

## How do I set my equipment?

- The drill does not have King's Mixtures on the chart!!!!
- Charts on equipment are not accurate!
  - Every lot of seed flows different
  - Calibration saves money and pays!

## The Hard Ways

- Don't Worry about rate.
- Trial and Error
- Do the math by yourself (weight/area)
  - Collect seed weight in OZ or Grams then convert to Lbs.
  - Measure distance collected then convert inches and feet into acre.

## Depth & Seeding Rate

- Seeding Depth
  - Small Grains Sorghum Sudans – about 1"
  - Small Seeds – 1/8 to 1/4"
    - About 10% on surface
- Seeding Rate
  - Too little seed = weeds and low 1<sup>st</sup> year yields
  - Too High – will make less diverse and cost money.

## Read Owners Manual

- Some equipment has short cut methods such as turning a wheel 30 times and weighing seed and multiplying by a factor.
- Some equipment has other techniques.

## Equipment Needed

- Tape measure or wheel
- Something to collect seed with
  - Drill – sandwich bag
  - Drop seeder – tarp or tray
- Postal or dietary scale
- Correct Calibration Chart (Excel Spreadsheet Available)
  - Row spacing and distance must be correct.

## Drill

- Determine proper seed depth and rate.
  - Use calibration sheet to determine grams or Oz. to collect.
- Measure 100 feet (add extra foot for seed drop)
- Take hoses off 3 to 4 rows and attach sandwich bag with rubber band.

## Drill continued

- Run drill 101 feet.
  - Check for seeding depth on rows with seed drop
  - Weigh bags with seed.
  - Average wt should be close to goal.
- If depth or rate is off, make adjustments and redo until acceptable.
- Also check for seed to soil contact. Soil needs to be firm.

## Drop Seeder

- Attach tray under part of seeder
  - a 4" PVC pipe cut in half the long direction works. Tape on drill.
  - Get calibration chart for width of tray and distance collected
  - Follow same procedure as drill.
- Or
- Lay large tarp on sod or pavement
  - Determine square ft of collected dropped seed and get calibration sheet.
  - Carefully collect and weigh seed.
  - Make adjustments

## Drop Seeder

1. Calculated wt by collecting wt. Convert to lbs.
  2. Calculate area. Can be done using spreadsheet a 10 foot collection on the excel sheet would be put in at 120 inches.
- Distance ft X width ft = area ft<sup>2</sup>.
  - Divide by 43,560 to get acreage
  - Example 100 ft collection distance 10 ft drop seeded
    - Wt = Collect 8 oz or 0.5 lbs
    - Area = 100ft X 10ft = 1000 ft<sup>2</sup>
    - $1000/43560 = 0.023$  A
    - $0.5 \text{ lb} / .023 \text{ lb} = 21.8 \text{ lb/A}$