

Truck Crop Yield Monitor

Pocket PC Version



GK  Technology
For Agriculture

KB
MFG

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Nuts & Bolts - Virtual & Real

Welcome to the first season of the Pocket PC Version of the Truck Crop Yield Monitor. For Year 1 this is going to be a quick and dirty explanation of the screens and terms used in the software. This is the first season for this version of software and we will try to cover enough here to take care of most of the simple problems.

This software has been developed in the newest development tool from **Microsoft, Visual Studio .Net**, as with any **.Net** application, it is required that the Pocket PC that is going to run the software, have the **.Net Compact Framework** installed. This will have been done for you the first time, but if you let the batteries on the Pocket PC go dead, the **.Net Compact Framework** will need to be reinstalled.

The cab files for installing the **.Net Framework** have been included on the install CD with this manual. As time goes on the framework will be updated from time to time. The version of the framework included in this release is Version 1.1. In the near future all Pocket PC's will ship from the manufacturer with this framework installed.

This software is designed to work together with a truck weight monitor from KB Manufacturing, Fisher, MN. It handles the inputs from the load cells and the shaft speed sensor and outputs a weight to the serial port with the weight that on the conveyor each time that the shaft speed sensor sends a pulse. There are some settings that need to be made in the monitor to send data from the serial port. Refer to the documentation for the weight monitor for how to change these settings.



Hardware Note:

Depending on the harvester the data may be sent one or two times per revolution of the shaft. The weight ideally should be sent no more than 3 times per second. The laptop version takes weights up to 6 times per second without problems, but the Pocket PC has a tough time keeping up over 3 Hz. The shaft RPM reading in the software is calculated for one pulse per revolution. If the shaft RPM is reading over 150, we may want to look at putting on a collar with only one pulse per revolution. On the other side, if the shaft RPM is reading below 60 we may want to put a collar on that has two pulses per revolution. A range of 60 to 150 pulses per second is the ideal range for the Pocket PC Version.



GPS Configuration

Any GPS receiver that is capable of sending data that conforms to the NMEA-0183 specification should be capable of being configured to work with the software.

The GGA string and either a VTG or RMC string must be sent from the receiver once per second. The VTG or RMC string is required for providing ground speed.

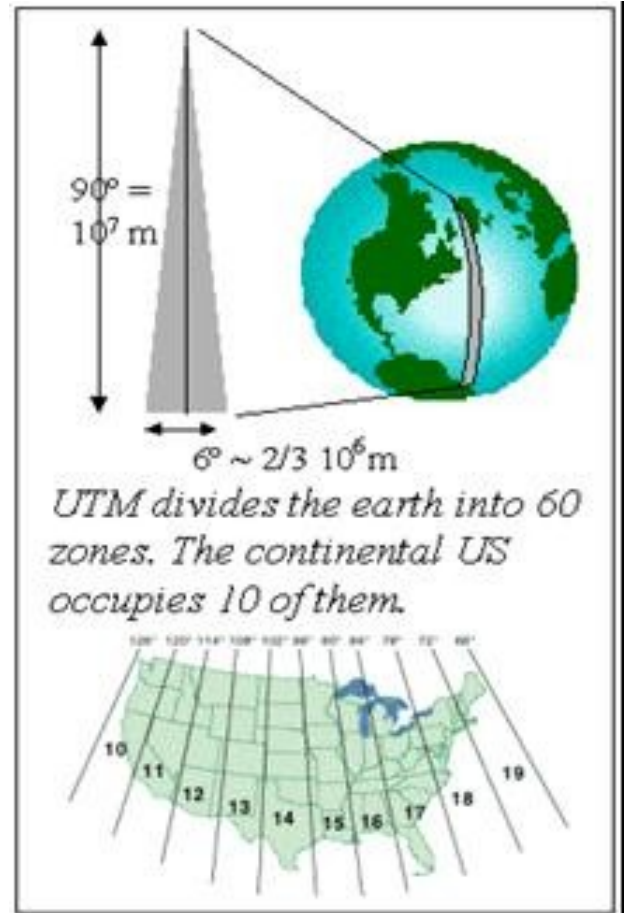
The baud rate can be configured in the software, 4800 or 9600 is recommended.

With Satloc receivers, select the VTG instead of the RMC, as most Satloc receivers that we have worked with, send a malformed RMC string.

To get to the GPS Settings in the software, from the Main Screen on the "Setup" Tab, click the "GPS" Button, the screen to the right will appear. It defaults to the most common settings. If the GPS is connected to the Port on the Bottom of the Pocket PC, it will be Comm Port 1.

