



How to Check Your Spread Pattern



MANUAL NUMBER: 313967-J

EFFECTIVE 09/2023



**1330 76TH AVE SW
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52404-7052
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Now doing business as New Leader Manufacturing



WARNING

Use great caution while working around the spreader. Contact with spinners and other moving parts is very dangerous. Do not adjust while machinery is moving, wear eye protection and avoid discharge from spinners. Do not ride on moving

A Catch Test is required prior to each season, before using a new product, or if a significant visible change has occurred with a product.

Catch Test

The CFR number, or cubic feet per revolution number, is a calibration number entered into the controller to determine rate output from the spreader's conveyor. A catch test is performed to verify accurate rate output per the controller.

NOTE: An optional calibration chute (P/N 312688) is available to simplify the catch test process. The calibration chute fits all New Leader spreader models with 30" wide conveyor bottoms. Contact your local New Leader dealer for details.



WARNING

To prevent injury, disable the spinners by unplugging the PWM valve before beginning the catch test procedure.

1. Disable the spinners by unplugging the PWM valve(s).
2. Move the spinner assembly to the 4" (102mm) position.
3. Remove the Material Divider back plate, and Vane Assembly (if applicable). Install calibration chute if available.
4. Position an end loader or other suitable device beneath the spinners to catch material.
5. Load material into all applicable bins.
6. Prime the conveyor as specified per the controller.
 - If using a calibration chute, run the conveyor just until material reaches the end. Remove any excess material that falls into the catching device.
 - If not using a calibration chute, run the conveyor until the spinner discs are full of material. Remove any excess product from the catching device. Do not remove material from spinner discs.
7. Measure the depth of material on the end of the conveyor to verify the constant number feedgate height information entered into the controller. Adjust feedgate height or recalibrate feedgate as necessary.
8. Verify that all other product settings entered into the controller are correct.
9. Select the correct bin in the controller for the first bin to be tested. Enter the anticipated weight of product to be dispensed from the conveyor.
10. Start the engine and engage hydraulics. Allow to run for several minutes to bring hydraulic oil up to operating temperature. Bring engine up to operating RPM.
11. Following the setup wizard on the controller, run the catch test. The conveyor will start dispensing material, and automatically shut off when the estimated amount of product is dispensed.
12. If not using a calibration chute, leave the material on the spinner discs. Weigh the amount of product that the conveyor actually dispensed into the catching device, and note the result.
13. Enter the actual weight of material dispensed into the controller. The controller will then automatically perform the calibration.
14. Repeat Steps 5 - 12 for all other applicable bins, if an insert bin is installed.
15. Once satisfactory results have been achieved for all applicable bins, turn the engine off, replace the back plate on the Material Divider, return the spinner assembly to its original position setting, and plug the PWM valve(s) back in.

NOTE: For more information on controller operations and setup, contact your local dealer.

**WARNING**

Use great caution while working around the spreader. Contact with spinners and other moving parts is very dangerous. Do not adjust while machinery is moving, wear eye protection and avoid discharge from spinners. Do not ride on moving spreader.

NOTICE!

Spinner assembly and material divider have NOT been adjusted at the factory. Before spreading material, spread pattern tests must be conducted to properly adjust the spread pattern. A spread pattern test kit is available for this purpose.
THE MANUFACTURER OF THIS SPREADER WILL NOT BE HELD LIABLE FOR MISAPPLIED MATERIAL DUE TO AN IMPROPERLY ADJUSTED SPREADER.

Spread Pattern

Product quality will affect spread pattern and product performance. Spread pattern testing is required to ensure proper application of material. Larger products will produce wider swath widths.

Spread pattern is adjusted using one or more of the following:

- Point of material delivery on spinner discs
- Spinner speed
- Angle of the distributor fins on the spinner discs

Since adjustments will vary for each job, trial and experience must be used to determine the adjustments required to obtain the swath width and spread pattern desired.

