

# AIRSEDER OPERATORS MANUAL

Model: Serial No: Description: PM2 4500

Pull Mount, 4500 litre, 2 bin, Ground Drive, Farmscan 2200

For Instruction On:

Pull Mounted Machine Configuration Farmscan 2200 Monitor Operation Pull Mounted Ground Drive Operation



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# **Introduction**



### **Welcome to Simplicity Australia**

The Management and Staff of Simplicity Australia would like to thank you and congratulate you on your decision to purchase a new Simplicity Air Seeder.

The design of your Simplicity Air Seeder incorporates many innovative features to make your farming operations easier, more efficient, and as the name suggests, simpler.

Your Simplicity Air Seeder has been designed and manufactured with the utmost care and pride. By following the operation instructions outlined in this Operator's Manual you will have many years of trouble free operation.

This Operator's Instruction Manual has been prepared to familiarise you with the set up, calibration, operation and maintenance of your new Simplicity Air Seeder. By reading this Operator's Instruction Manual thoroughly, the most efficient and trouble free operation of your Simplicity Air Seeder will be achieved.

Simplicity Australia operates Australia wide through a professional agricultural equipment Dealer network which includes factory trained Sales and Service personnel. If you have any concerns with the operation and maintenance of your Simplicity Air Seeder your local selling Dealer will be able to assist you with advice, service and spare parts back up.

Your Simplicity Australia Dealer will register your Simplicity Air Seeder for warranty according to the guidelines of the Simplicity Australia Warranty Policy document included in your warranty registration booklet. Please ensure you complete the warranty registration documents in conjunction with your Dealer when you first use your Simplicity Air Seeder. Your Dealer will then forward the necessary documentation to Simplicity Australia. Without the relevant documents your Simplicity Air Seeder cannot be registered for warranty.

When ordering replacement parts for your Simplicity Air Seeder be sure to quote the serial number attached to the machine which is also recorded on the warranty registration certificate.

The Management and Staff of Simplicity Australia sincerely wish you every success with your new Simplicity Air Seeder and are available to assist your Simplicity Australia Dealer should they require any specialist assistance.

Yours faithfully

David W. Law Managing Director

# Introduction



### **Company Profile**

Simplicity Australia Pty Ltd designs and manufactures the most comprehensive and innovative range of Air Seeders and Tillage Equipment in Australia today.

Simplicity Australia has its origins as a small business in Dalby Queensland that started manufacturing Air Seeders in 1979, utilising an auger type metering system.

David Law, owner and Director of Simplicity Australia, saw the potential and bought the Business in 1982. He soon began using Napier distributors for metering seed and fertiliser.

By 1985 he developed and introduced his own innovative metering system to meet the diversity of Australian farming needs. He has continued to develop Air Seeder and Tillage equipment technology using the latest manufacturing methods and expertise to meet changing farmer's requirements while continually increasing product strength, quality, functionality and diversity. All of this has seen customer needs becoming standard features.

With the town of Dalby located in the centre of eastern Australia the Company easily distributes its products through a vast Dealer network Australia wide and internationally.

Product strength, quality, reliability and an extensive professional Dealer network providing customised service are key elements of the Company's success in winning its share of the Australian Air Seeder and Tillage equipment market.

Simplicity Australia products have a high degree of customer satisfaction and loyalty with recent research indicating that in excess of 95% of owners will purchase the Simplicity product again.

Today the Company's range of Air Seeders includes seven types comprising over forty different models including liquid options. To compliment the wide range of Air Seeders five models of Cultivator with four different type spacing options are manufactured along with the newly developed X bar and Striker planting unit.

With the models of Air Seeder and Tillage equipment now manufactured with the latest manufacturing methods and technology combined with a widespread, diverse and professional Dealer network, Simplicity Australia stands ready to maintain and increase its market share in Australia and meet any new challenges future farming requirements may provide.

### Introduction



### **Product Overview**

### **Design Specifications**

### **Bins**

Bins, powder coated inside and out for first class corrosion protection, are fully sealed and feature strong leak proof joins, heavy duty ladder, safety rails, walkways and fully adjustable lids. A swing away bottom door as well as an externally controlled clean out door for easy cleaning of bins. Heavy duty chassis and choice of bin split for double and triple shooting as well as splitting and blending practices.

### Chassis

Very robust folded steel construction with each model specially designed for the weight and vehicle loadings they encounter. Heavy duty drawbars, axle and wheel components provide an exceptionally strong, yet functional chassis.

### **Metering Systems**

Bins are sealed and pressure equalised with the metering unit. The metering unit utilizes an agitator and nylon fluted spools to meter seed and fertiliser into the air stream. All metering units fitted to Simplicity Air Seeders allow splitting and blending as standard.

Each bin feeds a separate metering unit, which is independently driven by an infinitely variable speed gearbox.

Application rate simply altered using a crank to adjust the output speed of each Zeromax drive. A pointer attached to the crank corresponds with a graduated calibration dial. Further variation of application rate is available through spool covers for low planting rates, and reversal of metering sprockets for high planting rates.

Highly efficient heavy duty blowers featuring an aluminium impellor encased in a cast housing provide adjustable air volume to suit a wide variety of applications. Heavy duty hydraulic blower motors are fitted according to specified requirements. Air is dried as it passes through an oil heat exchanger.

Grain and fertiliser is positively and accurately metered into the air stream and carried to the primary and secondary heads which divide and distribute grain and fertiliser to the planting boots.

### **Distribution Systems**

Four (4) way metering units are standard on Simplicity Air Seeders up to and including 4500 litre models and six (6) way metering units are standard on 6000 litre models and above.

Four way metering units are capable of distributing product to 160 outlets while six way metering units can distribute product to 240 outlets.

### **Seeding Kits**

Maximum performance is achieved with the use of genuine Simplicity Australia manufactured seeding kits comprising of specially designed primary dividers and secondary heads for accurate product distribution.



### **Safety Instructions**

All equipment manufactured by Simplicity Australia has been designed to provide long term trouble free operation with the personal safety of the Operator and others the number one priority.

The equipment can only be manufactured as safe as the person operating it. With this in mind it is very important that the information contained in this Operator's Instruction Manual is read and understood.

It is equally important that this Operator's Manual remains with the equipment to ensure that the Operator, or in the event of other persons operating the equipment, has all operating and safety instructions at hand.

Owners of Simplicity Australia product are encouraged to adopt a regular lubrication and maintenance program to ensure long and trouble free operation. This program should also include the maintenance of all safety and accident prevention devices fitted to the equipment as outlined in this Operator's Instruction Manual.

Throughout this Operator's Manual, and on the Air Seeder itself, there are a number of 'safety alert' symbols. Each symbol appears as a yellow equilateral triangle with a black border. Each yellow triangle contains a black pictogram depicting the hazard relevant to that area of the Air Seeder. Any 'safety alert' symbol appearing as an exclamation mark in a yellow triangle will be a separate decal with associated text.

Two 'Signal' words **WARNING** and **CAUTION** are used in conjunction with the 'safety alert' symbol.

**WARNING** – indicates a potentially hazardous situation that could result in **DEATH** or **SERIOUS INJURY** if not avoided.

**CAUTION** – indicates a potentially hazardous situation that could result in **MINOR INJURY** if not avoided.

A master decal itemising each symbol with it's individual pictogram and description is located on the Air Seeder. A copy of the master decal also appears on Page 2.3 of this Operator's Manual.

This 'IMPORTANT' box identifies procedures that, if not strictly observed, could result in damage to the equipment or other property.

At the time of delivery your authorised Simplicity Australia Dealer will request you sign a 'Safety Declaration' document. Prior to signing this document it is to your advantage to have the Dealer explain the safety features of the equipment to you. This 'Safety Declaration' document is very important and is part of the warranty registration process. Without this document being completed the registration of your Simplicity Australia product for warranty cannot proceed.

The following pages show the Safety Decals and where they are located. For the safety of the operator and others ensure that any safety decal that is damaged or unreadable is replaced.

If further information is required contact your local authorised Simplicity Australia Dealer for assistance.

The symbol identifies points of interest that could result in the more efficient operation of the equipment

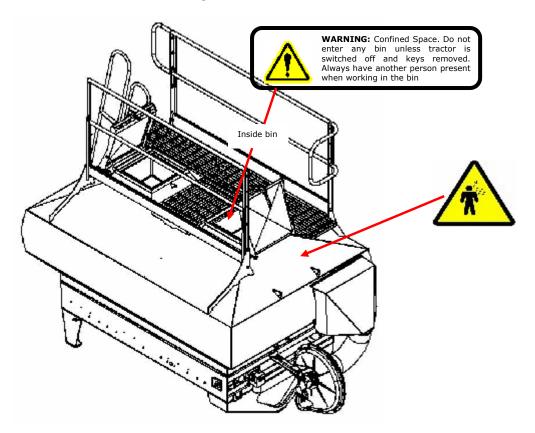
### **IMPORTANT**

All references to the left side and right side are from the rear facing direction of travel





### **Location of Safety Decals LHS and Rear**





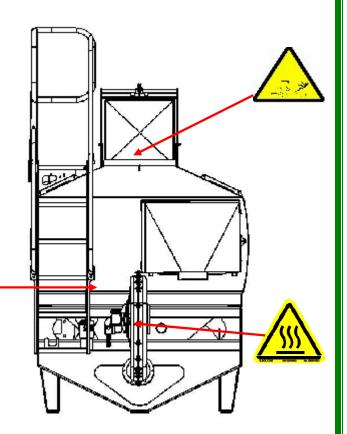
WARNING: Read and understand the Operator's Manual before using this equipment. Failure to follow operating instructions could result in death or serious injury.



**CAUTION:** Always read granular fertiliser or treated seed manufacturers warning labels carefully and understand their requirements before handling the products



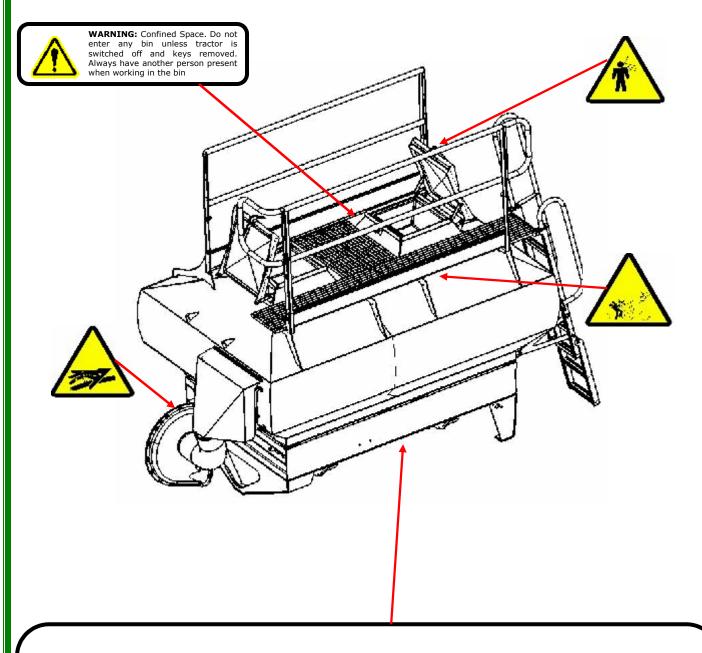
WARNING: Do not disconnect breakaway hydraulic couplings or any other hydraulic connection while hydraulic system is under pressure. Disconnecting hydraulic components while under pressure will result in uncontrollable discharge of hydraulic fluid which may cause injury







### **Location of Safety Decals RHS and Front**





WARNING: Be aware of the equipments height when working around overhead power lines. Contact with overhead power lines will cause serious injury or death



**CAUTION:** Do NOT open bin lids while blower is operating. Release of lids under pressure will cause unwanted movement of seed or fertilizer which could result in injury.