For operation in the Red River Valley, the UTM Zone Setting should be left at Zone 14. For Southern Minnesota users, if your longitude is less than 96, you may want to use Zone 15, Sidney, MT users should use Zone 13.

Click "Save Changes" to apply any changes that you have made and exit back to the Main Screen. Clicking OK, will exit but will not save changes.



GPS Config		← 11:34	ok
Comm Port	1		
Baud Rate	4800		
Data Bits	8		
Parity	N		
Stop Bits	1		
UTM Zone	14		
Save Changes			

Yield Monitor Configuration

To make the settings required for yield monitor operation, click the "Yield Mon" button on the Setup Tab.

The most difficult setting to make is the Comm Port selection. Depending on the Pocket PC, the port that is created when the Serial IO card is inserted, is numbered differently on almost every PC.

It should be between 4 and 7. For HP iPaq 3900 and 5400 Series Pocket PC, it is usually port number 5 or 6. If the port does not exist when you click "Start", you will receive an Error "Port Already in Use or Is Not Available" Error. Since ports are assigned to Blue Tooth or Phone ports, an incorrect setting may not cause an error, but just will not communicate with the Yield Monitor. Start with Port 6, if you get an Error Message, and then try 5 and then 7.

The test for success is to engage the harvester so that the sensed shaft is turning. This will cause the light on the Truck Weight monitor to blink. If communications are working the "Yield Mon" light on the "Display" tab will blink in time with the light on the Truck Weight Monitor.

The row spacing and row count numbers are self-explanatory. Set the Row Spacing to the spacing of your rows, and the Row Count to the number of rows that your harvester collects in a full pass.

Delay Time

Delay Time is a calculated number. The number that is entered here is the amount of time that elapses from when the crop is first introduced into the machine, until that crop is going across the load cells. I suggest setting it at 6 seconds to start.

When you get to the field, put the harvester in the ground and begin harvesting. Count seconds in your head, from the time you begin harvesting until the crop is flowing across the load cells. Enter the elapsed time in the delay time box. By doing this the software will look back in time to see where it was when the crop that is on the load cells now was harvested. This will help to create precise yield maps.

Filter Period

Filter Period is the number of seconds of yield readings are averaged using a moving average, to create the values that will be stored in the map. 4 seconds is the suggested setting. If the display is updating to smoothly for your taste, then decrease the number, if it is to erratic, increase the number.

Internally all yield pulses from the truck weight monitor are averaged with the last four readings and the amount of time that has elapsed to collect those four readings, those four readings are then used to calculate a crop flow in Lbs per Second. The filter period controls how many Lbs per Second readings are averaged to calculate the final yield.

Harvester ID

For farms with multiple harvesters, to be able to separate which data came from which harvester. Suggested scheme is letters for the Harvesters A, B, C, D etc. The load names are automatically generated with the scheme Harvester ID-Load Number. The 1st load from harvester A is load A-1. You can then use the time tags in the DBF File to track down where a specific load came from in the field.

Setting the Data Home Location

The Data Home button on the Setup Tab, is how the user controls where to store the collected data from harvest operations. The setting works a little differently the first time it is run. When you press the Data Home button, the Screen Below appears.