Spread Pattern Test Kit

Spread Pattern Test Kit, part no. 313960, includes the following:

DESCRIPTION	QTY	DESCRIPTION	QTY
Box - Plastic Storage	1	Package - Data Sheet	1
Rack - Assy Test Tube	1	Flag - Red/White	5
Tube - Test W/ Screw Cap	23	Rope - Marked 120' Red	1
Tray - Collection Blue	1	Stake - Plastic 9	2
Bins - Litter For Testing 16 X	22	Instruction - Spread Pattern	1
Divider - 8.38 X 12.44	23	Manual - G4 Spread Pattern	1
Funnel - 16 Oz No Filter	1	Scale - Density	1

NOTE: If desired, a material calibration kit is available to aid in measuring product quality. Contact your local dealer for details.

Spinners

NOTICE!

Spinner discs and fins must be kept clean and polished. Even a small build-up on a spinner fin can significantly affect the spread pattern. Rusty, rough, bent or worn fins will produce poor spread patterns.

In general, critical spinner speed will fall somewhere between 600 and 900 RPM. Spinner speed is adjusted by changing the settings in the controller. Proper spinner speed adjustment is critical in obtaining optimal spread patterns. The best spinner speed to use will depend entirely on the material being spread, and must be determined by testing.

Spreader Preparation

The spreader to be tested must be in good mechanical condition and properly adjusted. Refer to operator's manual for details.

All damaged and worn parts must be replaced. Spinner discs and fins must be free of any material build-up, rust or paint.

Fill the hopper with the material to be spread. Run the material out to the end of the conveyor.

Set the feedgate and the in-cab controller to deliver the required rate per acre. Make sure the feedgate is level and the indicator reflects the actual gate opening measured by standing a tape measure vertically in the material.

NOTE: Do not match slope of endgate when making this measurement. Measurement must be perpendicular to conveyor.

Adjust the spinner assembly by turning the crank or, if an actuator is installed, change the setting in the controller. To begin testing, position the spinner according to following chart.

NOTE: These charts is to be used as a reference only to begin testing.

Without High Output			SIMPLE START SETTINGS			
Material	Density	Ground Speed	Rate	Feedgate	Spinner Frame Setting	Spinner
		(mph)	(lbs/acre)	(in)	(in)	(RPM)
Lime	90	11*	1000-5000	6	0.5	600
			2000-8000	12	0.5	600
Urea	46	18	110	2.5	4	800
			225	2.5	3.5	800
			450	2.5	2.5	800
Corn Blend	53	18	125	2.5	3.5	800
			250	2.5	2.5	800
			500	2.5	0.7	800
All other fertilizer types and blends	64	18	150	2.5	3.5	800
			300	2.5	2.5	800
			600	2.5	1.2	800
* 15 mph when using high performance (HP) hydraulics.						

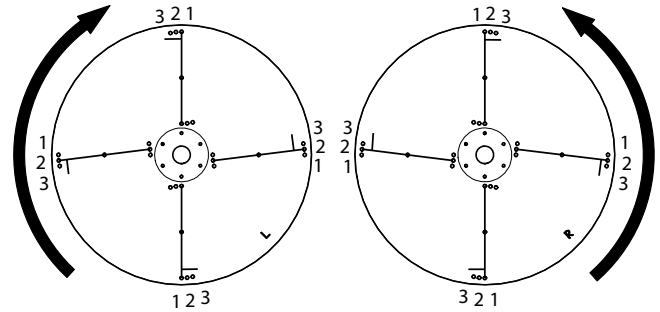
With High Output			SIMPLE START SETTINGS			
Material	Density	Ground Speed	Rate	Feedgate	Spinner Frame Setting	Spinner
		(mph)	(lbs/acre)	(in)	(in)	(RPM)
Urea	46	18	110	2.5	1.5	800
			225	2.5	1.25	800
			400	2.5	0.7	800
Corn Blend	53	18	125	2.5	1.5	800
			250	2.5	1.25	800
			500	2.5	0.7	800
All other fertilizer types and blends	64	18	150	2.5	1.5	800
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High Output Assembly