**WARNING:** Never allow others to ride on the equipment. Falling from the equipment while in motion can cause death or injury



**CAUTION:** Hydraulic components become very hot during normal operation. Contact with skin can cause severe burns.



**WARNING:** Do NOT check for hydraulic oil leaks with bare hands. Small, almost invisible, high pressure oil leaks can penetrate the skin requiring medical attention.



**WARNING:** Confined Space. Do not enter any bin unless tractor is switched off and keys removed. Always have another person present when working in the bin



### **Road and Field Travel**

Simplicity Air Seeders are designed for the infield applications of fertiliser and sowing of seed and therefore are not designed for continuous, high speed, road travel.

However, it is understood that the locations of some working areas would necessitate that the Simplicity Air Seeder be moved on public roads from time to time for the purpose of carrying out sowing operations.

The Simplicity Air Seeder has been designed with this in mind and is quite capable of infrequent, short distance movements on the road providing the following criteria are met and the bins are empty.

- Always use an agricultural tractor large enough and with sufficient braking capacity to stop the combined unit quickly and safely.
- Make sure all wheel nuts on the Simplicity Air Seeder are present and tight.
- ▲ Make sure all hitching components are in good order with all pins secure and there is no possibility of the Simplicity Air Seeder coming unhooked.
- ▲ Make sure all safety chains are present, connected and secure.
- Traveling speed in field or on the road should not exceed 20 kilometres per hour.
- ▲ Know the equipments limitations when negotiating changes in road or operating conditions. Reduce tractor speed further over uneven or rough ground and be aware of potential hazards such as bridges, trees, fences, gates, water courses and other road users etc.
- △ Do not transport the Simplicity Air Seeder on public roads when wet. The stopping capability of the tractor will be significantly reduced.
- Do not transport the Simplicity Air Seeder on public roads in poor visibility.
- ▲ The dimensions of the equipment may exceed local laws regarding road travel. Always check with the relevant local authority regarding excess dimension requirements before transporting the Simplicity Air Seeder.
- △ Be aware of the Simplicity Air Seeders height when traveling or working around over head power lines.
- △ Do not allow others to ride on the Simplicity Air Seeder or any part of the equipment either in field or on the road.
- △ Make certain there is no possibility of any component falling from the Simplicity Air Seeder.

It is important to remember that the Simplicity Air Seeder is **NOT** designed for frequent, high speed, activities and as such Simplicity Australia does **NOT** recommend on road travel other than necessary, infrequent, short distance road travel at a greatly reduced speed following all criteria outlined above.

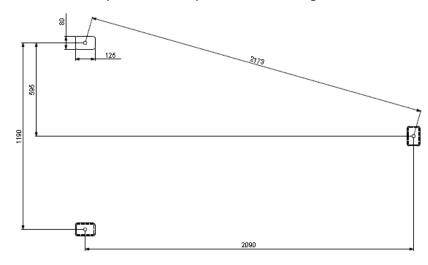




### **Hooking Up**

### Overview - Pull Mount (PM Models)

All Pull Mount Simplicity Air Seeders are positioned on top of the cultivator's pull. The footprint for mounting is as below:



MOUNT PAD POSITIONS 3000/4500 PM CHASSIS WELDED TO SUPPORT LEGS

- △ Attach the Air Seeder using only the hardware supplied with reference to the 'overview' above
- Make sure all hydraulic lines and wiring harnesses are positioned along the stiff bar and secured in the loops provided. At each end of the stiff bar position the hoses and harnesses in such a way that they cannot be caught up, crushed or damaged in any way during turning operations
- Connect all hydraulic lines making sure all hose ends are perfectly clean prior to connection
- Hook up all primary lines that are to be used at the camlock couplings
- Connect electrical wiring harnesses

### Wheel on Wheel & Drop Wheel Drive

There are two types of Drive Wheel setups that provide ground drive to the Air Seeder.

"Wheel on Wheel" consists of a wheel positively driven off on of the cultivators tyres. With "Wheel on Wheel" drive it is



important that the assembly is adjusted to keep sufficient tension/friction to maintain drive at operating depth.



"Drop Wheel" drive consists of an independent wheel contacting the ground to provide drive via a chain to the Air Seeder. With a "Drop Wheel" drive it is advisable to avoid cornering with the wheel on the ground so as to avoid any lateral pull on the wheel.

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### **IMPORTANT**

Motor return line and case drain line must return directly to the hydraulic reservoir of the tractor. Connecting the motor return and case drain lines to tractor auxiliary hydraulic circuit will decrease the efficiency of the hydraulic blower motor and possibly damage cause to, and void warranty on, hydraulic components of the Air Seeder

### **IMPORTANT**

Before installing the monitor in the tractor cabin refer to the separate Monitor Operator's Manual for specific installation instructions







### **Filling and Emptying Bins**

### **Filling**

Simplicity Pull Mount Air Seeders are manufactured with either one or two bins. The procedures for filling and emptying all bins is essentially the same for all models.

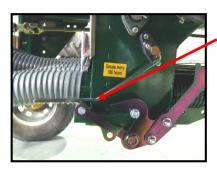
Any bin can be filled with either seed or fertiliser. The successful set up and calibration of the Simplicity Air Seeder is not dependant on the seed or fertiliser being placed in a specific bin.

 For models 4500 litres and above, the capacity of each bin will vary because of the ability to change bin dividers so that different rates of each product can be applied with the capacity of each bin calculated and calibrated so that all bins empty close to the same time. Refer Page 3.22 and 3.23

### **IMPORTANT**

The bin is deemed full the correct listed litreage capacity when the product reaches the bin opening. Pushing product into the corners of the bin while continuing fill will the increase capacity of each

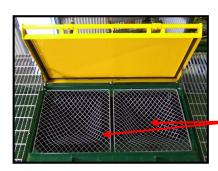
### Prior to filling the bin:



 Ensure clean out door is closed and latched



**CAUTION:** Always read granular fertiliser or treated seed manufacturer's warning labels carefully and understand their requirements before handling the products.



### ⚠ Open the bin lid fully

- Lift out wire baskets, visually check everything is in place and there are no foreign objects or lumps of product in the hin
- Replace the wire baskets
- Always use the wire baskets to filter any large objects and lumps of product

If a genuine Simplicity Australia auger is not fitted to the Air Seeder, alternative methods such as mobile augers or 'grouper bins' will be required to fill the Air Seeder.

Consideration must be given to the 'Safety Warnings' outlined in the Manufacturer's Operator's Manual for that equipment.



**WARNING:** Do NOT open bin lids while blower is operating. Release of lids under pressure will cause unwanted movement of seed and fertiliser which could result in injury.

All bins can be used for the same product



**IMPORTANT** 

Do not attempt

close

clean out door while emptying

### **Filling and Emptying Bins**

### **Emptying**

Simplicity Australia Air Seeders are designed so that emptying the bins is a quick and simple operation.

The method for transferring the product to storage should be determined prior to emptying the bins and would be dependant on how much product is left in the bins.

Using an auger is the best method of emptying large quantities of product.



**WARNING:** Be aware of the equipments height when working around overhead power lines. Contact with overhead power lines will cause serious injury or death.

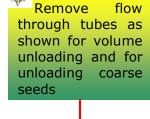
Place the auger hopper under the bin to be emptied



Open the swing away door

- · Start the auger
- Open the clean out door
- Product will now run from the bin through the metering unit into the auger hopper.

For emptying a small amount a tub or similar could be used to catch the product.







**WARNING:** Do NOT open swing away doors while blower is operating. Release of lids under pressure could cause injury.



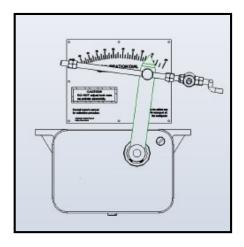
**WARNING:** Confined Space. Do not enter any bin unless tractor is switched off and keys removed. Always have another person present when working in the bin





### **Air Seeder Calibration**

### **Standard Ground Drive Metering**



The principles of calibration are essentially the same for all Simplicity Air Seeders with **standard ground drive metering**. By carefully following the steps outlined, accurate seed and/or fertiliser application rates will be achieved.

Information and equipment required for the calibration procedure are listed below.

- 1. Implement sowing width
- 2. Actual tyre circumference of the drive wheel
- 3. Corrected tyre circumference
- 4. Number of crank handle turns per hectare

### Step 1. Determine Implement Sowing Width

Correct implement sowing width is required for calibrating the number of crank revolutions per hectare used for setting sowing rates.

# The actual sowing width of an implement is best measured with a tape, measuring the full width of the implement.

An alternative method is to calculate the width by multiplying the sowing row spacing by the number of sowing tynes.

Sowing width (metres) is calculated by:

# No. of Planting Tynes x Sowing Row Spacings (mm) 1000

eg. For an implement with 49 tynes set at 250mm row spacings.

# $\frac{49 \times 250}{1000}$ = **12.25** metre sowing width

When sowing rates of 10 kg or less per hectare, it is advisable to use spool covers to reduce the area of spool exposed to the seed. Refer Page 3.19

### **IMPORTANT**

Spool covers must not be used for fertiliser!





### **Step 2. Determine Actual Tyre Circumference.**

For the most accurate results, accounting for soil type and conditions, it is recommended that the actual tyre circumference is measured and calculated using the following method.

• The seeder should be half filled with product



- Check tyre pressures are correct. Refer Page 6.1 for correct tyre operating pressures
- Mark the drive wheel tyre sidewall where the tyre contacts the ground or cultivator tyre.
- Mark the ground adjacent to the mark on the tyre sidewall
- Move the air seeder on typical soil so that the tyre travels at least five (5) revolutions
- Mark the ground where the mark on the drive wheel tyre sidewall contacts at the end of the fifth revolution
- Measure the distance traveled ie. distance between the marks on the ground, and divide by the number of revolutions the tyre has completed for that distance
- eg. If the tyre is turned five times and the distance measured is 7.4 metres
- **7.4** metres (distance traveled)

**5** times tyre rotated **= 1.48 metres** Actual tyre circumference

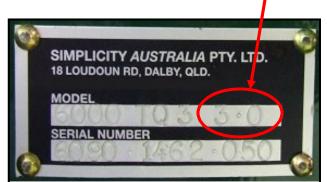
Following the above steps will provide the most accurate measurement of tyre circumference.

### Step 3. Determine Corrected Tyre Circumference

Corrected Tyre Circumference is the Actual Tyre Circumference divided by the 'step up' ratio of the ground drive mechanism of the Air Seeder.

