

# Model DS860-T Owner's Manual



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### INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing a Down Burst Seeder! Your machine has been designed from the ground up to be the ideal small seed spreader. It is proudly built in Northern Michigan using only the best materials and components available to ensure you will enjoy using it for years to come.

The DS860-T is a tractor mounted seeder designed to fit all sizes of tractors by utilizing a standard 3point hitch to 2" receiver adapter or tool bar. The seeder features a durable roto-molded polyethylene seed hopper which is sealed to keep seed clean and dry while planting in adverse conditions. The hopper is translucent enabling easy monitoring of seed level while planting. The DS860-T uses a ground wheel driven fluted roller seed meter that provides extremely accurate seed rates regardless of planting speed. The innovative drop tube design uses high velocity air to spread seed evenly along the width of the machine providing consistent seed coverage at the precise width of the tube. Seed rates are infinitely adjustable from 2 to 60 Lb/Acre by tightening or loosening a single calibration nut.

#### Major Components





### SAFETY

Always keep a safe distance from the seeder while in motion. This machine is not designed to be ridden on by anyone or anything.

Never attempt to attach or tow anything behind the seeder.

Never allow children to operate equipment.

### ASSEMBLY

Your Down Burst Seeder is already 90% assembled and only needs to have the 2" mounting tube bracket installed to be fully operational. Remove the 3/8" Bolts from the chassis using a 9/16" wrench and socket. Insert the 2" mounting tube bracket into the chassis as shown. Re-install the 3/8" bolts as shown and tighten securely.







### **INSTALLING ON TRACTOR**

### **Hitch Requirements**

The DS860-T is designed to utilize the 3-point lifting system on your tractor by using a standard 3-point to 2" receiver adapter. Several adapters are available on the market to fit virtually any size 3-point lift system from Category 0 to Category 2. Here are just a few examples of what could be used.



Category 0

Category 1

Category 2

For the machine to work properly, the bottom of the receiver tube must be within 12" of the ground when the lifting arms are at their lowest position. This will allow a minimum of 3" of float to enable the seeder wheel to maintain contact with the ground on uneven or hilly terrain. Using an adapter that has the 2" receiver tube in-line with the lower pins will ensure this requirement is met. The 3 adapter examples shown above all have the 2" receiver tube in-line with the lower pins.



### Mounting to the Tractor

Install the 3-point to 2" receiver adapter onto the tractor following the manufacturers instructions. Insert the 2" mounting tube of the DS860-T into the receiver tube and secure with the included 5/8" pin. Route the power cable and secure using the included wire wrap or other means. Make sure there is enough slack in the cable to allow full lift and lowering of the 3-point arms during operation.



### Installing the Drop Tube



Remove the clevis pins from the seed discharge chute. Place the drop tube over the chute aligning the mounting tabs with the pin holes and re-install the pins. Make sure the pins are fully seated so that the wire clasp is retained from rotation by the notches in the drop tube side tabs.

### **Electrical Requirements**

The seeder requires 12V DC power and can draw up to 15 amps. Power can be provided via the included 12V aux plug cable, or it can be hardwired directly to the tractor battery with the included  $\frac{1}{4}$ " ring terminal cable. Connect the red wire to the positive battery terminal and the black wire to the negative terminal. If using the 12V aux plug, please check the tractor owner's manual to make sure it can provide 15 amps. If it cannot, or you are unsure, we recommend using the ring terminal cable to hardwire directly to the battery. Both cables are equipped with Powerpole connectors that mate with the DS860-T power cable. The 12V aux plug uses a standard 15A glass tube fuse while the ring terminal cable uses standard 15A ATO/ATC automotive fuses.



**Important:** the seeder is intended to operate with the tractor engine running and providing consistent voltage between 13.5V and 15V. Do not attempt to power the seeder with a stand-alone battery.



### SEED METER OPERATION

The DS860-T uses proven fluted roller seed meters similar to those found on agricultural grain drills. The meter controls the seed rate by adjusting the length of the flutes allowed to fill with seed as the roller rotates. The flute length is set by tightening or loosening the spring-loaded meter calibration nut. The adjustment range is from 0 to 24 full turns of the calibration nut. A stainless-steel feeler gage is provided with steps at 4, 8, 12, 16, 20 and 24 full turns. The gage makes large adjustments to the meter quick and easy.