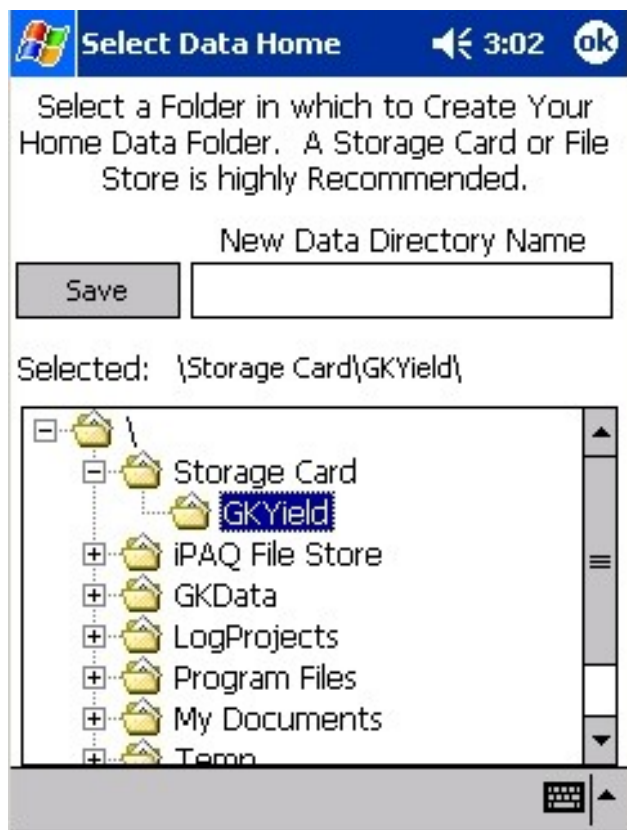
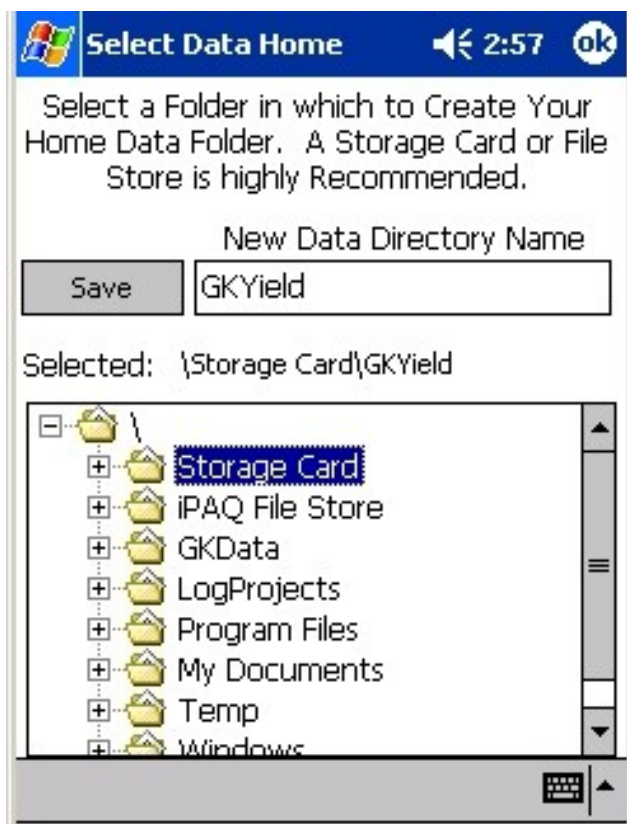
A Storage Card of some type is HIGHLY recommended. Storing data on the Pocket PC is asking for a disaster. If the battery goes dead, it's all gone!

By default, the program is just waiting for you to click on the Storage or Data Card on which you want to store the data.

When the Screen comes up, click on the Storage Card. The "Selected" label will then change to "\Storage Card\GKYield\". Click "Save" to save the setting.

The text that is in the "New Directory Name" box will be the name of the folder that is created on the data card to store the data. The first time you do this the New Directory Name box will contain "GKYield", if a path has already been stored once, it will be blank.

If it is blank like the one on the right then click the "GKYield" folder on the Storage Card. Note that the selected label ends up the same "\Storage Card\GKYield\" with either option. Click the Save Button to save changes.

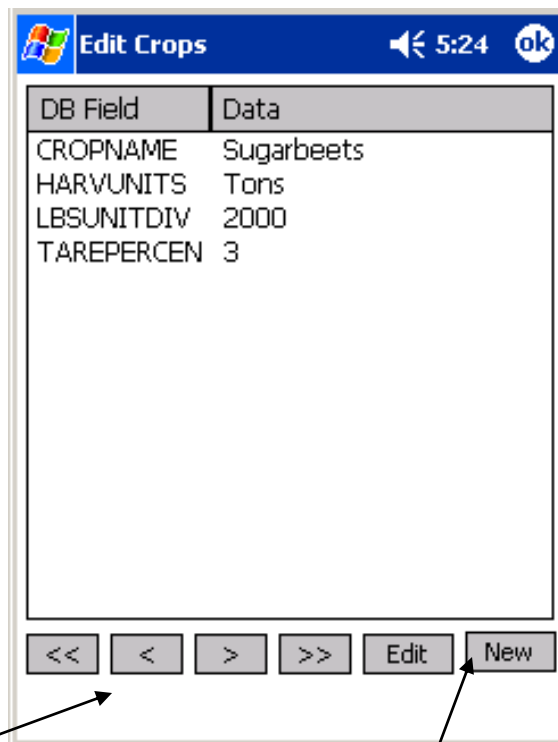


Database Display & Editing

The databases that are used in GK Technology products are standard dBase IV. We will start with how the database editor works and continue on to the specific databases in later pages.