**Example:** Using an actual tyre circumference of 1.48 metres and divide by the 'step up' ratio of 1 the result is a corrected tyre circumference of 1.48 metres.

The 'corrected tyre circumference' is needed to accurately determine the number of calibration handle turns required per hectare.



The number of calibration handle turns is used for calibrating and setting the sowing rate of the Air Seeder.

If unsure, the 'step up' ratio can be easily determined by placing the calibration handle on the calibration shaft, engage the ground drive mechanism and rotate the wheel once. Count the times the calibration handle turns during one rotation of the wheel. The number of times the calibration handle rotates is the 'step up' ratio.

W

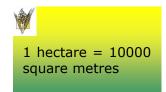
The step up ratio (which is 1.0 on Pull Mounts and 3.0 on other models) is stamped on the Serial Number plate which is located on the rear left corner of each Air Seeder



# Step 4. Determining the number of Calibration Handle turns per hectare.

The number of calibration handle turns per hectare is needed to accurately measure and set the desired sowing rates.

To determine the distance traveled in metres to cover one hectare, divide 10000 by the implement working width in metres



Divide the distance traveled by the corrected tyre circumference in metres to obtain the number of calibration handle turns per hectare.

### Calibration handle turns per hectare equals

# 10000 ÷ Implement Planting Width (m) Corrected Tyre Circumference (m)

Using the calculations obtained above, the following example determines the number of calibration handle turns required per hectare.

eg.  $\frac{10000 \text{ (square metres per hectare)} \div 12.25 \text{ metres (implement width)}}{1.48 \text{ (corrected tyre circumference)}} = 551.6$ 

The number of calibration handle turns per hectare for this example is 551.6

Calibration Summary	Record Results
Implement Planting Width	
Actual Tyre Circumference	
Corrected Tyre Circumference	
Calibration Turns per Hectare	





### **Calibrating Sowing Rates**

To achieve accurate sowing rates it is important to have available:

- An accurate set of scales.
- A bag or two of each product to be sown
- A container to catch the product to be weighed.
- The number of calibration handle turns per hectare established during the Air Seeder calibration.
   Refer Page 3.6

By carefully following the steps outlined below accurate sowing rates will be achieved.

**Step 1.** Place one or two bags of seed or fertiliser into the bin to be calibrated.

**Important:** Clean out door must be closed and locked prior to filling the bin with product.

**Step 2.** Open the bottom swing away door of the metering unit to be calibrated so that the seed or fertiliser metered can be collected and weighed.

**Important:** If the bins other than the one to be calibrated contain product it is advisable to disconnect the drive shaft to the Zeromax gearbox that drives the metering unit **not** being calibrated at this time.

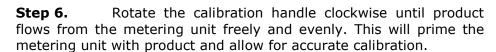
**Step 3.** Place the scales under the metering unit to be calibrated.



**Important:** The scales must be on a hard, level surface for accurate weighing. If a hard, level surface is not available, e.g. in a ploughed paddock, place the container on the ground under the metering unit and then weigh the product elsewhere.

**Step 5.** Adjust the calibration dial on the Zeromax gearbox to approx 50% for the initial test run.

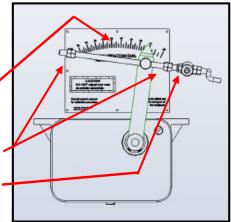
**Important:** Do not loosen or move the lock nuts on the pointer assembly. These lock nuts are factory set and altering the position will result in damage to the Zeromax drive. If the crank handle turns during operation, only this nut should be locked to ensure handle does not move.

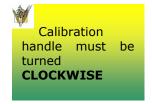


**Step 7.** Tare the scales to allow for the weight of the container and the product released when the metering unit was primed.











**Step 8.** Using the large metering shaft calibration handle, turn the calibration shaft in a clockwise direction for the set number of turns previously established during Air Seeder calibration.

**Step 9.** It is usually adequate to turn the handle only  $1/10^{th}$  of the total number of turns required per hectare to obtain an accurate measurement.

eg. 551 turns per hectare  $\div$  ten = 55.1 turns of the large calibration crank handle. 55.1 turns will meter

out  $1/10^{\text{th}}$  of the product. eg. If 4 kg was metered from 55.1 turns the planting rate would be 40kg per hectare. To adjust to the required planting rate, turn the crank handle which has been set on 50% up or down until the required rate is achieved after further calibration.

**Important:** If the target rate per hectare is 10kg or less, it is advisable to turn the calibration handle the full number of turns required for one hectare. Increasing the number of calibration handle turns during the final testing for low rates will ensure greater accuracy in calibration.

**Step 10.** Repeat the 'calibrating sowing rates' procedure for all other bins.



All product metered during calibration must be caught and weighed. Any product metered but not weighed will cause inaccuracies with the calibration process

### **Compaction Warning**

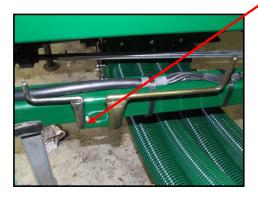
**Important:** Traveling with fertilisers, while not metering, will cause compaction around the agitator and metering spools. It is very important to turn the agitator and metering shafts by hand using the small handle supplied, before engaging the drive clutch.



Remove compaction handle after use and stow with calibration handle in position provided at the front of the Air Seeder



Failure to free up any compaction can result in damage the metering drive mechanisms and gearbox. Do not use the calibration handle (large) for this purpose as the drive mechanisms will be overloaded



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### **Tips for Calibrating Sowing Rates**

- Remember when turning the calibration handle one tenth of the required calibration handle turns per hectare; only one tenth of the required planting rate will be metered.
- When calibrating low sowing rates, the calibration handle should be turned to the required turns per hectare with the metered product being the <u>target</u> rate per hectare.
- Turn the calibration handle **clockwise** only.
- Always remember to 'tare' the container
- The planting rates for the other bins can be calibrated at the same time by placing containers under each metering unit and metering the product all in one calibration operation, weighing each container separately. This simplifies the calibration procedure and saves time.
- When using one product eg. Wheat and no fertiliser, it is
  possible to use more than one bin to increase the sowing
  capabilities of the Air Seeder. In this situation it is
  important to decrease the delivery rate from each bin in
  proportion to the number of bins used and the capacity of
  each bin. Refer Page 3.22
  - eg. If the sowing rate required is 40kg per hectare and two bins with the same product and capacity are to be used, each bin should be calibrated to meter 20kg per hectare. Similarly if three bins of the same capacity are to be used for one product the delivery rate from each bin is reduced to one third to achieve the desired sowing rate.
- Each bin can be calibrated independently of others by selectively removing Zeromax drive shafts from the bins not to be calibrated.

Extra containers are available from Simplicity Australia Dealers quoting part number 197809006 (black container) or 197809005 (yellow container)

### **IMPORTANT**

Regular calibration is important for accurate seeding. Product density will alter many times during sowing operation

It is important that the scales used provide an accurate weight of the product metered. If, at any time the accuracy is questionable, the scales can be tested by weighing a litre of water. Weigh an empty graduated container that will hold a litre of water. Tare the scales to allow for the empty container weight and then fill with water to the one litre mark. The weight of the litre of water should be one kilogram.

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### **Higher Sowing Rates**

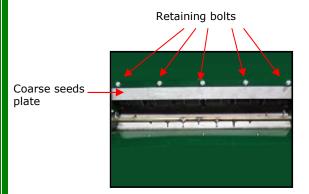
If higher sowing rates are required and cannot be achieved when the calibration dial is on 100%, the two sprockets on the metering unit can simply be reversed. These sprockets are located on the side of the metering unit opposite the calibration dial.

To reverse the sprockets, firstly loosen the chain tensioner and remove the chain. Remove the spacing clips behind each sprocket. Move the sprockets inwards to allow access to the retaining pins. Remove the pins and the sprockets.

Fit the sprockets onto the shafts in reverse order ie. large sprocket on to the shaft from which the small sprocket was removed and vice versa. Replace pins and spacing clips. Refit the chain and adjust the tension. This procedure will increase the speed of the metering unit spools by two and one quarter times therefore ensuring higher rates are achievable.

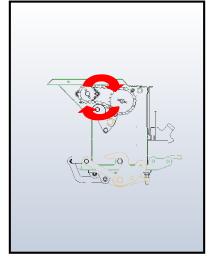
### **Product Flow (Bridging)**

The principle of air seeder operation is that the product must be moved from the bin and metered into an air stream which will carry the product to the secondary heads on the implement. If the product cannot freely flow into the metering spool it cannot be metered into the air stream. The products inability to flow is commonly known as 'bridging'. Some products, such as oats, barley, lupins etc are more prone to bridging than others. If the bridging of a product is experienced, it is recommended that the coarse seeds plate be removed to allow more aggressive feeding to the metering spool. The bin must be empty to access the coarse seeds plate which is located on top of the metering unit covering the metering spools. Remove the five screws (four on smaller models) securing the plate and lift the plate out.









### **IMPORTANT**

Care should be taken when removing the clips from behind the sprockets. These clips are spring loaded and may be lost if care is not taken.

If 'bridging' is suspected, open the swing away door and turn the metering unit over with the small compaction crank handle.
Observe the flow of product through the metering unit window. If the product flows unevenly or stalls, 'bridging' is the most likely cause

Failure to refit the coarse seeds plate when returning to other seeds will result in product flowing past the metering spools while stationary and incorrect seeding rates.





### **Air Delivery System**

### **Overview**

The air volume required to move the product from the Air Seeder bin to the sowing boots is supplied by a hydraulically driven aluminum impellor encased in a cast housing.

Air is drawn into the impellor through the hydraulic system oil



through into the air stream.

cooler. The oil cooler mounted on the rear of the bin high enough to clear raised dust and trash produced by the sowing operation. The cooler serves a dual purpose in that it keeps the hydraulic oil at an acceptable temperature and also provides heat to warm and dry the air as it passes

The oil cooler is protected by a relief valve which is pressure set in the factory to divert oil in the case of a pressure build up. Α pressure build up commonly caused by а restriction in the hydraulic return line usually being a quick release coupling being uncoupled.

the most For efficient operation ensure that the oil cooler is free from dust and trash build



Hydraulic filter part number 159424400 is available from your Simplicity Dealer

The blower is driven by a hydraulic motor, which in itself requires no maintenance. However it is most important that the oil is kept clean by paying particular attention to the cleanliness of hydraulic couplings and regular filter replacement. The filter has a service indicator fitted which is **GREEN** during normal operation. If the indicator turns **RED** at any time during normal operation the filter is blocked and the oil is bypassing. Urgent filter replacement is required when indicator is **RED** at anytime during normal operation only.

For detailed instructions on changing the oil filter refer Page 4.7 & 4.8

### **IMPORTANT**

Australia

**Service Indicator may** turn RED when the blower is stopped, or the oil is cold. Must be **GREEN** during normal operation

Service

Indicator

Hydraulic

Hydraulic Motor

### **IMPORTANT**

Blower speed must not exceed 5000rpm. Substantial damage may occur



### **Setting the Blower Speed**

Setting the blower speed to correctly match the equipment and required sowing rates is important for operating the Air Seeder to maximum efficiency.

