

Yield Mapping Part 5: Do I really have to calibrate again?

Yearly calibration is an important step to ensure realistic numbers for your yield data. If you are going to fuss over GPS accuracy, you should be equally fussed over this crucial yearly maintenance task. AgLeader Technology offers this advice in the June 2011 Insights Newsletter:

<http://www.agleader.com/docs/insights-jun11.pdf>

Vibration, Header Stop Height, Distance, and Temperature all need to be calibrated before operation.

*For step-by-step instructions on how to do these calibrations, consult the Grain Harvest section of the display manual.

Calibrate stop height. This will set the height when the display stops recording area as the header is raised at the end of the pass. Stop height calibration is required for each grain type. Do not hesitate to reset this calibration if crop conditions dictate a higher or lower setting. This will avoid unnecessary 'skips' in the data and clean headland enter and exit.

Run a distance calibration. This will calibrate the ground speed sensor connected to the display. Note: If you are using GPS speed as the primary speed sensor, you will still need to calibrate the backup sensor.

Calibrate temperature. This will set the temperature offset to help provide a correct moisture reading. This calibration should only be performed once a season. Run a vibration calibration. The vibration calibration is used to compensate for the amount of force that is being measured by the flow sensor with no grain flow. This calibration must be done for each crop type with appropriate header attached.

Calibrate moisture. This will set the moisture offset to help provide accurate moisture and yield readings. Moisture calibration is required for each grain type.

Calibrate grain weight. If done correctly, this will provide accurate yield readings across all flow ranges. Calibration is required each year and for each grain type. For weight calibrations: It is very important to perform at least four (preferably six) calibration loads for each grain that you will be harvesting. Each load should be harvested at a different grain flow rate by varying ground speed or the width of cut. This allows for a good calibration at varying flow rates. Calibration loads should be similar in size and be a minimum of 3,000-6,000 pounds.

This information has been shared from AgLeader to you by:

Karon from 2011