Spinner Fins

NOTE:

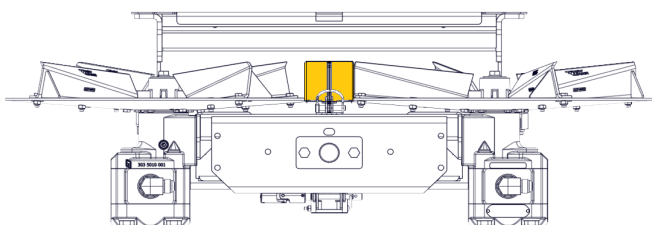
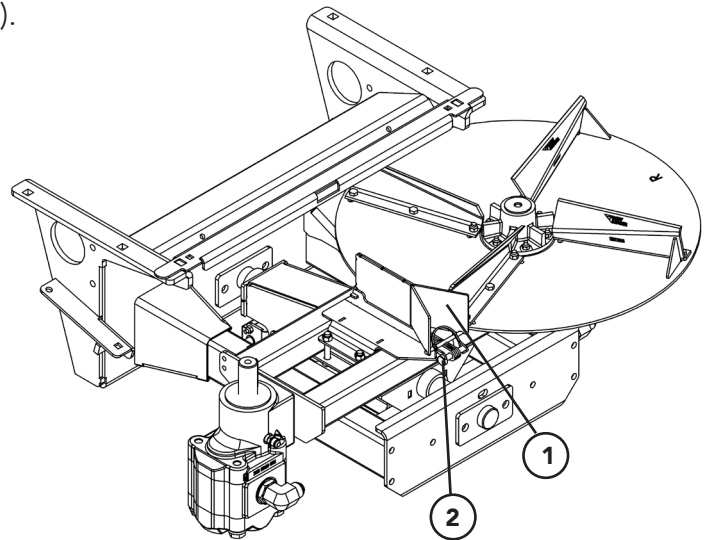
Use of this kit requires the spinner fins be installed in the 1-2-1-2 position. No other fin positions are compatible with the high output kit installed.



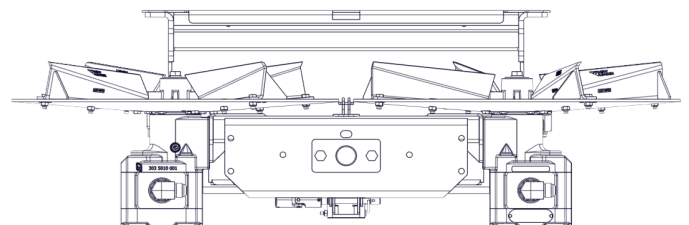
Y Weldment Remove/Install (4500 Spinner Frame Shown)

NOTE: When performing catch test or when spreading lime, the Y weldment must be removed.

1. Remove Pin (2) and slide out Y Weldment (1).
2. Install in reverse order.



With High Output


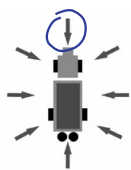


Without High Output

NOTE: The High Output Assembly is only available on the G4 Edge (4500) and the G5 (5000) units

Test Procedure

Using the data sheets supplied with the kit, document all spreader information and adjustments as necessary. See Figure 1.

 SPREAD PATTERN DATA SHEET New Leader Manufacturing		1330 76th Ave SW Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-7052 (319) 363-8281	
Pattern Test No. 1	Rev.	Spreader Model: L4000G4	 (Circle Direction of Wind Relative to Spreader)
Site: NLM		Serial No. 432165	
Date: 10/07/2016	Time: 10am	Conveyor Type: #4 BOC	
Material Name: MAP		Fan Frame Setting: 3.25 in.	
Density: 65 lb/ft ³		Feedgate Height: 3" in.	
Crush Strength: 6		Fin Position: 1-2-1-2	
SGN: 324			
Application Rate: 320 lbs/acre		CFR/Constant: .232	Wind: From Straight at 5 MPH
			Relative Humidity: 41% %
			Temperature: 67 °F
Spinner Speed: 780 RPM		Controller Vehicle Speed: 12 MPH	Controller Swath Width: 90 ft.