These databases can be read and created in Excel and Access as well as a great many other applications. Since we had to write dBase to create SHP files, we adopted it as the databases to hold the field names, truck names and target weights, and the Crop Parameters. The Field and Load Reports also use the dBase format as well, more on that in the Collected Data Section.

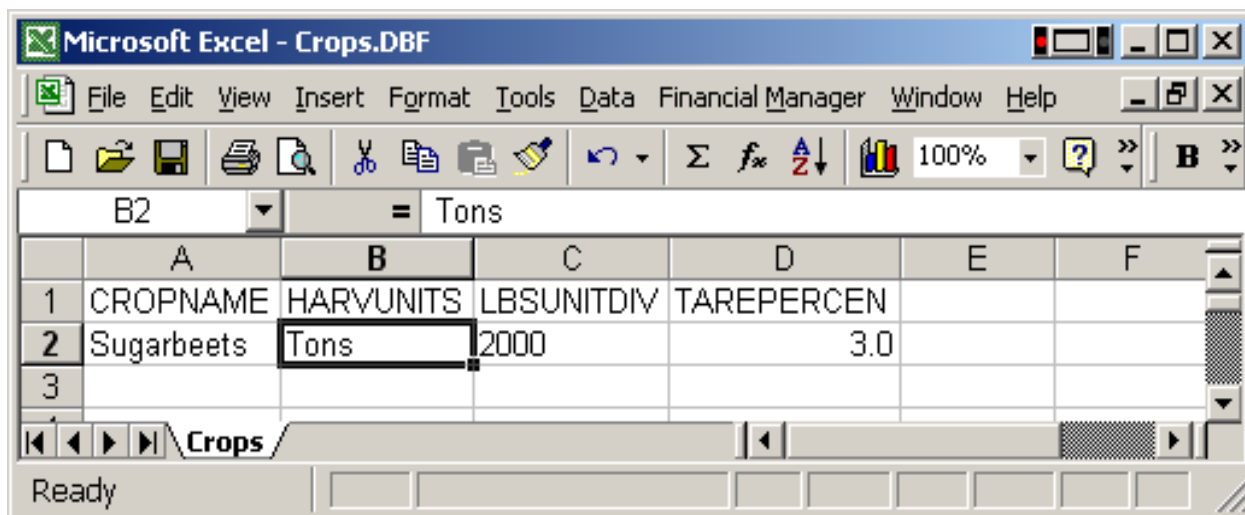
This is showing the first record in the Crops database. Screen shot on the bottom of the page shows the Crop parameters table in Excel.



The next page on record editing starts from a click on the new button on the screen.

To view other names in the database:

- Click the ">" to move forward in the list.
- Click the "<" to move backward in the list.
- Click the ">>" to move to the end of the database
- Click the "<<" to move to the beginning of the database.
- Clicking "Edit" will allow you to edit the Record that is displayed.
- Clicking "New" will create a new entry at the end of database.



Using the Record Editor

To the right is the Data Entry box. We will demonstrate editing the Crop Parameters database. It should provide enough of a demonstration to allow you to edit all of the databases in the program. This editor is shown when you click "Edit" or "New".

To Create a "New Record", click the "New" Button, the Data Entry will appear. All of the data entries are blank. Figure 1

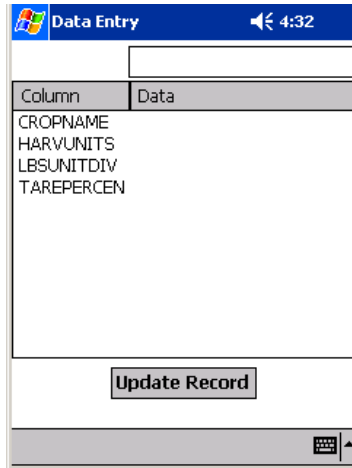


Figure 1

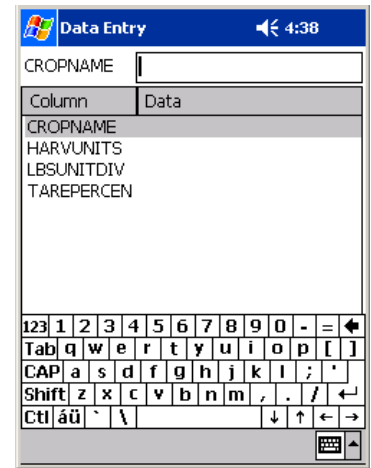


Figure 2

To edit an entry click on the item you want to edit under the column label. In Figure 2, click on CROPNAME.

