Boom Sprayer Calibration

Dr. Paul A. Baumann
Professor and Extension Weed Specialist

1. Determine nozzle spacing.
2. Refer to table below for length of calibration course.
3. Mark off calibration course.
4. Record time required to drive calibration course at desired field gear and rpm.
5. Park tractor, maintain rpm used to drive course, turn on sprayer.
6. Catch water from one nozzle for time equal to that required to drive calibration course.
7. Ounces of water = gallons per acre.

Chart for Nozzle Spacing and Length of Calibration Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nozzle Spacing (inches)</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>40</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length of Calibration Course (linear feet)</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*To determine the calibration course for a nozzle spacing not listed, divide the spacing expressed in feet into 340 (340 sq. ft. = 1/128 of an acre). Example: Calibration distance for 19-inch nozzle spacing = 340 \( \div \frac{19}{12} \approx 215 \) feet.

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Boomless Sprayer Calibration

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1. Determine swath width.
2. Refer to table below for length of calibration course.
3. Mark off calibration course.
4. Record time required to drive calibration course at desired field gear and rpm.
5. Park tractor, maintain rpm used to drive course, turn on sprayer.
6. Catch water for time equal to that required to drive calibration course.
7. Pints of water caught = gallons per acre.

**Chart for Swath Width and Length of Calibration Course**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effective Swath Width (feet)</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>35</th>
<th>40</th>
<th>45</th>
<th>50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length of Calibration Course* (linear feet)</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*To determine the calibration course for a swath width not listed, divide the swath width expressed in feet into 5460 (5460 sq. ft. = 1/8 of an acre). Example: Calibration distance for 32-foot swath width = 5460 ÷ 32 = 171 feet.*