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BEST HARVEST



BALE PROBE SAMPLER (DRILL-TYPE)

USER INSTRUCTIONS



BHP550, Rev. B
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Introduction

The *Best Harvest Bale Probe Sampler BHP550* consists of a stainless steel probe with bagging attachment and a clean-out rod. It is used to obtain samples from hay or forage bales.



1. BREAKING IN SAMPLER

The shaft of the Sampler is stainless steel. The stainless steel will get brighter and smoother as it is used. Use a damp cloth to clean any residue after completing your sampling.

2. SAMPLING MATERIALS

A. The Probe Sampler operates best with a 1/2" drill with a 18-24 volt fully charged battery. An electric drill can also be used.

B. Attach the drill to the chuck end of the sampler. Place a gallon ziplock bag on the protective shield (as pictured) and secure it with a rubber band.

C. Rest the cutting tip in the center of the bale, proceed to push gently on the probe as the drill is started. Allow the sampler to travel into the bale. Depending on your sampling needs, several samples can be done before removing the collection bag.

D. Use the cleanout rod to clean out the shaft and be sure all sampled material is in the bag. Label the bag as necessary (name, date, crop, lot number).

E. Hay and balage samples are perishable. Test samples or deliver to laboratory as soon as possible to prevent sample moisture loss and/or microbial deterioration.

Best Harvest offers a Crop/Forage Moisture Tester that replicates a faster version of the USDA method for testing moisture content. Eliminate the wait, expense and moisture loss of submitting to a lab. More info at www.bestharveststore.com or ask your preferred retailer.

3. MATERIAL SAMPLING CONSIDERATIONS

A. Baled Hay—Small & Large Squares

Sample at least 12 bales at random from the same lot. Take the core sample from the end of each bale going between the bale twine or wire. The weight of the sample will vary directly with the tightness of the bale.

B. Balage

Drill to the full depth of the sampler in at least 12 random locations throughout the wrapped bales. Holding the probe horizontally, drill through the plastic. Use the cleanout rod to clean the sample from the probe. When finished pull the plastic pieces out from the bag and tape the holes in the balage made from the sampler.



C. Large Round Bales

Sample at least 12 bales at random from the same lot by taking core samples from round side (not flat sides) of each bale.

4. BALE PROBE CARE & CLEANING

When not in use replace the tip cap on the cutting tip so that the tip does not get damaged. Always clean the probe sampler with a damp cloth and wipe dry after use. Occasionally apply a high grade car wax to the probe, this will clean off any residue and is an excellent way to store the probe.

5. SHARPENING / REPLACING CUTTING TIP

The cutting tip is specially designed to cut through material that is dry or high moisture. Be sure to always protect the cutting tip when not in use. The tip can be sharpened with a sharpening hone. Replacement shafts and tips can be purchased at www.bestharveststore.com

6. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Never operate the sampler with any loose clothing. Pay close attention when the rod has been removed, the cutting tip is very sharp. Under no circumstances is the manufacture or retailer making any warranties, expressed or implied, concerning this product or its use, which extend beyond the description above.