

Simple Spreader Calibration Worksheet:

Step 1: Find the N number on your bag. $N = \square$

Then divide 100 by the N number:

$$100 \div \square = \square \text{ lbs}$$

This answer is the correct amount of fertilizer in pounds you want to apply per 1,000 square feet of your turf.

Steps 2 & 3: Place 10 lbs of fertilizer in your hopper and operate your spreader along a 25 ft length of hard surface.

Step 4: Now measure the width in feet that the fertilizer was scattered by your spreader and multiply this by the 25 ft length you operated the spreader along:

$$\square \text{ ft} \times 25 \text{ ft} = \square \text{ ft}^2$$

This answer is the total area in square feet covered by your spreader.

Step 5: Weigh the amount of fertilizer left in your hopper and then subtract that number from the original 10 lbs:

$$10 \text{ lbs} - \square \text{ lbs} = \square \text{ lbs}$$

This answer is the amount in pounds your spreading effort has applied.

Step 6: Divide the amount of fertilizer in pounds that you spread by the square footage your spreader has covered:

$$\square \text{ lbs (answer from step 5)} \div \square \text{ ft}^2 \text{ (answer from step 4)} = \square$$

Now divide the amount of fertilizer in pounds that you want to apply by 1,000 square feet:

$$\square \text{ lbs (answer from Step 1)} \div 1,000 \text{ ft}^2 = \square$$

Compare these two answers. If the answer for your test area is larger than the answer for the amount you want to apply, you will need to adjust your spreader to apply less fertilizer. But if the answer for your test area is smaller, you may want to adjust your spreader to apply more fertilizer.

Example Worksheet:

Step 1: Find the N number on your bag. N = $\boxed{20}$

Then divide 100 by the N number:

$$100 \div \boxed{20} = \boxed{5} \text{ lbs}$$

This answer is the correct amount of fertilizer in pounds you want to apply per 1,000 square feet of your turf.

Steps 2 & 3: Place 10 lbs of fertilizer in your hopper and operate your spreader along a 25 ft length of hard surface.

Step 4: Now measure the width in feet that the fertilizer was scattered by your spreader and multiply this by the 25 ft length you operated the spreader along:

$$\boxed{20} \text{ ft} \times 25 \text{ ft} = \boxed{500} \text{ ft}^2$$

This answer is the total area in square feet covered by your spreader.

Step 5: Weigh the amount of fertilizer left in your hopper and then subtract that number from the original 10 lbs:

$$10 \text{ lbs} - \boxed{7} \text{ lbs} = \boxed{3} \text{ lbs}$$

This answer is the amount in pounds your spreading effort has applied.

Step 6: Divide the amount of fertilizer in pounds that you spread by the square footage your spreader has covered:

$$\boxed{3} \text{ lbs (answer from step 5)} \div \boxed{500} \text{ ft}^2 \text{ (answer from step 4)} = \boxed{0.006}$$

Now divide the amount of fertilizer in pounds that you want to apply by 1,000 square feet:

$$\boxed{5} \text{ lbs (answer from Step 1)} \div 1,000 \text{ ft}^2 = \boxed{0.005}$$

Compare these two answers. If the answer for your test area is larger than the answer for the amount you want to apply, you will need to adjust your spreader to apply less fertilizer. But if the answer for your test area is smaller, you may want to adjust your spreader to apply more fertilizer. ****For this particular example, the spreader would need to be adjusted to apply less fertilizer.**