### Changing Seed Meters

The DS860 comes with both a small seed 8-Flute meter and a large seed 11-Flute meter. The meters are comprised of 2 components, the fluted roller, and the shutoff which nests into the roller. To switch meters, simply remove the calibration nut and slide the meter components off the meter shaft. Reinstall the desired meter components in the same order as shown below. The same meter spring and calibration nut are used with either the 8 or 11 flute meters. Use care when handling the meter shutoff, dropping this component on a hard surface such as concrete could break the shutoff legs. Always store the meter with the shutoff nested into the roller to avoid damaging the legs.



### Setting the Seed Rate

Seed rate is set by using the Seed Rate tables provided with the machine. Find the species you are planting on the left-hand column of the tables. If you are planting a seed mix, use the seed species that makes up the largest percentage of the mix. If the species you are planting is listed on the 8-Flute Meter Seed Rate Table, install the 8-Flute meter into the machine. If the species is listed on the 11-Flute Meter Seed Rate Table, install the 11-Flute meter. For species not listed, use the 8-Flute meter for seeds less than 3/16" diameter or the 11-Flute meter for anything larger. The row to the right of the species shows the seed rate in Lb/Acre for every full turn of the calibration nut. Find the step on the gage that is closest to the number corresponding to the seed rate you want. Loosen the calibration nut by hand until that step on the gage just fits into the meter. Loosen the nut additional turns to get to the seed rate you want (see Example below.)



**Example:** if you want to plant Cowpeas at 45.4 Lb/Acre you would set the meter to 18 full turns. Loosen the meter calibration nut until the step labeled "16" on the gage just fits into the meter. Now loosen the nut an additional 2 full turns to set it to 18.





						DS8	60 1	1 FLU	JTE N	ЛЕТЕ	R SE	ED R	ATES	(LB	ACR	E)								
METER SETTING	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17 (	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
BUCKWHEAT		5.6	7.4	9.1	10.9	12.7	14.5	16.3	18.1	19.8	21.6	23.4	25.2	27.0	28.8	30.5	32.3	34.1	35.9	37.7	39.5	41.2	43.0	44.8
EGYPTIAN WHEAT	-	8.9	11.3	13.8	16.2	18.7	21.2	23.6	26.1	28.5	31.0	33.5	35.9	38.4	40.8	43.3	45.8	48.2	50.7	53.2	55.6	58.1	60.5	63.0
SORGHUM- SUDANGRASS	-	9.6	12.0	14.4	16.8	19.2	21.5	23.9	26.3	28.7	31.1	33.5	35.9	38.3	40.7	43.1	45.5	47.9	50.3	52.6	55.0	57.4	59.8	62.2
VITALIZE NITRO BOOST	-	-	-	-	-	15.5	17.9	20.3	22.7	25.1	27.5	29.9	32.3	34.8	37.2	39.6	42.0	44.4	46.8	49.2	51.6	54.0	56.4	58.8
VITALIZE CARBON LOAD	-	-	-	-	-	18.1	20.6	23.1	25.5	28.0	30.5	32.9	35.4	37.8	40.3	42.8	<b>45.2</b>	47.7	50.2	52.6	55.1	57.6	60.0	62.5
AUSTRIAN WINTER PEA	-	-	-	-	-	17.9	20.3	22.8	25.3	27.8	30.3	32.8	35.3	37.8	40.3	42.7	45.2	47.7	50.2	52.7	55.2	57.7	60.2	62.7
COWPEA	-	-	-	-	-	17.2	19.5	21.9	24.2	26.6	28.9	31.3	33.6	36.0	38.3	40.7	43.0	45.4	\$7.7	50.1	52.4	54.8	57.1	59.5
SOVREAN						14 5	16.9	10 1	21 2	22 6	25 0	20 1	30 4	277	31 0	27 2	20 5	41 7	11 0	16 3	19 5	50.9	53 0	55 3

**Attention:** you should only open or increase the meter setting when the hopper is filled with seed. Trying to make large decreases (2 turns or more) to the meter setting while it's filled with seed could damage the seed and jam the meter. Always fill the hopper with the meter fully closed (0-meter setting) or after the seed rate has already been set.

**Attention:** the calibration nut should only be turned by hand, never use a wrench or other tool to adjust the nut as this could cause damage to the meter.