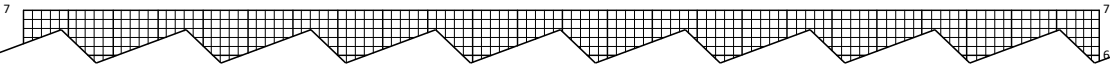


Figure 1

Select an area for testing measuring at least 120 feet x 200 feet (37 m x 61 m), and with a slope of less than two degrees.

All testing should be done when the wind velocity is less than 5 MPH (8.05 km). If wind is present, testing must be done with spreader traveling parallel (within ± 15 degrees) to the wind direction.

Do not allow loaded spreader to sit for more than one hour prior to testing.

At this stage of testing, drive the spreader over the collection trays in ONLY ONE DIRECTION.

Insert a plastic grid into each of the 23 collection trays. Position the blue collection tray in the center of the spreader's path with the longest dimension of the tray parallel to the direction of travel. Position the first left-hand and right-hand trays 10' (3m) from center, and all subsequent trays on 5' (1.5m) centers.

Four-Wheeled Vehicles

For four-wheeled application vehicles, position the spreader at the beginning of the course so that the vehicle will straddle the center collection tray. See Figure 2.

Engage spinners before navigating the course. As the vehicle approaches the flag positioned 75' before the row of collection trays, engage the conveyor(s). Do not shut the conveyor(s) off until the vehicle approaches the second flag.

Drive spreader completely through course at normal operating speeds.

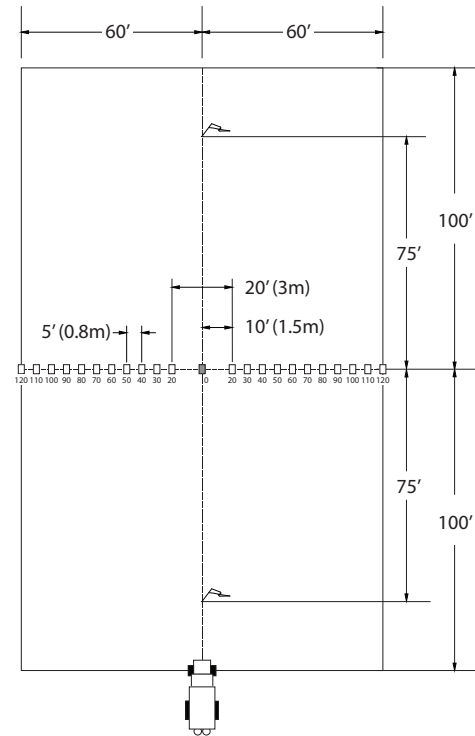


Figure 2 – Four-Wheeled Vehicles

Three-Wheeled Vehicles

For three-wheeled application vehicles, straddling the center tray is not possible. Place the center collection tray beneath the vehicle just behind the front tire when the spreader is in position at the beginning of the course. See Figure 3.

Engage both the spinners and conveyor(s) before navigating the course. Do not shut the conveyor(s) off until the vehicle approaches the second flag.

Drive spreader completely through course at normal operating speeds.