The Air Seeder blower motor is hydraulically driven. The hydraulic system is fitted with an oil flow control valve as standard equipment.

This valve must only be used with fixed displacement (open centre) tractor hydraulic systems.

The oil flow control valve is used to control oil flow to the blower motor on tractors with fixed displacement hydraulic systems. Controlling the amount of oil flowing to the motor controls the blower speed and the amount of air volume the blower can produce.

### **Open Centre Hydraulic System**

On tractors with fixed displacement (open centre) hydraulic systems the tractor must be at full operating RPM while adjusting the oil flow to the motor which changes the blower speed and subsequently the blower air volume produced. Adjusting the oil flow to the motor is achieved by manually turning the knob fitted to the oil flow control valve.

When required blower speed is achieved the lock nut on the valve must be locked tight so that the valve remains in the set position.

### **Closed Centre Hydraulic System**

For tractors with variable displacement (closed centre) hydraulic systems, the oil flow control valve on the air seeder should remain fully closed with the oil flow to the motor controlled by the flow control systems fitted to most modern tractors.

If there is uncertainty regarding the type of hydraulic system on the tractor, consult the tractor Operators Manual or the tractor Dealer. The Simplicity Australia Dealer should be able to assist also.

### **Blower Pressure**

Every Simplicity Air Seeder is equipped with an air pressure indicator, either as a gauge or inbuilt into the electronic monitoring system.

The sowing width of the implement, the size and number of outlets, ground speed, sowing rate of seed and fertiliser, the texture and weight of the material will all have an effect on how much air pressure is required.





The oil flow control valve is factory set in the fully closed position. It must remain in the fully closed position unless the tractor is fitted with a fixed displacement (open centre) hydraulic system.

### **IMPORTANT**

Seeding kit size, layout and setup is directly related to blower performance. The most efficient blower operation is obtaining by the fitting of a genuine Simplicity Australia seeding kit

There is no simple, foolproof formula for setting the blower speed



Operating
pressure above 8 kpa
should be considered
excessive.

Blower speed and pressure does not control the sowing rate but it is very important that enough air is available to move the required amount of product from the bin to the top of the secondary head without blocking (too little air volume) or causing seed bounce (too much air volume)

Higher ground speeds and higher sowing rates require greater quantities of seed and fertilizer to be moved in a given time which requires greater air volume.

### **Checking Blower Speed**

To check the blower speed setting, set the fan speed to 4000 rpm and remove a secondary head cap. With the blower operating, travel forward up to normal working speed. The material should rise 2 – 4 metres above the secondary head. If the material rises too high or too low adjust the blower speed accordingly.

### **Air Seeder Delivery Capacity**

The heavy duty hydraulic motor fitted to most Simplicity Air Seeders is rated to deliver a maximum of one tonne per primary line depending on the bar configuration, planting width and seed types.

### **Calculating Delivery Rate**

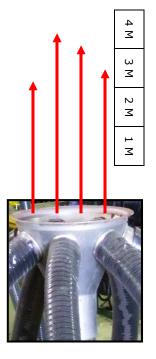
The information required for calculating the delivery rate is:

- Ground speed at which the air seeder is to sow.
- Sowing rate required ie. Total kilograms per hectare
- The sowing width

The formula for calculating tonnes per hour using this information is given below.

Speed (kph) x sowing Rate (kg/Ha) x sowing Width (m) 10000

eg.  $8 \times 150 \times 15 = 1.8$  tonnes per hour 10000



### **IMPORTANT**

Excessive blower speed will cause premature hose wear and seed bounce while too low a blower speed will cause the material to stall in the lines causing blockage





### **Double Shooting and Splitting**

Double Shooting and Splitting are techniques used to improve the practice of deep banding and side dressing as well as separating or mixing seed and fertilisers to meet specific requirements.

**Double Shooting** refers to the practice of sowing seed and fertiliser through separate air lines so that they are placed separately in the soil.

**Splitting** refers to a variation of Double or Triple Shooting where seed and fertiliser is sown through separate air lines with a chosen percentage of fertiliser mixed with the seed and the balance of the fertiliser remains separate or can be mixed with another fertiliser.

Traditional double shooting utilises twice as many planting outlets as conventional sowing.

Double shooting and splitting requires different positioning of metering vanes according to the split of product required.

The illustration below of a triple bin Simplicity Air Seeder shows triple shooting to the cultivator with small seeds box option fitted, however it is only possible to double shoot with a 4-way metering unit.

The illustration of 'one pass application' (opposite page) shows the product flow through the metering units with the directional vanes positioned to direct the product into separate air lines.

Seed and 'P' fertiliser are placed separately in the soil. The option of splitting seed and fertiliser will allow a selected percentage of 'P' fertiliser to be placed with the seed. Double sowing boots can be used to place 'P' fertiliser below the seed using the same cultivator tyne.

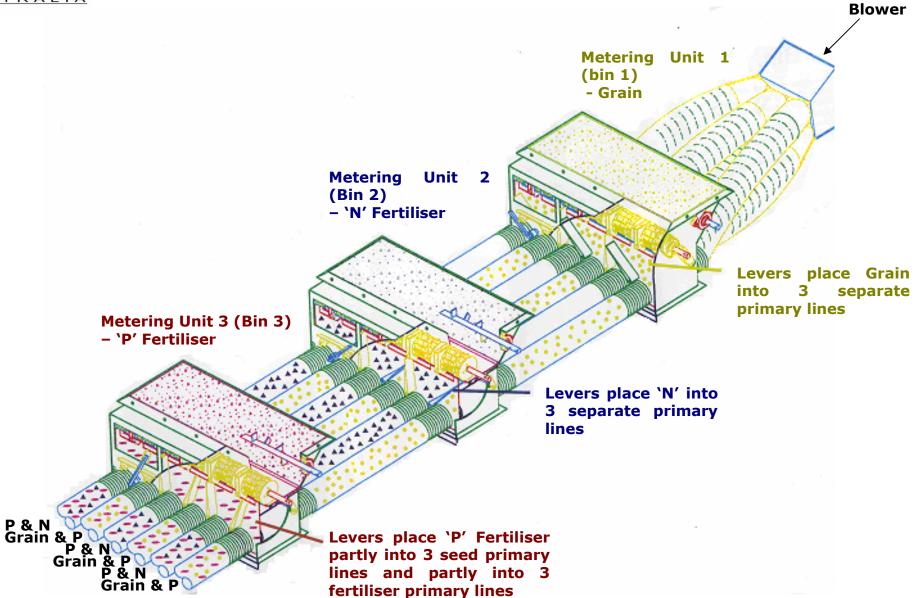
'N' fertiliser and small seeds are shown spread by deflector plates at the front and rear of the cultivator respectively.

Simplicity Triple Bin Air Seeders offer unique sowing control options:

- 3 main bins plus small seeds box option
- All products can be metered to separate lines (as illustrated) by simply varying the position of the metering vanes for specific placement deep banding, side dressing and separating seed and fertiliser.
- Seed and fertilisers can be selectively split and mixed in specific lines by simply changing directional levers or vanes on the metering unit front panel.







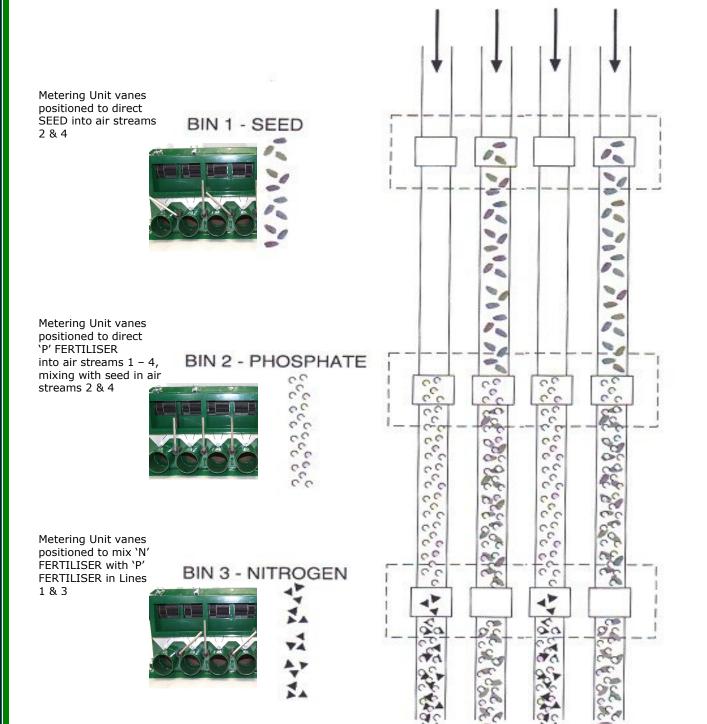
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50% P with SEED (Lines 2, 4)



### **Plan View - Four Row Double Shoot**



50% P with NITROGEN

(Lines 1, 3)

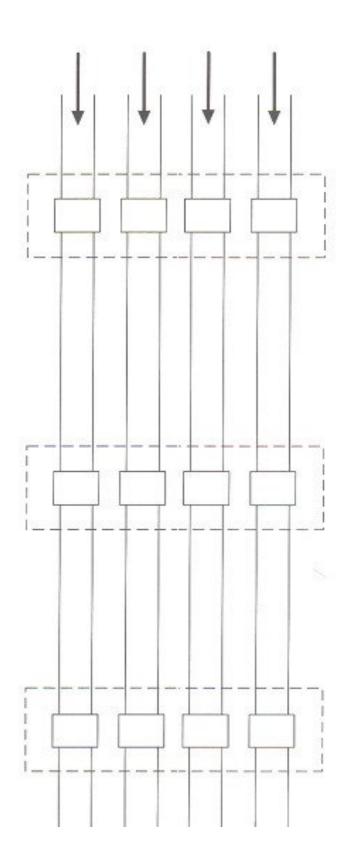


# **Worksheet - Double Shooting and Splitting**

BIN 1 -

BIN 2 -

BIN 3 -







### **Use of Air Restrictors**

The use of air restrictors may be necessary while double or triple shooting when rates vary greatly. eg. 4kg/ha of canola in one shoot and 100 kg/ha of fertiliser in the second shoot.

Air will always take the line of least resistance

Naturally, increased air volume is required to move higher rates of heavier product. By setting the blower speed to move the higher rate of the heavier product, the air volume will be way in excess of the volume required to move the lower rate of the lighter product.

The air flow will naturally follow the line with the least resistance. This will tend to take air from the higher rate heavy material line and force more air through the lower rate lighter material line. This can cause force feeding and subsequent seed bounce in the lighter line and possible blocking of the heavier product line.

Remove a secondary head cap on the heavier product line and operate the seeder at the required ground speed. Set the blower speed to provide the air volume necessary to lift the heavier product to the recommended 2–4 metres above the secondary head. At this setting the lighter product will most likely be lifted much higher above the head.



In this case air restrictors should be fitted in the line of the lighter material being sown at the lower rate. The restrictors, fitted in the male side of the camlock breakaways as shown, simply restrict the air flow, stopping the escape of air and keep the system in proper balance.