The unique design of the seed meter coupled with the precise gaging method used to set it results in very low actual seed rate error using the method above. Seed size, moisture content and coating thickness vary from source to source and year to year. This seed variation can result in actual seed rates being up to 5% off from the published table. Performing the hand calibration process below will eliminate the seed variation resulting in less than 1% actual seed rate error.



8-Flute Meter Seed Rate Table

LB/ACRE	AIR BAFFLE	SWITCHGRASS	ALFALFA	BIRDSFOOT TREFOIL	TIMOTHY	CRIMSON CLOVER	BALANSA CLOVER	ALSIKE CLOVER	MED. RED CLOVER	DURANA CLOVER	LADINO CLOVER	CHICORY	COLLARDS	DAIKON RADISH	KALE	RAPE	TURNIPS	METER SETTING	
		3.1	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.3	4.2	4.0	3.7	4.2	4.1	3.0	3.0	2.2	2.8	2.7	2.9	1	
0	CLO	4.3	5.3	5.2	5.4	4.7	5.8	5.5	5.1	5.7	5.6	4.2	4.1	3.3	3.9	3.8	4.0	2	
10	SED	5.6	6.8	6.6	6.9	6.0	7.3	6.9	6.5	7.3	7.0	5.5	5.3	4.4	5.1	4.9	5.2	3	
		6.8	8.3	8.0	8.3	7.4	8.8	8.4	7.9	8.8	8.5	6.8	6.5	5.4	6.2	6.0	6.3	4	
		8.0	9.8	9.4	9.8	8.7	10.4	9.9	9.2	10.4	10.0	8.0	7.6	6.5	7.3	7.2	7.5	ъ	
11		9.2	11.2	10.8	11.2	10.1	11.9	11.4	10.6	11.9	11.5	9.3	8.8	7.6	8.4	8.3	8.6	6	DSS
15		10.4	12.7	12.2	12.6	11.5	13.5	12.9	12.0	13.5	13.0	10.6	10.0	8.6	9.6	9.4	9.7	7	860 8
		11.6	14.2	13.6	14.1	12.8	15.0	14.3	13.4	15.0	14.4	11.8	11.1	9.7	10.7	10.5	10.9	8	FLU
		12.9	15.7	15.0	15.5	14.2	16.6	15.8	14.8	16.6	15.9	13.1	12.3	10.8	11.8	11.6	12.0	9	TE M
16	2	14.1	<b>17.1</b>	16.4	17.0	15.6	18.1	17.3	16.1	18.1	17.4	14.4	13.5	11.8	13.0	12.8	13.2	10	ETE
. 21		15.3	18.6	17.8	18.4	16.9	19.7	18.8	17.5	19.7	18.9	15.6	14.6	12.9	14.1	13.9	14.3	11	SEE
		16.5	20.1	19.2	19.9	18.3	21.2	20.3	18.9	21.2	20.4	16.9	15.8	14.0	15.2	15.0	15.5	12	DR/
8 <u>-</u>	17.7	21.6	20.6	21.3	19.7	22.7	21.7	20.3	22.8	21.9	18.2	17.0	15.0	16.4	16.1	16.6	13	TES	
22		19.0	23.0	22.0	22.8	21.0	24.3	23.2	21.7	24.3	23.3	19.4	18.1	16.1	17.5	17.2	17.7	14	(LB/
- 27		20.2	24.5	23.4	24.2	22.4	25.8	24.7	23.0	25.9	24.8	20.7	19.3	17.2	18.6	18.4	18.9	15	ACRE
		21.4	26.0	24.8	25.7	23.7	27.4	26.2	24.4	27.4	26.3	22.0	20.5	18.2	19.8	19.5	20.0	16	
		22.6	27.5	26.2	27.1	25.1	28.9	27.6	25.8	28.9	27.8	23.2	21.6	19.3	20.9	20.6	21.2	17	
28 -		23.8	28.9	27.6	28.6	26.5	30.5	29.1	27.2	30.5	29.3	24.5	22.8	20.4	22.0	21.7	22.3	18	
33		25.0	30.4	29.0	30.0	27.8	32.0	30.6	28.6	32.0	30.7	25.8	24.0	21.4	23.2	22.8	23.4	19	
		26.3	31.9	30.4	31.5	29.2	33.5	32.1	30.0	33.6	32.2	27.0	25.1	22.5	24.3	24.0	24.6	20	
		27.5	33.4	31.8	32.9	30.6	35.1	33.6	31.3	35.1	33.7	28.3	26.3	23.6	25.4	25.1	25.7	21	
ų	Q	28.7	34.8	33.2	34.4	31.9	36.6	35.0	32.7	36.7	35.2	29.6	27.5	24.7	26.6	26.2	26.9	22	
Ŧ	EN	29.9	36.3	34.6	35.8	33.3	38.2	36.5	34.1	38.2	36.7	30.8	28.6	25.7	27.7	27.3	28.0	23	
		31.1	37.8	36.0	37.3	34.7	39.7	38.0	35.5	39.8	38.1	32.1	29.8	26.8	28.8	28.4	29.1	24	