Now the box at the top of the screen has CROPNAME next to it, and the cursor is in the textbox at the top of the screen. As we type, it will fill the text into the box as in Figure 3.

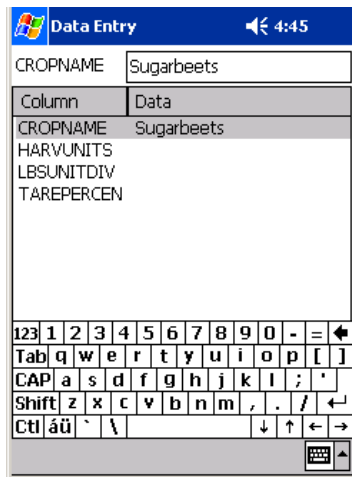


Figure 3

By clicking on each of the entries under column, in figure 4 I have the data all entered. Clicking on the Keyboard Icon on the bottom of the screen will hide the keyboard.

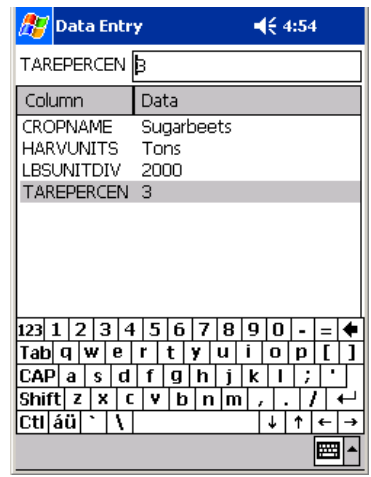


Figure 4

In Figure 5 by clicking "Update Record", the changes are saved.

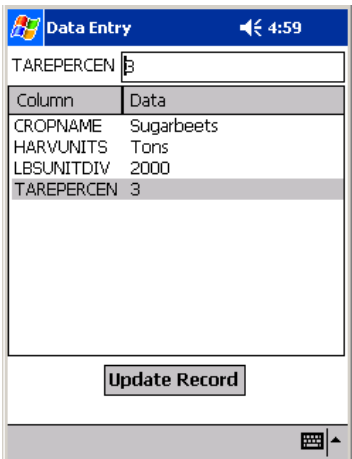


Figure 5

Figure 6 shows us back out of the editor with the new record displayed.

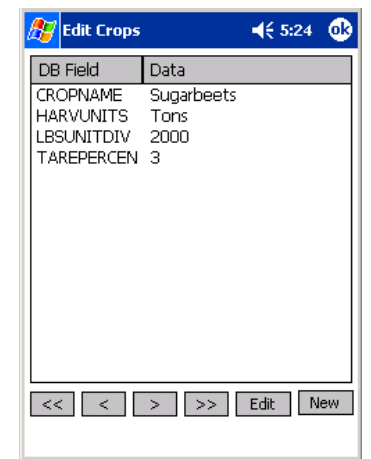


Figure 6

Field Names, Truck IDs & Crop Parameters

The Field List, Truck List, and Crops List, all retrieve their information from databases.

These databases are stored in "\\Program Files\GK Yield Monitor\" with the EXE that runs the program.

The easiest way to edit these databases is with the editor on the Pocket PC. However, if you have multiple units to set up, do the set up on one unit and copy the above folder to the other Pocket PC's using a storage card.

Field ID Database:

- ⇒ *Field ID*
 - ⇒ An identifying name for each field.

Crop Parameters Database:

- ⇒ *Crop Name*

- ⇒ *Harvest Units*
 - ⇒ The Name of the Unit used for measuring this commodity. Tons, cwt, bu, etc.

- ⇒ *Lbs Per Unit Divisor*
 - ⇒ The number used to divide the truck weight, to get the units.
 - ⇒ Enter 2000 for tons, 100 for cwt etc.

- ⇒ *Tare Percent*
 - ⇒ Enter the % of tare that is being returned to the field from the piler.

Truck ID Database:

- ⇒ *Truck ID*
 - ⇒ An identifying name for this truck.