With the blower speed originally set to provide the volume of air to lift the heavy product 2-4 metres above the secondary head at operating speed a significant change will be noted when the restrictors are fitted.

The heavy material will now lift higher as the air has been restricted in the lighter lines and been sent to the heavy lines. Blower speed may now be able to be reduced.



50 mm restrictors are supplied standard with the Air Seeder. Restrictors of different sizes are available from your Simplicity Australia Dealer. Experimenting with different size restrictors may be required to balance the air flow in some circumstances.



### **Use of Metering Unit Spool Covers**

Each spool is 75mm wide divided into 1 x 50mm section and 1 x 25mm section

When seed is not required from a particular metering spool, it may be simply and quickly blanked off using a spool cover to cover 100% of the metering spool.

or

When sowing rates of 10kg per hectare or less is required it is recommended that either a 66% or a 33% spool cover be used to partially cover the metering spool to reduce the amount of product being metered into the line with each spool revolution.

Blanking off a section of the spool when applying low rates allows a higher spool rpm to be maintained which will result in a more consistent flow of the product.



Spool covers to blank off either 100%, 66% and 33% of the spool are supplied with the Simplicity Air Seeder.



Spool Covers are easily installed by removing the front panel on the metering unit and placing the spool cover in front of the spool to be blanked off or restricted as shown. Push the cover firmly in until it clips into place.

### **IMPORTANT**

Use of spool covers to blank off or restrict fertiliser flow is not recommended. As fertiliser can pack between the spool and the spool cover, the seeder drives can be unnecessarily overloaded causing damage.



### **Canola Covers**



Canola covers are used to restrict spools being used to meter small seed, such as canola.

These covers are similar to the 100% spool cover except for a hole in either the right or left side.

The metering spool length of 75mm is divided into two sections. One section is 25mm wide and the other is 50mm wide. The canola cover effectively blanks off the 50 mm section and meters the seed through the hole which lines up with the 25mm section of spool. This hole is raised so that seed with the ability to run remains checked and will not flow through the metering unit unless the spools are turning. By using these covers while metering seed such as canola or sorghum a higher spool rpm can be maintained for a more consistent flow of product.

### **Blocking Air Streams not in Use**

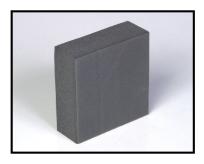
For sowing activities where primary lines are not in use it is important that the air is blocked and is directed to the air streams in use.



Disconnect primary lines not in use at the breakaway connections on the air seeder. Fit camlock blanking plugs to the lines not being used so that air cannot escape.

When the camlock plugs are put in place in the lines not in use the air cannot escape, however, if this is the only method used to block the air stream, air can transfer within and between the metering units causing higher than required air volume in the lines in use, resulting in inconsistent sowing rates and possible force feeding.

To overcome this unwanted transfer of air, 'sponges' must be used in all metering unit lines not in use.



This is achieved by opening the bottom swing away door on each metering unit and feeding a 'sponge' (pictured) up into the cavity between the flow through tubes of air streams not in use.

This will prevent air transfer within and between metering units and a balanced pressure equalised system will be achieved.



Notes			



### Calculating required Bin Split

To calculate the bin split most suited to the sowing program, choose the product to be used and record the application rates for each product.

For this example the following assumptions will be made:

- The sowing program requires 60 kg/ha of Grain, 60 kg/ha of Super and 70 kg/ha of Urea.
- \*60 kg of grain is equal to 77 litres, 60 kg of Super is equal to 60 litres and 70 kg of Urea is equal to 90 litres.

**Note:** \*The weight of a litre of product can be accurately measured by weighing a graduated container capable of holding one litre. Tare off the weight of the container and then fill with product to the one litre mark.

Using this example the weight of one litre of grain would be .78 kg. If 60 kg/ha is required divide 60 by .78 which will equal 77 litres.

One litre of Super will equal 1 kg. One litre of Urea will equal .77 kg.

Add the total litres per hectare.

eg. If 60 kg/ha of grain is equivalent to 77 litres If 60 kg/ha of super is equivalent to 60 litres If 70 kg/ha of urea is equivalent to 90 litres

The total application rate would be 227 litres per hectare.

The percentage of the totals required for each is calculated as follows:

Grain	Super	Urea
<u>77 x 100</u>	60 x 100	<u>90 x 100</u>
227	227	227
= 33.9%	= 26.5%	= 39.6%

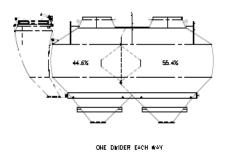
Choose the Air Seeder bin split from the plan opposite that best suits the calculations made for the sowing operation requirements.

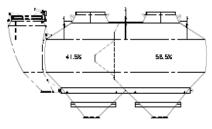
**Note:** Each Simplicity Air Seeder has a total usable area of at least the stated literage with consideration of a 25 degree angle of repose. Pushing product into the corners will increase useable litres.

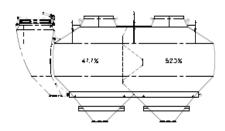
Carefully considering the above calculations should ensure that all bins will empty close to the same time resulting in the more efficient use of the Simplicity Air Seeders capacity.



# **Bin Split Plan**





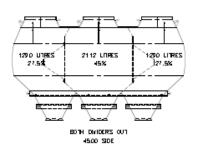


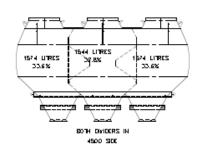
BOTH DIVIDERS INTO SHALLER SECTION

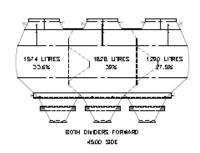
4500 Z BN SPLIT PERCENTAGES

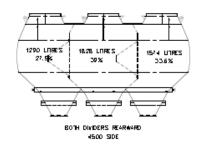
BOTH DIVIDERS INTO LARGER SECTION

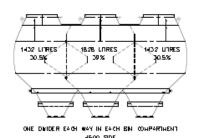
### 4500 Double











TOTAL USABLE VOLUME GIVEN A REPOSE ANGLE OF 25' IS 4692 LITRES

# 4500 Triple





### **Changing Bin Splits**

The bin dividers have either been set in the factory or by the Dealer as to the Customers initial requirements.

Simplicity Australia recognises that farming practices change from time to time and have provided the versatility of simply being able to reposition bin dividers which will change each bins capacity should the need arise.

Changing the bin dividers is a relatively simple task that requires two people. Allow two hours maximum, depending on the change required.

### **IMPORTANT**

Bin dividers must be completely sealed to prevent air transfer between bins



**WARNING:** Confined Space. Do not enter any bin unless tractor is switched off and keys removed. Always have another person present when working in the bin

After calculating the required bin split, two people need to enter the bin either side of the dividers to be changed.



Remove the retaining bolts from around the bin divider/s to be removed and remove the divider/s.

Completely clean all sealing surfaces on bin divider/s and bin walls of any sealant before refitting the divider/s.

Apply a generous amount of

silicon sealant to bin divider/s and bin wall mating surfaces.

Fit bin dividers in place in the configuration determined. Refit all retaining bolts and nuts and tighten.

Apply a bead of silicon sealant around the perimeter of each divider to further ensure an air tight seal.





### **Seeding Kit Components and Terminology**

Simplicity Air Seeders are designed to suit, and work efficiently with, all makes and models of cultivator or seeding tool. As Simplicity Australia has no control over which cultivator is to be used, a common seeding kit has been developed to suit all.

Seeding kits are an integral part of the Air Seeders performance. Incorrectly fitted or incompatible seeding kits can have a severe adverse effect on the performance of the Air Seeder.

The use of a genuine Simplicity Australia seeding kit is recommended for the optimum performance of the Simplicity Air Seeder.

Below is a list of 'common terminology' used when describing seeding kit components. This 'common terminology' will be useful when fitting the seeding kit, ordering spare parts, or in the event of troubleshooting seeding kit problems.

As the name suggests the Air Seeder uses air as the medium to transfer product from the bins to the sowing boots. The air which carries the product must be evenly distributed across the width of the cultivator.

Air flow, provided by the hydraulically driven blower, travels through the metering units, picks up metered product from the bins and exits the Air Seeder via the 'primary lines'. Air Seeders up to 4500 litre capacity will have four primary lines. 6000 litre and above have 6 primary lines.

### **Primary Lines**

The Primary Line is a 76mm internal diameter smooth bore hose that carries the product from the Air Seeder metering units to the primary dividers.

### **Primary Dividers**

The Primary Divider then equally disperse air volume from one primary line to either two, three or four secondary lines.

Two way Primary Dividers have 50mm outlets to the secondary lines while three and four way Primary Dividers have 44.5mm outlets to the secondary lines.







v 4 way





### **Seeding Kit Components and Terminology (con't)**

### **Secondary Lines**

The Secondary Line is either a 44.5mm or 50mm (depending on the primary divider) internal diameter smooth bore hose that transfers the air and the metered product from the primary divider to the secondary head up tube.

### Secondary Head Uptube \_\_\_\_

The Secondary Head Uptube is either 44.5mm 50mm or 63 mm outside diameter tube which transfers the air and metered product from the secondary line up to the secondary head.

### **Secondary Head**



The Secondary Head is manufactured from stainless steel and has either a 44.5mm, 50mm or 63mm internal diameter inlet depending on the uptube and can have 4 to 10 outlets per head. The outlets are 32.5 mm outside diameter to accommodate the terminal lines. The Secondary Head is sealed at the top by a durable rubber cap to avoid seed damage.

The metered product, once transferred to the secondary head, with the assistance of air volume and gravity flows out through the outlets to the sowing boots via the terminal lines.

### **Terminal Lines**

The Terminal Line is a 32.5mm internal diameter preferably smooth bore line that transfers the metered product from the secondary head outlet to the sowing boot.

### **Sowing Boot**

The Sowing Boot should have an inlet of 31.75mm inside diameter and maintain that diameter to the product outlet.



### **IMPORTANT**

Restricting the product flow at the sowing boot by reducing the inside diameter at the the outlet can cause seeding kit blockage.





### **Optional Seeding Kit Components**

#### **Cyclones**

Cyclones are used as a quick and convenient way of changing sowing configuration.

In row cropping operations a quick change, for example, from a thirty two row winter crop configuration to an eight row summer crop configuration is easily achieved by rerouting four secondary lines through one cyclone to one sowing boot. For this example the thirty two secondary lines would be connected to eight cyclones and which would then deliver product to eight tynes. Most of the air is released through an overhead vent while the product falls to the ground at low velocity.

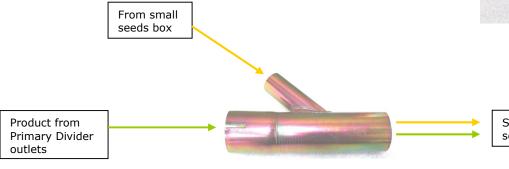


#### **Small Seed/Fertiliser Spray Boot**

A small seed/fertiliser spray boot is used to broadcast small seed or fertiliser. Using the spray boot will provide a coverage of approximately 650mm when spraying small seeds and 500mm when spreading fertiliser



#### **Small Seed Induction Tube**



Secondary line to secondary head

Small seeds induction tubes are a convenient way to place small seed from the small seeds box (option) into the main air streams with the primary product being applied. The blended products then travel via the secondary lines and heads to the sowing boot to be placed in the ground together.