# 11-Flute Meter Seed Rate Table

CALCULATION	PROCEDURE	SEEDS NOT LISTED	SEED MIXES NOT LISTED		LB/ACRE	AIR BAFFLE	WINTER WHEAT	WINTER RYE	SOYBEAN	COWPEA	AUSTRIAN WINTER PEA	CARBON LOAD	VITALIZE NITRO BOOST	SORGHUM- SUDANGRASS	EGYPTIAN WHEAT	BUCKWHEAT	METER SETTING	
6						6 8			э		с	а	-	e	ю	•	Ч	
SEED R.							R.			an a	т	a	3	9.6	8.9	5.6	2	
ATE (LB	1	CHE					•		a	a.	т.	ĩ	a	12.0	11.3	7.4	S	1
/ACRE	NEIGH	CK W	SET		0 -	3	r	•	4	эę	r	1	a.	14.4	13.8	9.1	4	
:) = TE:	SEED	NW.D	METE		14	852	ţ,	1	1	a.	т	a.	a	16.8	16.2	10.9	5	
ST WEI	METER	OWNB	RFOR				18.6	16.0	14.5	17.2	17.9	18.1	15.5	19.2	18.7	12.7	6	DS8
IGHT II	RED OI	URSTS	HIGHE				21.1	18.3	16.8	19.5	20.3	20.6	17.9	21.5	21.2	14.5	7	60 11
N GRA	UT FRO	EEDER	ST PE		- 11	a - 5	23.6	20.7	19.1	21.9	22.8	23.1	20.3	23.9	23.6	16.3	8	IFLU
MS DIV	DM 25	S.CON	RCENT	C			26.1	23.0	21.3	24.2	25.3	25.5	22.7	26.3	26.1	18.1	9	TEN
/IDED	FULL	FOR	AGE SI	ALIB			28.6	25.4	23.6	26.6	27.8	28.0	25.1	28.7	28.5	19.8	10	IETE
BY 4.43	URNS	ATEST	PECIES	RATI			31.1	27.8	25.9	28.9	30.3	30.5	27.5	31.1	31.0	21.6	11	R SE
3	OF THI	SEED	IN THI	No	15 -		33.6	30.1	28.1	31.3	32.8	32.9	29.9	33.5	33.5	23.4	12	DR
SE	GRO	RATE	MIX -		86		36.1	32.5	30.4	33.6	35.3	35.4	32.3	35.9	35.9	25.2	13	ATES
ED RA	M DNC	FABLE	OR - I				38.6	34.8	32.7	36.0	37.8	37.8	34.8	38.3	38.4	27.0	14	(LB/
TE (LB,	/HEEL	- OR -	PERFO				41.1	37.2	34.9	38.3	40.3	40.3	37.2	40.7	40.8	28.8	15	ACR
ACRE	IN GRA	PERFO	RM CA				43.6	39.6	37.2	40.7	42.7	42.8	39.6	43.1	43.3	30.5	16	E
= TES	ID SW	RM CA	LIBRAT				46.1	41.9	39.5	43.0	45.2	45.2	42.0	45.5	45.8	32.3	17	
T WEI	NDO	LIBRA	TON P				48.6	44.3	41.7	45.4	47.7	47.7	44.4	47.9	48.2	34.1	18	3
SHT IN	CES (TI	FION P	ROCES				51.1	46.7	44.0	47.7	50.2	50.2	46.8	50.3	50.7	35.9	19	
OUNC	EST WI	ROCES	S BELC		39	OP	53.6	49.0	46.3	50.1	52.7	52.6	49.2	52.6	53.2	37.7	20	
ES DIV	IGHT)	S BELC	W		Ŧ	EN	56.1	51.4	48.5	52.4	55.2	55.1	51.6	55.0	55.6	39.5	21	
IDED		MC					58.6	53.7	50.8	54.8	57.7	57.6	54.0	57.4	58.1	41.2	22	
BY 0.15							61.1	56.1	53.0	57.1	60.2	60.0	56.4	59.8	60.5	43.0	23	
6							63.5	58.5	55.3	59.5	62.7	62.5	58.8	62.2	63.0	44.8	24	