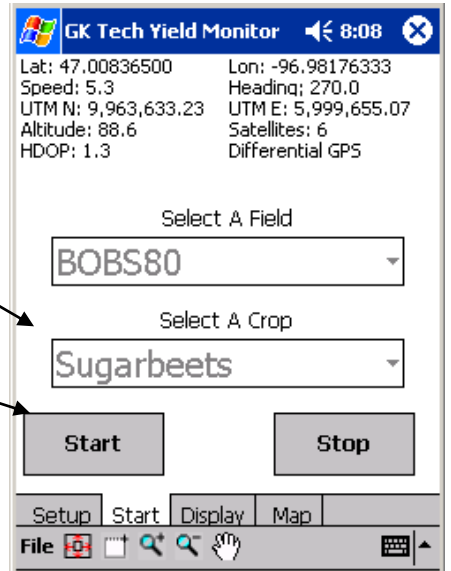
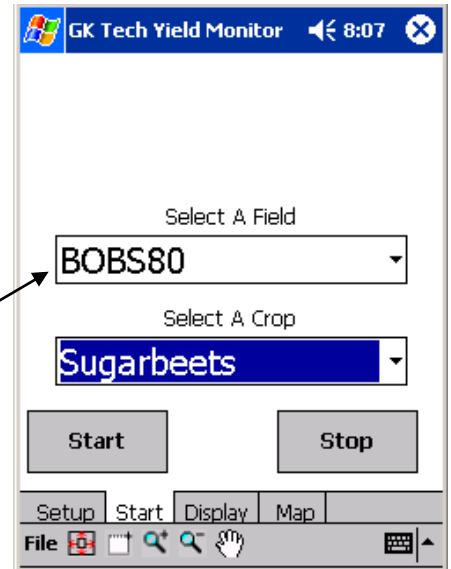
- ⇒ *Net Weight*
 - ⇒ This entry is the desired net pounds that you would like loaded on this truck. When entered, it will subtract from the current truck weight and show lbs left to load.

Operation

Now that all of the settings are in place and you have Fields, Trucks and Crops, here is the operation instructions for use.

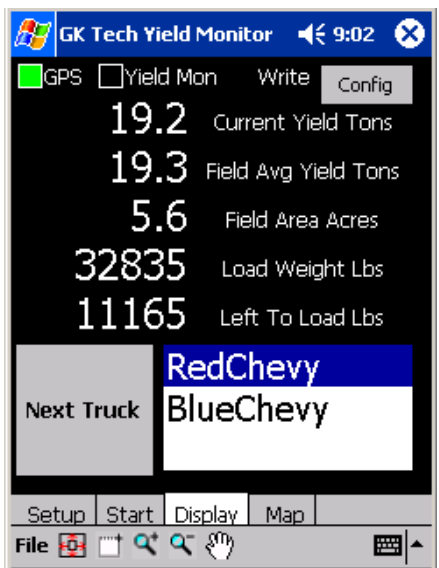
Steps:

1. Click the Start Tab
2. Select the Field from the Field List
3. Select the crop that you are harvesting from the Crop List
4. Click Start.
5. Click the Display Tab to View Harvest Info.



As long as GPS Status is OK the GPS Indicator Light will remain green.

Each time a reading is received from the Yield Monitor, the "Yield Mon" Indicator Light will flash.



KB Manufacturing Harvest Monitor (TNKN-0700-BELT)

Standard Operation Procedures (LCD Display)

This unit has an input for a proximity sensor that senses the revolution of the moving belt. The basic requirement is that the switch makes at least one closure (pulse) when the belt travels the distance of the scale. Each time the pulse is received by the Harvest Monitor, the current weight is accumulated. There are two accumulators, a "load" total and a "grand" total. Calibration is first done by placing of known weight, then after running material and weighing the material on a static scale, adjustments are made by percentage correction.

ZERO BUTTON:

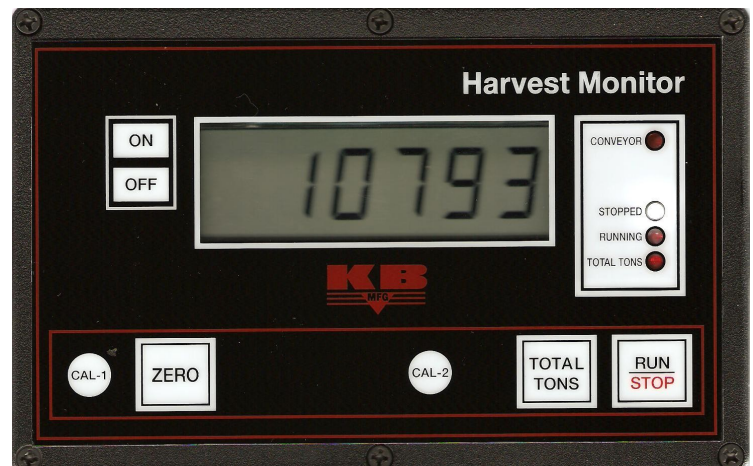
Has two Functions depending on Operation Mode:

- ⇒ IN THE RUN MODE
Press to zero the accumulated weight.
- ⇒ IN THE STOP MODE
Press to zero the belt reading with no material on the belt.