#### Restrictors

Restrictors are used to balance the line airflow where large variations of sowing rates occur between lines when double or triple shooting.

Refer **Page 3.18** for more details on the use of Air Restrictors.





## **Seeding Kit Configurations and Terminology**

There are a number of different configurations and combinations for Seeding Kit set up.

**Single Shoot** – Single shoot seeding kits are used when the product is delivered to one sowing boot only.

**Double Shoot** – Double shoot seeding kits are used when two products are kept separate and placed in two separate zones. Double shoot requires the use of two separate seeding kits.

**Triple Shoot** – Triple shoot seeding kits are used when three products are kept separate and placed in three separate zones. Triple shoot requires the use of three separate seeding kits.

**Direct Feed** – Direct feed is where the metered product from the primary line is fed directly into a 63mm secondary uptube.

**Small Seed Induction** – With the use of induction tubes small seeds can be blended with the main system product at the primary divider outlets. When used in conjunction with a small seeds box option, small seeds such as canola can be blended and sown through the same boot as the fertiliser.

When fitting genuine Simplicity Australia seeding kits it is important to follow some simple guidelines. Your preferred Simplicity Australia Dealer has been trained in all aspects of seeding kit fitment and will be able to assist with the correct components and expertise with seeding kit layout for the most efficient and even distribution of the product



## **Operation**



### **Seeding Kit Setup**

#### **Overview**

Simplicity Australia designs a seeding kit to achieve maximum performance from the Simplicity Air Seeder. Seeding kits and the correct fitment has a direct relationship to Air Seeder performance. Incorrect seeding kit set up can result in problems such as blockages, force feeding, unacceptable distribution, poor Air Seeder performance and low or uneven crop yields.

To achieve maximum performance from the Simplicity Air Seeder, the fitting of a genuine Simplicity Australia seeding kit is a necessity.



**WARNING:** Observe safe work practices. Do NOT work, or allow others to work, under a raised and unsupported seeding tool. Always ensure all safety mechanisms are in place and operational to prevent any part of the seeding tool falling. Working under unsupported seeding tool components can cause death or serious injury.

Consideration should be given to the following points prior to fitting the seeding kit.

- Secondary heads should be located as central as possible to the seeding boots they are to feed
- Primary dividers should be mounted in such a position so as to keep the secondary hose to an acceptable length
- All secondary hoses should be the same length and where possible not to greatly exceed five metres.
- All primary hoses should be the same length
- The Air Seeder delivers a set volume of air relevant to the blower speed. Reducing the hose size and/or using smaller diameter seeding boots will restrict the air flow. Avoid restricting the air flow
- Air pressure and blower speed should be kept to a minimum. Refer Page 3.12 and 3.13

With consideration given to the above points and by following the steps suggested on the next page correct fitment of a seeding kit should be achieved.

#### **IMPORTANT**

Simplicity Australia Seeding Kits are designed to evenly split and distribute the air volume. Any modifications to the standard seeding kit may have a detrimental effect on the Air Seeder's performance.

#### **IMPORTANT**

**Operating** pressure of 8Kpa and above is considered excessive during operating normal conditions. Pressure in excess of 8Kpa should be investigated for restriction or the layout may need to be reconsidered and refitment may required.

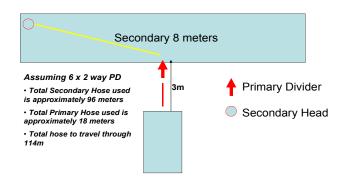


## **Operation**

- **Step 1.** Sketch secondary head position and plan the positioning of the secondary head uptubes.
- **Step 2.** Mount secondary head risers into position
- **Step 3.** Fold the implement and check for clash points
- **Step 4.** Mount primary dividers in position considering that the secondary hoses should all be the same length and no more than five metres long (refer to examples below)
- **Step 5.** Connect secondary hoses. Fold implement and check that secondary hose doesn't kink or foul on fold lines
- **Step 6.** Connect primary hoses. Fold implement and check that the primary hose doesn't kink or foul on fold lines
- **Step 7.** Attach secondary heads to risers
- **Step 8.** Connect terminal hose, i.e. secondary head to seeding boot.

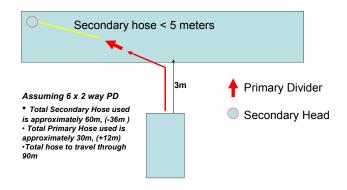
#### **IMPORTANT**

The terminal hose when fitted should not have excess 'droop' and should connected tight and as straight as possible. Excess 'droop' can allow product to collect in the terminal hose and possibly cause blockages.



The diagram on the left shows a primary divider fitted at the centre rear of the cultivator. In this example, with a wide implement, the secondary hoses will be far in excess of the recommended five metres. In this case the primary dividers should be moved out further onto the implement, positioned as not to clash with folding, and as shown in the example below.

The diagram on the right shows the primary divider positioned further out on the implement resulting in the secondary hoses being under the recommended five metres. The added advantage of correctly positioning the primary dividers is that less hose is used overall.







## **Simplicity Australia Farmscan 2200 Seeder Monitor**

The operation of the Simplicity Air Seeder is monitored by the Farmscan 2200 Monitor.

The Seeder Console will display:

- Ground Speed
- Area Worked
- Area per Hour
- Blower Speed
- Blower Pressure



An audible and visual alarm will alert the Operator when:

- Any bin level is low
- The blower speed is high or low
- The blower pressure is high or low
- Any drive shaft is stopped

#### **IMPORTANT**

Simplicity Australia recommends that the Farmscan 2200 Seeder Monitor is turned OFF before starting the tractor

The Farmscan 2200 Seeder Monitor has been designed to monitor up to three separate bins.

#### **IMPORTANT**

\*The Simplicity Farmscan 2200 monitors the Air Seeder operation only. There is no way of altering application rates from the console. The Simplicity Air Seeder must be calibrated as outlined on Pages 3.4 – 3.10 of this Operator's Manual.

A separate Operator's Manual for the Simplicity Australia Farmscan 2200 Seeder Monitor has been supplied in addition to this Operator's Manual. For detailed instructions and operating procedures of the Farmscan 2200 Seeder Monitor refer to the relevant Operator's Manual.





# **Operation**

Notes	
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## Maintenance

Proper care,
regular maintenance
and lubrication will
ensure years of
trouble free operation
and product life

#### **Lubrication and Maintenance**

Owners of Simplicity Australia product are encouraged to adopt a regular lubrication and maintenance program.

By following the Pre Season, Daily, Weekly and After Sowing lubrication and maintenance programs outlined in this Operators Manual and in conjunction with your preferred Simplicity Australia Dealer, long and trouble free operation is achievable.

#### **Pre Season**

Before sowing, at the beginning of the season, it is important that the pre season procedures outlined in the Schedule **Page 4.4** are checked off. Following the procedures outlined in the check list should ensure a trouble free sowing season.

Contact your Simplicity Australia Dealer for a Pre-Season check of all equipment.

#### **Daily Checks**

The 'Daily Checklist' Page 2 used in conjunction with the daily procedures outlined in the Schedule **Page 4.4** should ensure trouble free daily operation of the Air Seeder.

### **Weekly Checks**

The weekly checks outlined in the Schedule **Page 4.4** are procedures which can, but don't need to be, carried out every day. However, it is always a good idea to visually check these components daily.

#### **After Sowing**

Following the 'After Sowing Maintenance' checklist Page 3 in conjunction with the 'Season End' procedures outlined in the Schedule **Page 4.4** prior to storage will ensure that the Air Seeder is ready for trouble free operation next season.

### **IMPORTANT**

Over greasing can shorten the service life of some components

#### **IMPORTANT**

Care should taken when greasing metering unit shaft bearings. One shot of grease every 100 hours is sufficient. Over greasing and using air operated greasing equipment can damage the bearing seals and shorten the bearing life

It is advisable to check the wheel nut tension several times during the first day or two of operation until wheel nut tension is maintained.



## **Daily Checklist**

#### (To be carried out daily before using the Air Seeder)

The following checklist is essentially the same for all Simplicity Air Seeders. It should be followed after the initial installation of the air seeder is completed then on a daily basis.

- Periodically check wheel nut tension throughout the first days after delivery until wheel nut tension is maintained.
- Ensure all hydraulic lines are correctly coupled at all breakaway connections.
- · Check all shafts are turning freely.
- Check heat exchanger is free of material build up.
- Start blower and check for any oil leaks from hydraulic lines to the blower and return lines to the tractor.
- While observing the air pressure readout on the monitor, run the blower up to operating pressure.
- Ensure all bin lids are closed and sealed. Bin lid sealing can be checked by feeling around the lid seals for air discharge
- Check that the bottom swing away calibration doors are closed and sealed. Sealing can also be checked by feeling around the door seals for air discharge.
- Using the large calibration handle, turn the calibration shaft a few times while blower is operating and check that seed and fertiliser is being delivered to each boot. If not, check for obstructions, kinked hoses etc.
- Make certain all ladders, walkways and handrails are secure.
- Visually check wheel equipment for tyre and rim damage.
- Check tyre pressures. A change in tyre pressure can affect the sowing rates.



**CAUTION:** Specialist Repair. Tyre repair or replacement should be carried out by suitably trained personnel using the correct equipment.

## **Maintenance**



Time taken to carry out Daily Checks should ensure daily trouble free operation

#### **IMPORTANT**

Failure to correctly connect the hydraulic motor return line (large) at all breakaway couplings will cause oil loss from the oil cooler relief valve and possibly cause damage to the tractor

#### **IMPORTANT**

Failure to correctly connect the hydraulic motor case drain line (small) at all breakaway couplings will cause oil loss through the hydraulic motor shaft seal and possibly cause permanent damage to the hydraulic motor

Visually check condition of bin lid seals every time the lids are opened





### **After Sowing Maintenance**

Simplicity Australia does not recommend washing any part of the Air Seeder with high pressure water as component life can be shortened due to water ingress. The use of water while carrying out After Sowing Maintenance should be limited to washing the exterior of the Air Seeder with regards to the note below.

- ⚠ Thoroughly clean the inside of all bins and metering units with air (either pressure or vacuum) to remove any seed or fertiliser accumulated
- Spray a suitable rust preventative on the inside of the bin particularly in the corners and anywhere that seed or fertiliser has worn the powder coat and bare metal is exposed
- Leave the bin lids closed but not latched during the storage period. This will prolong the life of the bin lid seal
- Close the bottom swing away door
- Disconnect the primary lines at the breakaways and fit the cam lock plugs. This will prevent rodents from entering the Air Seeder during the storage period. The use of authorized rodent repellent products will also assist in keeping rodents away from the Air Seeder
- Disconnect, grease, rotate and grease again all swiveling hitch components prior to storage
- Check all hose for damage and wear
- Although UV and weather resistant hoses are standard, for prolonged hose life, the Air Seeder should be stored in a shed. This will save downtime during the next sowing season
- Contact your Simplicity Australia Dealer and place an order for any service parts or wear and tear item such as hose, etc.