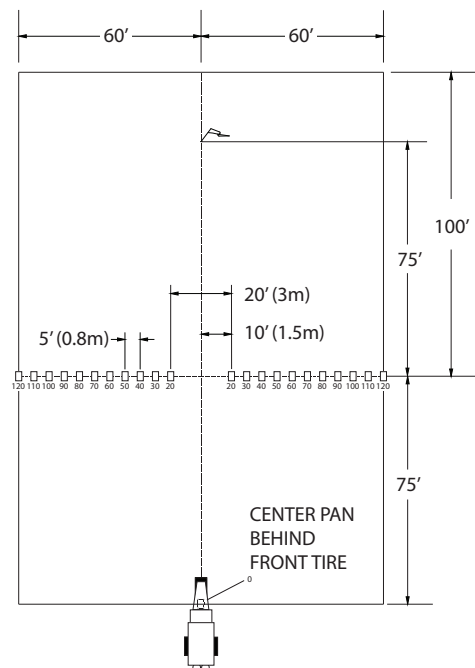


Figure 3 – Three-Wheeled Vehicles

TEST RESULTS

After navigating the course, shut the spreader down and park in a secure location.

Using the funnel, transfer the contents of each collection tray into its corresponding test tube beginning at one end of the trays and working towards the opposite end.

If spreading a blend of materials, inspect all tubes to determine if the blend is consistent across the entire swath width. If the blend is not consistent, use a narrower swath width. The swath width should be based on the material thrown the shortest distance.

Record each test tube's volume in the box on the data sheet under the corresponding tray position and graph the spread pattern profile. See Figure 4.

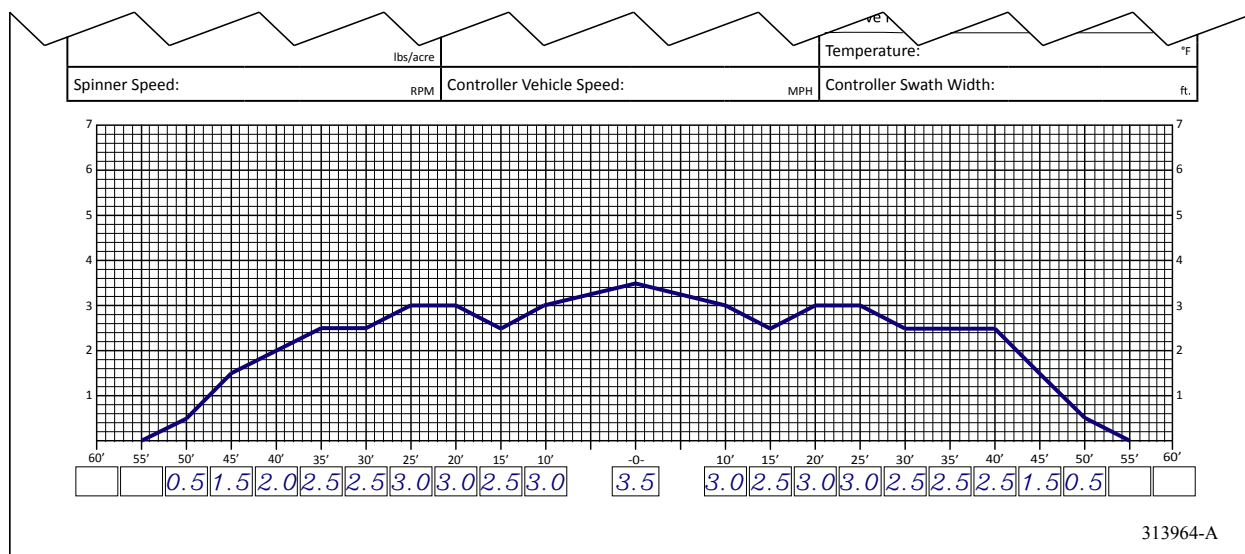


Figure 4

Looking at the material in the test tubes and the graphed profile on the data sheet, compare the overall shape of the spread pattern to the three acceptable patterns, shown in Figure 5. If an acceptable pattern has not been achieved, proceed to "Troubleshooting". Once an acceptable pattern has been achieved, proceed to "Determining Driving Centers".