RUN/STOP BUTTON:

Changes the unit operation mode.

- ⇒ RUN for accumulation of weights
- ⇒ STOP mode for calibration.
- ⇒ When the system is in this mode, the RUN lamp to the right of the display will flash, and the total will be accumulated.



TOTAL TONS BUTTON:

To activate an optional printer, press this button. This button also allows the viewing and clearing of the grand total. Press the button and hold it in. The display will show the grand total in tons by 1/10 ton increments. To clear the grand total, press the ZERO button while still holding the TOTAL TONS button.

Note: This does not clear the load accumulation; this needs to be done separately by pressing the ZERO button while in the RUN mode.

CAL-1 & CAL-2:

Used For Calibration and Data Entry

KB Manufacturing Harvest Monitor (TNKN-0700-BELT)

How to use parameters

Parameter Entry:

1. Turn OFF and hold the CAL-1 button.
2. Turn ON while holding the CAL-1 button until the display shows ----- then release the CAL-1 button.
3. Press and release the RUN/STOP button.
4. The display will show 01--nn (The 00 denotes parameter number 1 and the nn may be any 2-digit number representing the current value set for parameter number 1.
5. To change the value of this parameter, press the TOTAL TONS button until the digit you want to change is flashing.
6. Press the CAL-2 button to increment the flashing digit.
7. To cycle to the next parameter, press the TOTAL TONS button until the parameter number is flashing, then increment by pressing the CAL-2 button.
8. Continue steps 5 through 7 for all parameters desired.
9. When finished, press the CAL-1 button to return to the weight display mode.

Parameter List

0 = NOT USED

1 = Sample/averaging rate. A setting of one is the fastest display rate update, and does not average. A setting of 3 (for example) will take three samples and average them before updating the displayed weight.

NOTE: MAKE SURE THAT THE UPDATE RATE IS FASTER THAN THE MAXIMUM PULSE RATE FROM THE PROX. SWITCH.

2 = Displayed graduation size. Set at 10 if a graduation size of 10 is required.

3 = LEAVE THIS SET AT 99

The overload trip-point in hundreds of graduations +1% if the scale is to be 2,500 by a graduation of 1, then a setting of 25 would cause the overload to activate at 2,525.

- ⇒ Set to 99 if no overload point is desired.
- ⇒ Set to 00 for a 10,000 graduation overload.

4 = Motion detection window setting. Set this to the number of graduations that will be allowed as a no-motion condition.

5 = ACCUMULATION THRESHOLD

This parameter is used to set the minimum value that can be accumulated. For example, if the empty belt bounces to 5 when the belt splice passes, this will create an increase in accumulated weight if the system is left in the accumulate mode when the belt is running and empty. Set

this parameter to the minimum value that can be accumulated. If product on the scale will always be over this 5 bounce, then set this parameter higher than 5 but less than a normal weight value.

6 = Decimal point position. 02 will cause 0.00

7 = Print size and Time/Date option

- ⇒ 00=small 01=medium 02=large all with no time/date print
- ⇒ 10=small 11=medium 12=large with time/date printed

8 = Printer pre-spaces (indent) and print inverted x0 = non-inverted print x2 = inverted print

- ⇒ 0x = no pre-spaces
- ⇒ 2x = 4 pre-spaces (double the digit entered)

9 = Remote data enable / Printer type and baud rate

- ⇒ x0= 300 baud inverted data
- ⇒ x1= 300 baud print data
- ⇒ x2= 1200 baud PR-2 roll-tape printer
- ⇒ x3= 1200 baud PR-1 ticket printer
- ⇒ 0x= no remote output
- ⇒ 1x= continuous remote output enabled
- ⇒ 2x= optional on-demand remote output enabled (this option must be ordered at time of purchase)

KB Manufacturing Harvest Monitor (TNKN-0700-BELT)

Test Weight Calibration

This procedure is done to set the initial calibration. From then on, the "Minor" calibration routine can be used.