To maintain the appearance of the powder coat finish used in production it will be necessary to wash the exterior of the Air Seeder with water and a soft cloth.

#### **IMPORTANT**

Do not use high water pressure, abrasive materials or harsh cleaning products as irreversible scratching could occur



**WARNING:** Confined Space. Do NOT enter any bin unless tractor is switched off and keys removed. Always have another person present while working in the bin.



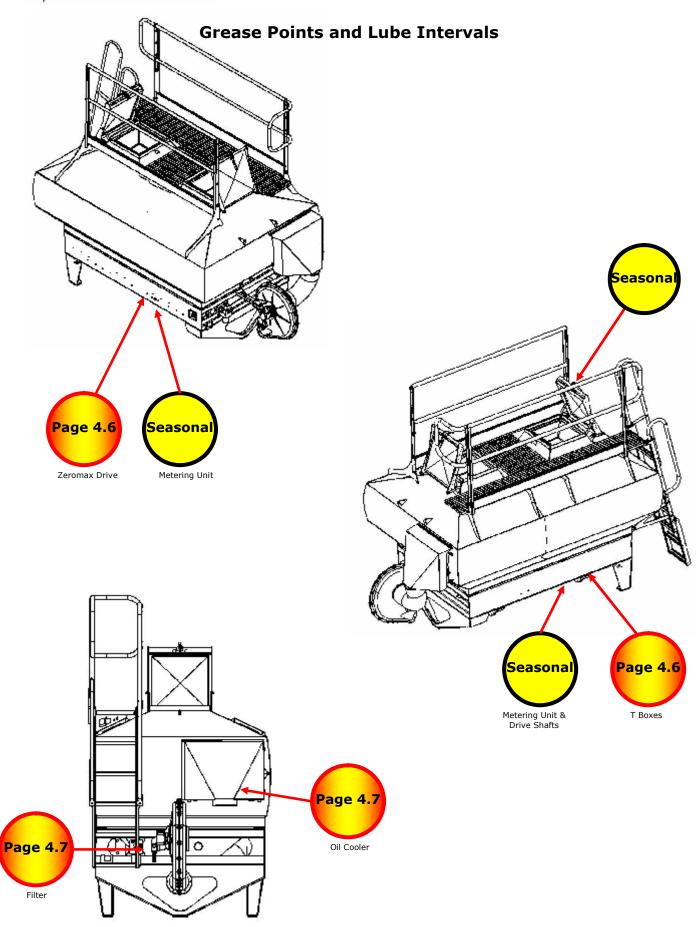
## **Maintenance**

	Change hydraulic filter	Check swing away door sealing	Check sealing of bin lids	Safety chains in place	Hitch pins in place & secure	Clean oil cooler core	Grease hitch points	All chains tension	Grease metering unit bearings	As per "After Sowing Maintenance" Page 3
Periodically during 1 <sup>st</sup> season use										
After first ten hours	X									
Daily		X	X	X	X	X				
Weekly							X			
Pre Season	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Season End										X

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## **Maintenance**

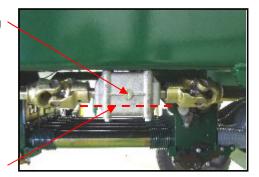
#### Oil Levels

#### 'T' Box

The Airseeder can be fitted with up to five (depending on the number of bins) angle drive gearboxes commonly known as 'T' boxes. Proper maintenance of the 'T' boxes will ensure the metering drive system remains in good order throughout the sowing season.

Filler Plug

Oil Level



The oil level in each 'T' Box should be checked at the start of the sowing season.

Remove the filler plug and check that the oil level is approximately half way between the base of the 'T' box and the filler plug. If necessary, top up with SAE 85W 140 oil.

Do not overfill

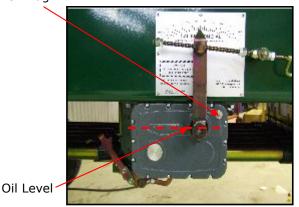
#### **IMPORTANT**

Overfilling the 'T' box can cause a pressure build up within the box resulting in seal leakage

#### **Zero Max Drives**

The number of Zero Max drives fitted is dependant on the number of bins eg. each bin requires a Zero Max drive to operate the metering unit.

Filler Plug



The 'Zero Max' drive is factory lubricated and mostly maintenance free. The oil level should be checked at the start of the sowing season. Remove the filler plug and check that the oil level is at the mid point of the upper most shaft as shown.

If oil must be added use only SAE 40 grade detergent based engine oil.

Do not overfill





#### **Blower Maintenance**

#### Oil Cooler

Air is drawn into the blower through a hydraulic oil cooler/heat exchanger as explained on **Page 3.11** 

Keeping the passage of air through the oil cooler/heat exchanger clear and unrestricted is vital to the optimum performance of the Air Delivery System.

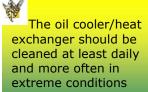
A blocked oil cooler, as well as restricting the air entering the blower, reduces the surface area of the cooler available for cooling of the hydraulic system. Hydraulic system damage from overheating can result



The hydraulic oil cooler fitted to all Simplicity Airseeders should be periodically checked and cleared of trash build up.

The oil cooler shroud easily swings away as shown to allow access. It is recommended that compressed air be used in the direction shown to

remove any trash from the cooler core.



#### **IMPORTANT**

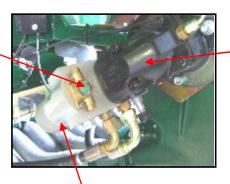
A blocked oil cooler can restrict the air flow to the blower. This will result in poor blower output and possibly overheating of the hydraulic system

#### Replacing the Hydraulic Oil Filter

The blower is driven by a hydraulic motor, which in itself requires no maintenance. However it is most important that the oil is kept clean by paying particular attention to the cleanliness of hydraulic couplings and regular filter replacement. The filter has a service indicator fitted which is **GREEN** during normal operation. If the indicator turns **RED** at any time during operation the filter is blocked and the oil is bypassing. Urgent filter replacement is required when indicator is **RED**.

Hydraulic filter part number 159424400 is available from your Simplicity Australia Dealer





Hydraulic Filter

Hydraulic Motor





### Replacing the Hydraulic Oil Filter (con't)

The hydraulic filter element should be changed after the initial ten hours work and then prior to each sowing season or if the service indicator shows red at any time during sowing operations.

The hydraulic system must be **'off'** and lines must be **'depressurised'** before changing the filter.

Using an oil filter wrench, remove the filter bowl and drain the oil into a suitable container.

Grasp the exposed filter element and pull down with a slight twisting movement to remove.

Discard the used filter, clean the filter head and bowl using suitable cleaning fluid and check sealing surfaces for damage.

Fit the appropriate O ring seal (supplied) to the top of the new filter element into position as shown.

Lubricate the O ring and fit the new filter element up into the filter head.



Fit the new head to bowl O ring seal (supplied) to the bowl in the position shown.

Lubricate the filter bowl O ring seal and refit the bowl to the filter head.

### **Do Not Overtighten**

Run the hydraulic system and check for leaks.

#### **Clutch Maintenance**



The metering drive system is connected to the drive wheel by an electrically operated mechanical clutch. The clutch requires some maintenance to ensure efficient operation.

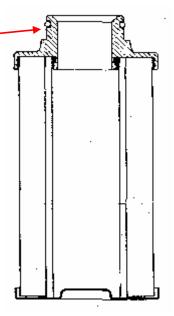
At the start of the sowing the clutch retaining bolt should be checked for tension. This bolt should be kept tight as severe internal clutch damage can occur if the bolt continually loosens. If the bolt is unable to be kept tight a new clutch will be required.

#### **IMPORTANT**

Replace the hydraulic filter only when the system is cold

#### **IMPORTANT**

Do not use cloth or paper towel to clean the components as residue may be left in the system







### **Checking for Air Leaks**

During sowing operations the bins are pressure equalised with the metering units. It is therefore very important that there are no air leaks in the air delivery system. Leaks can occur in various places and can cause loss of pressure or pressure unbalance with the result of sowing rates becoming erratic or stalling.

To avoid problems with the sowing rates it is recommended to check for air leaks prior to sowing.

This is achieved by following the steps below:

- Disconnect primary lines at the camlock couplings.
- Fit all camlock plugs except one ie. block off all primary lines leaving one open to allow a flow of air. By fitting all the plugs except one an air restriction will be created with a back pressure formed in the bins and metering units.
- Run the blower at approx. 3500 rpm.



- Bin lid seals.
- Sealing between metering units and bins.
- Metering spool window seals.
- Swing away door seals.
- Spool and agitator shaft seals
- Bin dividers see Page 4.11 for special instructions regarding bin divider leaks.
- Camlock couplings

Air leaks, with the exception of bin dividers, can be detected by running hands around the sealing areas feeling for any air escaping around the seals.

If air leaks are detected around the bin lids, stop the blower, open the lids and check the condition of the seals. Repair and adjust if necessary by following the procedures outlined below and with consideration to the following:







**CAUTION:** Do NOT open bin lids while blower is operating. Release of bin lids under pressure will cause unwanted movement of seed and fertilizer which could result in injury







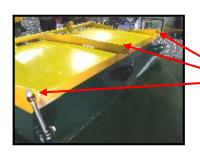
- Check the seal inside the bin lid for damage. If damaged replace the seal.
- Check that the seal is positioned so it will contact the lip around the top of the bin when the lid is closed.



 When closing the lids check that the latches close with 'over centre' force. This will ensure that the lids are tight and pressure is applied to the seal.



 Over centre adjustment is achieved by adjusting the eye of the latches in or out until desired pressure is obtained.



Further adjustment is available by tightening the lock nuts on the hinges.

### **Swing Away Door**

If an air leak is detected at the swing away door seal, stop the blower, open the door and check the condition of the seal. Repair and adjust if necessary by following the procedures outlined below and with consideration to the following:

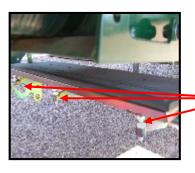


**CAUTION:** Do NOT open the swing away doors while blower is operating. Release of doors under pressure could result in injury





Check the seal inside the doors for damage. If damaged replace the seal.



- When closing the door make certain that there is nothing likely to be wedged between the door seal and the sealing surface.
  - Further sealing adjustment can be achieved by adjusting the three screws when the door is closed.

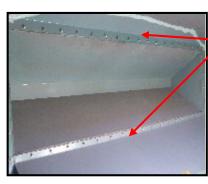
### Metering Unit or Shaft Leaks

If air leaks are detected between any metering unit and bin, any agitator or metering spool shaft seal, or any metering unit window it is advised that your Simplicity Australia Dealer be notified and repairs are carried out by the Dealer's trained Technician.

#### **Bin Divider Leaks**

The bin dividers are removable and can be fixed in various configurations in the bins for the purpose of changing the capacity of individual bins. Refer **Page 3.11** 

The bin dividers have been positioned and fully sealed in the Air Seeder by your Simplicity Australia Dealer as to your requirements. They are secured in the bin by a number of bolts with nuts and are designed so that they can be removed and repositioned by the Operator and an assistant to change bin capacity should the need arise.