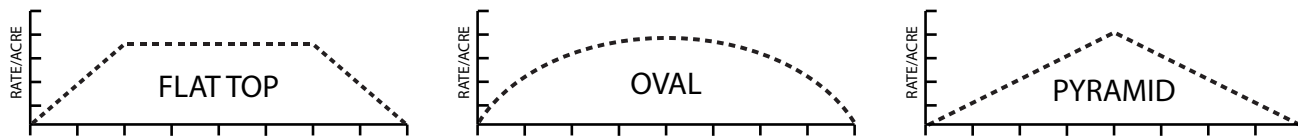


Figure 5 – Acceptable Patterns

Troubleshooting

NOTE: It is highly recommended that ONLY ONE ADJUSTMENT be made between test samples taken. If more than one adjustment is made, it will be difficult to determine which adjustment was responsible for the change in pattern shape.

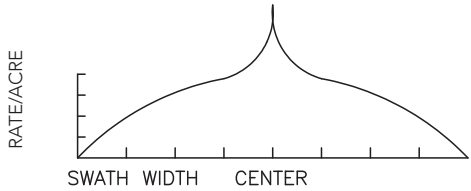
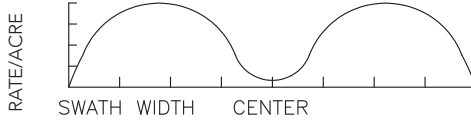
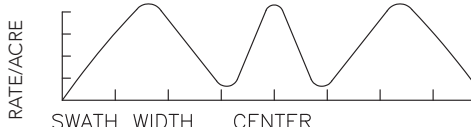
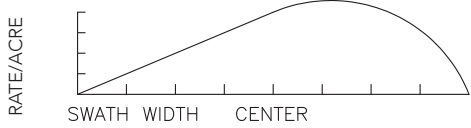
Problem	Pattern	Recommended Adjustments
Heavy Directly Behind the Vehicle		1. Move the spinner forward (toward the conveyor).
Light Directly Behind the Vehicle		1. Move the spinner rearward (away from conveyor).
Light Outside Vehicle's Tire Tracks		1. Check spinner fins for material buildup, rust or paint. 2. Increase spinner RPM. 3. Move spinner fins to 2 - 3 - 2 - 3 positions. See Figure below.
Pattern Off Center		1. Check to see feedgate is level and free of caked material. 2. Make sure hillside divider spinner assembly and material divider are mounted squarely and centered. 3. Testing should be done parallel to wind.

Figure 6

Spinner fins are adjustable to radial angle as shown in Figure 7. Refer to Figure 6 for fin adjustment recommendations.

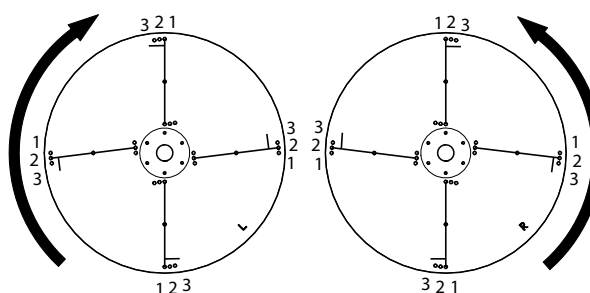


Figure 7 - Spinner Fin Adjustment

DETERMINING DRIVING CENTERS

Once an acceptable pattern is obtained, as shown in Figure 5, driving centers can be determined. To determine optimum driving centers (effective swath width), determine the average amount of material in the center of the pattern. Figure 8 shows an example data sheet recorded from the profile shown in Figure 9. Based on the example, the average amount of material in the center of the pattern is 3.0, as indicated with the dotted line.

Next, locate the points on both the left and right side of the pattern where the amount of material is half the average amount at the center of the pattern. In the example shown in Figure 8, these points are located 45' to the left of center, and 45' to the right of center. The distance between these two points (90') represents the driving centers to use.

NOTE: Once the effective swath width has been established, a change in the controller may be required.