1. Turn OFF and hold the CAL-1 button.
2. Turn ON while holding the CAL-1 button until the display shows----- then release the CAL-1 button.
3. Press and release the CAL-2 button.
4. The display will show the raw UN-calibrated value.
5. Assure that the scale is at a zero load condition.
6. Press ZERO to remove the dead load.
7. Load the scale with a known weight value.
8. The display must now show a value larger than the test weight. If the display is not larger than the weight value, do one of the following.
 - ⇒ Check the load cell size, it may need to be reduced.
 - ⇒ Increase the graduation size.
 - ⇒ Raise the internal amplifier gain by adding the jumper across the gain pins on the main board.
9. When the weight is stable, press the RUN/STOP button and the display will come up with the last used calibration weight that was entered. If this is the same weight as what was placed on the scale, go to step #11.
10. Change the display to show the known calibration weight value.
 - ⇒ Press the TOTAL TONS button to select the flashing digit.
 - ⇒ Press the CAL-2 button to increment the flashing digit.
11. Press the CAL-1 button, and the display will return to the weight display mode, showing the calibrated weight.

KB Manufacturing Harvest Monitor (TNKN-0700-BELT)

Calculating Calibration Values

Example #1: Yield Monitor Reading is Too Low

The displayed total on the Harvest Monitor is 26500 and the actual weight of this load is 38900.

1. Subtract 26500 from 38900 to get the difference (12400)
2. Divide the difference (12400) by the Harvest Monitor total (26500) to get (.4679) and move the decimal point 2 places to get percentage 46.79%.
3. Since we need to increase the total, add 100.00 percent to get 146.79% and use this as the entry in the percent correction procedure.

$$\begin{array}{r} 38900 - 26500 = 12400 \text{ (difference)} \\ \text{actual} \quad \text{displayed} \\ \text{weight} \quad \text{weight} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 12400 \div 26500 = 0.4679 \\ \text{difference} \quad \text{displayed} \\ \text{weight} \end{array}$$

$$0.4679 = 46.79\%$$

$$46.79\% + 100\% = 146.79\%$$

146.79% - Percent Correction

Example #2: Yield Monitor Reading is Too High

The displayed total on the Harvest Monitor is 56200 and the actual weight of this load is 32490.

1. Subtract 32490 from 56200 to get the difference (23710)
 2. Divide the difference (23710) by the Harvest Monitor total (56200) to get (.4218) and move the decimal point 2 places to get the percentage 42.18%
- 42.18 is the entry for the percent correction procedure.

$$\begin{array}{r} 56200 - 32490 = 23710 \text{ (difference)} \\ \text{displayed} \quad \text{actual} \\ \text{weight} \quad \text{weight} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 23710 \div 56200 \\ \text{difference} \quad \text{displayed} \\ \text{weight} \end{array}$$

$$0.4218 = 42.18\%$$

42.18% - Percent Correction

KB Manufacturing Harvest Monitor (TNKN-0700-BELT)

Calibration to Truck Weights

After initial calibration, the system can be run and the material weighed by a static scale. The static weight then can be compared to the systems accumulated total and a calibration correction can be made. The recalibration can decrease the total by any amount, but can only increase by 99.99 percent. Therefore if the true weight is more the twice the systems total, do the initial calibration correctly, then re-run a test load.

PERCENT CORRECTION PROCEDURE:

1. ASSURE THAT THE SYSTEM IS IN THE STOP MODE
2. To access this feature, requires that two buttons be pressed and released quickly and at the same time. Press and release the CAL-1 button and the CAL-2 button at the same time.
3. If done correctly, the display will show 0000.00.
4. Enter the percent to correct. (Over 100.00 is up, below 100.00 is down)
5. Use the TOTAL TONS button to increment the flashing digit and use the RUN/STOP button to change which digit is flashing.
6. When the desired number has been set, press the CAL-2 button to enter the number.
7. With the belt clear, press ZERO to balance the scale.

KB Manufacturing Harvest Monitor (TNKN-0700-BELT)

Time and Date Option

If the time/date option is installed, the time and date can be printed after the weight. The time and date is battery powered and will run when power is removed from the unit.

To View and or Set the Time/Date:

- ⇒ Press the CAL-1 button, and hold until the display shows the current time, and then after a short delay, the date will be displayed.
- ⇒ To set the Time/Date, press and hold the ZERO button, while the time/date is being displayed. After the date has been displayed, the unit will go into the entry mode, with the time display flashing.
- ⇒ Use the TOTAL TONS button to increment the flashing digit, and use the RUN/STOP button to select which digit flashes.
- ⇒ When the correct time has been set, press and release the CAL-2 button to advance to the DATE display.
- ⇒ Use the TOTAL TONS button to increment the flashing digit, and use the RUN/STOP button to select which digit flashes.
- ⇒ When the correct date has been set, press and release the CAL-2 button to return to the weight display mode.