The bin dividers must be fully sealed with silicon as air leaks internally between the bins can be detrimental to the accuracy of the sowing operation. Refer Page 5.1

## **IMPORTANT**

When changing bin dividers the sealing surfaces must be clean with all previous sealant removed. Before refitting the dividers generously apply sealant to all sealing surfaces

A leak in a bin divider can only be detected if there is a concern with the sowing operation or by a visual check around the outside of each divider with consideration to the following:



**CAUTION:** Do NOT open bin lids while blower is operating. Release of bin lids under pressure will cause unwanted movement of seed and fertilizer which could result in injury





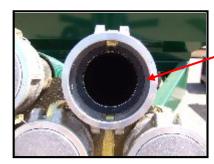


**WARNING:** Confined Space. Do NOT enter any bin unless tractor is switched off and keys removed. Always have another person present while working in the bin.



If a leak has occurred a visual check will show a clean area on the bin wall that is usually dusty. This is caused by an air stream coming through the bin divider and blowing product from a section of the wall around the leak area.

To repair a bin divider air leak the bin divider must be completely removed and resealed



Finally, before reconnecting the primary hoses, make sure that there is a sealing ring in the female section of the camlock as shown.

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## **Maintenance**



## **Record of Service and Repairs**

Service/Repair	Carried out by: Dealer/Owner	Comments
	Service/ Repair	Dealer/Owner



## **Maintenance**

Notes

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# **Trouble Shooting**

## **Sowing Operation**

Concern	Probable Cause	Suggested Remedy
Application Rates too low	a) Bin lid leaking	a) Check bin lid is closed and latched b) Check condition of lid seal and replace if necessary c) Check for broken or loose over centre bin lid latch or hinge d) Check and adjust bin lid for air tight seal
	b) Scales not accurate	a) Refer <b>Page 3.9</b> for more information concerning accuracy of scales. Check the accuracy of the scales and, if necessary, recalibrate the sowing rate using accurate scales b) Weigh product on a hard level surface
	c) Calibration crank handle was turned in the wrong direction	Always turn the calibration crank handle in a clockwise direction. Recalibrate the sowing rate
	d) The product weighs heavier than first thought	Check product density ie. weight per litre. Refer Page 3.22
	e) The bin holds more	a) Check bin split configuration. Refer Page 3.22
	than first thought	b) Fill the bin only to the top of the bin lid opening. Pushing product into the corners of the bins increases capacity
	f) Air Seeder calibration incorrect	Recheck Air Seeder calibration. Refer <b>Pages 3.4 – 3.10</b>
Application Rates too high	a) Scales not accurate b) Calibration crank handle turns not correct c) The Air Seeder is not level when sowing (FM or TR only) d) The product weighs less than first thought	a) Refer Page 3.9 for information concerning accuracy of scales. Check the accuracy of the scales and, if necessary, recalibrate the sowing rate using accurate scales b) Weigh product on a hard level surface  Check all procedures outlined on Pages 3.4 – 3.10 have been correctly applied and, if necessary, repeat the operation described on Page 3.6  Adjust the Air Seeder to obtain a level or slightly 'nose down' attitude  Check product density ie. weight per litre. Refer Page 3.22
	e) Blower air volume is too high	Check and adjust blower air volume to the minimum required especially with small seeds. Refer <b>Pages 3.12 &amp; 3.13</b>



# **Trouble Shooting**

## **Sowing Operation**

Concern	Probable Cause	Suggested Remedy
Sowing Tubes Blocking	a) Air Volume too low	Check and adjust blower air volume to the minimum required especially with small seeds. Refer <b>Pages 3.12 &amp;3.13</b>
	b) Sowing tube restrictions	a) Check for, and repair any, air line restrictions eg. kinked hoses, sowing boot blockage etc. b) Check seeding kit layout for unnecessary dips or curves etc.
	c) Hydraulic blower motor speed not constant	a) Check oil supply from the tractor is constant and not erratic     b) Check blower motor supply line is correctly coupled to the auxiliary hydraulic priority coupling on the tractor
Sowing tubes blocking in double or triple Shoot operations	a) Differing rates of air volume required to move fertiliser and seed	a) Fit air restrictors to low rate lines. Refer Page 3.18
Inconsistent product delivery to metering unit	a) Bin lid leaking	a) Check bin lid is closed and latched b) Check condition of lid seal and replace if necessary c) Check for broken or loose over centre bin lid latch or hinge d) Check and adjust bin lid for air tight seal
	b) Product bridging	a) Remove coarse seeds plate. Refer <b>Page 3.10</b> for further instructions b) Ensure product is dry and that product coatings aren't causing the product to 'hang' in the bins. Consult the product supplier
Seed bounce	a) Air volume too high	Check and adjust blower air volume to the minimum required especially with small seeds. Refer <b>Pages 3.12 &amp; 3.13</b>
	b) Differing rates of air volume required to move fertiliser and seed	Fit air restrictors to low rate lines. Refer Page 3.18
Metering Units not turning	a) Master switch turned OFF or Run/Hold switch on HOLD	a) Turn Master Switch to ON or Run/Hold switch to RUN

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# **Trouble Shooting**

## **Blower Operation**

Concern	Probable Cause	Suggested Remedy
Blower does not operate	a) Tractor hydraulic system failed	Consult the authorised Tractor Dealer
	b) Hydraulic line from the tractor to the blower motor not connected	Check all breakaway couplings between the Airseeder hydraulic blower motor and the tractor are connected
	c) Breakaway coupling failed	Check all coupling ball or pintle ends are free, in position and not under pressure
Blower operates erratically	a) Tractor hydraulic system surging	a) Ensure the blower hydraulic line is connected to the priority connection of the tractor auxiliary hydraulic valve b) Consult the authorised Tractor Dealer
Oil discharge from hydraulic oil cooler relief valve	a) Motor return hose not coupled to the tractor	Check all breakaway hydraulic couplings between the Airseeder hydraulic blower motor and the tractor are connected
	b) Breakaway coupling failed	Check all coupling ball or pintle ends are free, in position and not under pressure
	c) Motor return hose squashed or kinked	Check that the motor return hose is free running and not squashed in a hose clamp etc.
	d) Relief valve pressure is set too low or relief valve has failed	Consult an authorised Simplicity Australia Dealer
Oil discharge from hydraulic motor shaft seal	a) Case drain hose not coupled to the tractor	Check all breakaway hydraulic couplings between the Airseeder hydraulic blower motor and the tractor are connected
	b) Breakaway coupling failed	Check all coupling ball or pintle ends are free, in position and not under pressure
	c) Case drain hose squashed or kinked	Check that the case drain hose is free running and not squashed in a hose clamp etc.
Blower hydraulic system running hot	a) Oil cooler air flow restricted	Clean oil cooler and repair any damaged fins. Refer Page 4.7
	b) Restriction in motor return line	a) Check all breakaway hydraulic couplings between the Airseeder hydraulic blower motor and the tractor are correctly matched b) Check all coupling ball or pintle ends are free, in position and not under pressure
	c) Blower running too fast	a) Check blower speed is not too fast for the sowing operation. Refer <b>Page 3.13</b> b) Check seeding kit set up is correct with no restrictions

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# **Troubleshooting**

Notes

Simplicity Australia Page 5.4 Version 1.0



## **Miscellaneous**

## **Useful Formulae/Conversions**

_en	a	t	h
-61	м	·	

_			
1 km =	0.62 mile	1 mile =	1.609 km

$$1 \text{ m} = 3.28 \text{ ft}$$
  $1 \text{ ft} = 0.304 \text{ m}$ 

$$1 \text{ mm} = 0.039 \text{ inch}$$
  $1 \text{ inch} = 25.40 \text{ mm}$ 

Area

$$1 \text{ ha} = 10,000 \text{ m2} = 2.47 \text{ acre}$$

$$1 \text{ acre} = 4840 \text{ sq. yd} = 0.40 \text{ ha}$$

$$1 \text{ km2} = 0.38 \text{ sq. mile}$$
  $1 \text{ sq. mile} = 2.589 \text{ km2}$ 

Volume

$$1 \text{ m}3 = 35.31 \text{ cu.ft} = 0.028 \text{ m}3$$

1 litre = 
$$.22 \text{ gal}$$
. 1 gal =  $4.54 \text{ litre}$ 

1 litre = 
$$0.26$$
 US gal =  $3.78$  litre

1 bushel = 8.00 gal = 1.28 ft3

$$1 \text{ litre} = 0.027 \text{ bushel} = 36.36 \text{ litre}$$

**Pressure** 

1 psi = 
$$6.89 \text{ kPa}$$
 1 kPa =  $0.14 \text{ psi}$ 

 $1 \, \text{Bar} = 14.5 \, \text{psi}$ 

Mass

$$1 \text{ kg} = 2.20 \text{ lb}$$
  $1 \text{ lb} = 0.45 \text{ kg}$ 

1 kg = 1000 grams

**Application Rate** 

$$1 \text{ kg/ha} = 0.89 \text{ lb/acre}$$
  $1 \text{ lb/acre} = 1.12 \text{ kg/ha}$ 

**Mass Flow Rate** 

kg/hr = Application Rate (kg/ha) x Area Rate (ha/hr)

kg/min= Application Rate (kg/ha) x Area Rate (ha/hr)

60

lb/hr = Application Rate (lb/acre) x Area Rate (acre/hour)

lb/min = Application Rate (lb/acre) x Area Rate (acre/hour)

60





## Risk Assessment Hazard Checklist for Air Seeders

Product Description	Simplicity Air Seeder		
Model		Serial Number	
Date of Inspection		Location of Inspection	Dalby
Inspected by:		Signature	

Hazard	Risk Source	Safety Measure	Safety Measure Check?
Incorrect Operation	Lack of Information	Comprehensive     Operator's Manual     with safety and     operating     information	Yes
Slipping or Falling	<ul><li>Riding on the Air Seeder</li><li>Ladder</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Warning decal fitted</li> <li>Standard step height and hand rail</li> </ul>	Yes Yes
	Walkways	Non slip platform     with hand rails	Yes
Crushing and entrapment	Hitch points	<ul><li>Hitch stand fitted</li><li>Warning decal fitted</li></ul>	Yes Yes
	<ul> <li>Relative movement between Air Seeder, cultivator and tractor.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Warning decals fitted at all crush points</li> </ul>	Yes
Contact with over head power lines	<ul><li>Air Seeder height</li><li>Load/unload auger</li></ul>	<ul><li>Warning decal fitted</li><li>Warning decal fitted</li></ul>	Yes Yes
	Cultivator height when folded	Warning decal fitted	Yes
High pressure fluid leak Oil ingress through skin	<ul> <li>Hydraulic hoses</li> <li>Checking for hydraulic leaks with hands</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Hoses clamped at close intervals to prevent rubbing</li> <li>Warning decal fitted</li> </ul>	Yes Yes
Poisoning and substance contact	<ul> <li>Skin contact with treated seed and/fertilizers</li> <li>Dust inhalation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Warning contained in Operators Manual</li> <li>Warning decal fitted</li> </ul>	Yes Yes



# **Miscellaneous**

Notes



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