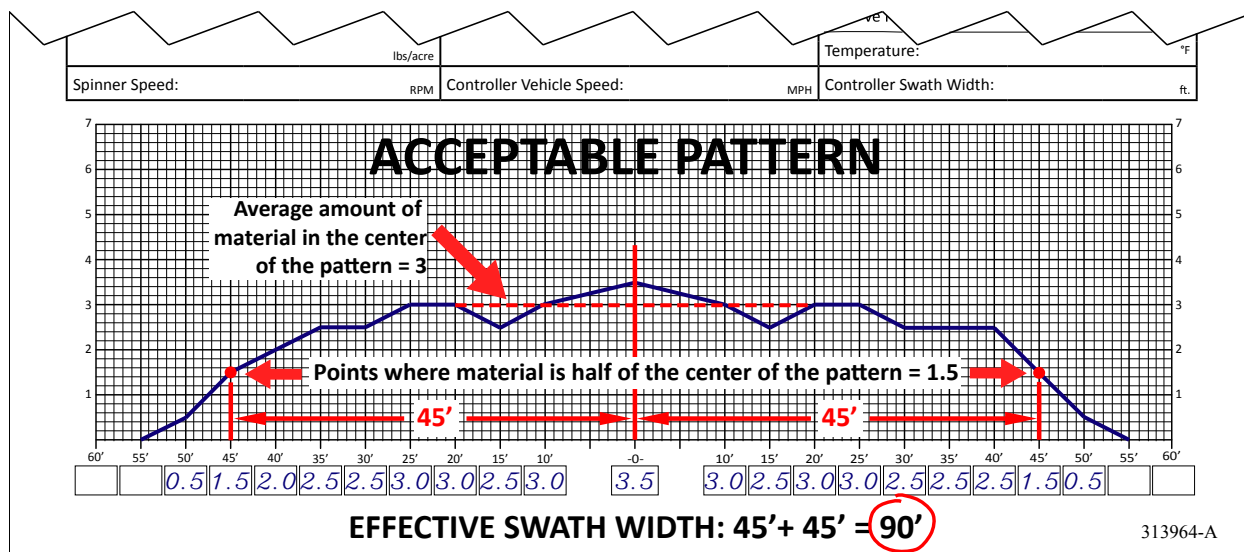


Figure 8 - Effective Swath Width

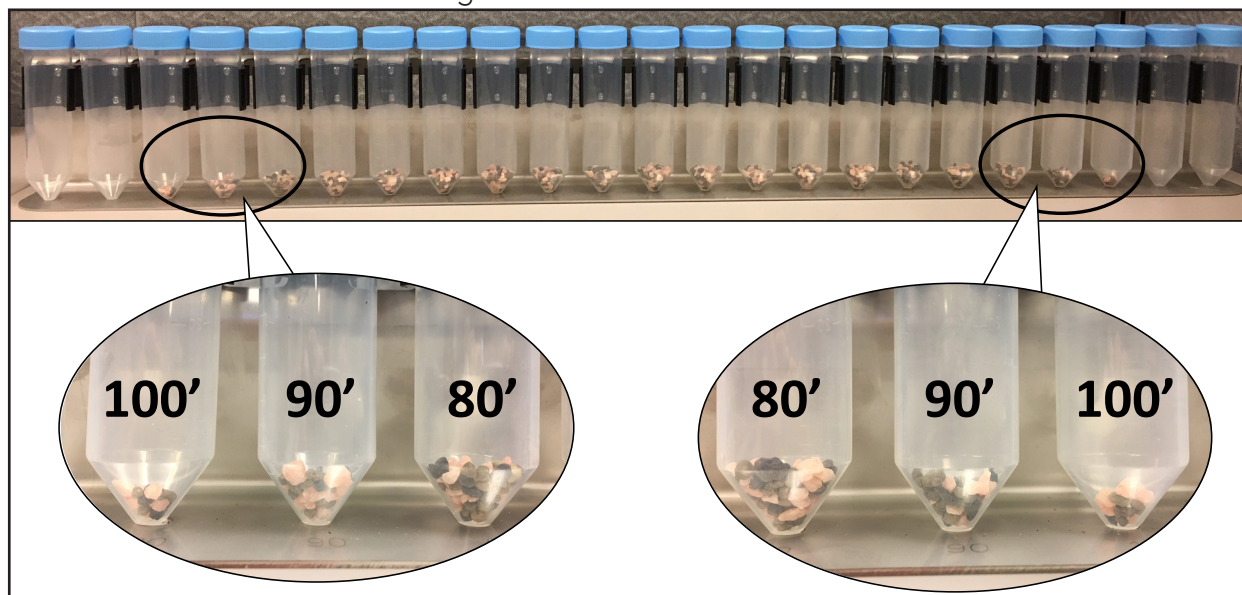


Figure 9

Verifying Driving Centers

Once optimum driving centers (effective swath width) have been established, conduct a final "S" pass over the trays to verify. Refer to Figure 10.

1. With both the spinners and conveyor turned off, drive the spreader through the center of the course, establishing an "AB" line. If the spreader vehicle is a three-wheel type, remove the center pan.
2. Line the vehicle up with either end of the row of collection trays, at a distance from the "AB" line equal to the effective swath width.
3. With both the spinner and conveyor engaged, drive past the trays.
4. Switch back and drive over the center of the trays, down the "AB" line.
