silages... The greatest advantage of this electronic tester is that one can obtain an instantaneous reading which is an important time-saving factor to those who use the instrument."

A sample of the forage to be tested

is placed in a small plastic bag, thus eliminating contamination of the meter and subsequent false readings. It takes only a minute to determine moisture content of forages with dry matter contents between 25 and 70%. First, the sample bag is filled, placed in the meter and pressure applied by turning the control knob. The test switch is first actuated to check the battery, then switched to the "test" position to get an instant moisture reading of the sample.

Priced at \$297, the battery-operated tester is especially designed to withstand on-farm use, says G. E. Lewis, president of Gel-Co. "With freshly-chopped forages, we recommend taking a reading of three to five samples, then averaging the results. This gives you a moisture reading within 2% of oven drying."

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gel-Co, Rt. 4, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613 (ph. 319 266-1792).