5. Drive through the row of trays and switch back once again, driving past the trays on the opposite side, at an equal distance from the "AB" line as the first pass.

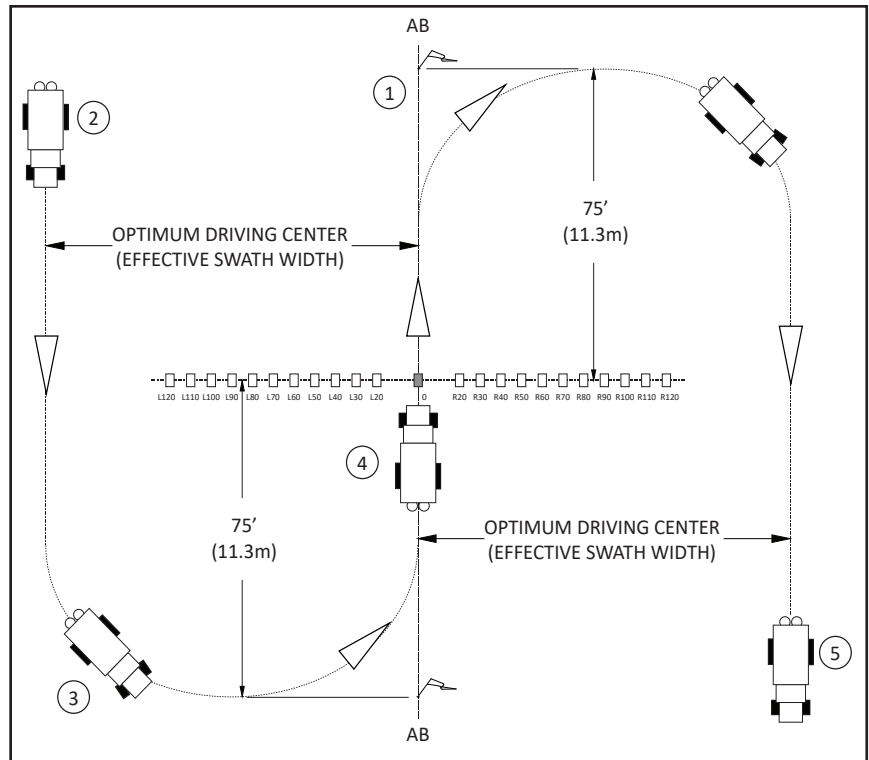


Figure 10

If the driving centers were determined correctly, all trays should have a similar amount of material, showing a near flat profile in the test tubes. If the trays near the center of the row contain more material than the others, increase driving centers. If the trays near the center of the row contain less material, decrease driving centers.

NOTE: If spreading a blend of materials, verify blend of all products is consistent across all tubes.

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