### Hand Calibrating the Meter

Calibration "tests" the seed rate (set by using the seed rate table described above) and then allows fine tuning the meter to get the exact rate you want. This is done by turning the ground wheel by hand, catching the seed that is metered out, and then weighing it to determine the "test weight." You can then find your test weight in the calibration table to determine what the actual planting rate will be. Or you can simply divide the test weight by the calibration factor to get the exact seed rate in Lb/Acre. You can then make small adjustments to the calibration nut and repeat the test until the desired seed rate is achieved.

#### **Calibration Setup**

- 1) Safely Park the tractor on flat level ground.
- 2) Disconnect power to the seeder, the blower is not needed for calibration.
- 3) Remove the drop tube and set aside.
- 4) Using the 3-point lift on the tractor, adjust the height of the seeder so that a container can be placed directly under the seed chute below the meter to catch the seed. The ground wheel should be elevated and able to be turned by hand.



#### **Calibration Procedure**

- 1) Use the Seed Rate Table to set the meter as described above. If the species you are planting is not listed, open the meter 1 full turn for every Lb/Acre with the 8-flute meter, or ½ turn for every Lb/Acre for the 11-flute meter as a starting point.
- 2) Fill the hopper with the seed to be planted and place a clean container under the seed chute.
- 3) Turn the wheel a few times to fill the meter with seed. Dump any expelled seed back into the hopper and place the container back under the chute.
- 4) Rotate the wheel exactly 25 full turns. You can make a mark on the wheel to make it easier to count the turns.
- 5) Weigh the seed using a digital kitchen scale or similar. Use the Calibration Table (next page) to determine the seed rate for this test weight or divide the test weight by the calibration factor to get the exact seed rate. If measuring in grams divide by 4.43, if measuring in ounces divide by 0.156.
- 6) Adjust the meter accordingly and repeat steps 3 through 5 until you have the exact seed rate you want. One full turn of the nut will change the seed rate 1 to 1.5 Lb/Acre when using the 8-flute meter, and 2 to 3 Lb/Acre when using the 11-flute meter.

Re-install the drop tube and you are ready to plant. Precise calibration can usually be achieved in just one or two adjustments of the meter and the whole process takes less than 10 minutes to complete. Calibrating the meter allows you to truly "know what you're putting down!"

NWGG	BURSS
5 2 2 3	DERS

# Calibration Table

#### DS760/DS860 Calibration Table Test Weight = 25 Turns of the Ground Wheel

Seed Rate (Lb/Acre)	Test Weight (Grams)	Test Weight (Ounces)
1	4.4	0.16
2	8.9	0.31
3	13.3	0.47
4	17.7	0.63
5	22.2	0.78
7	20.0	1.09
8	35.4	1.05
9	39.9	1.41
10	44.3	1.56
11	48.7	1.72
12	53.2	1.88
13	57.6	2.03
14	62.0	2.19
15	66.5	2.34
16	70.9	2.50
17	75.3	2.66
18	79.7	2.81
19	84.2	2.97
20	88.6	3.13
21	93.0	3.28
22	97.5	3.44
23	101.9	3.59
24	106.3	3.75
25	110.8	4.06
20	119.6	4.00
28	124.0	4.38
29	128.5	4.53
30	132.9	4.69
31	137.3	4.84
32	141.8	5.00
33	146.2	5.16
34	150.6	5.31
35	155.1	5.47
36	159.5	5.63
37	163.9	5.78
38	168.3	5.94
39	172.8	6.09
40	177.2	6.25
41	181.6	6.41
42	186.1	6.50
43	190.5	6.72
44	194.5	7.03
46	203.8	7.19
47	208.2	7.34
48	212.6	7.50
49	217.1	7.66
50	221.5	7.81
51	225.9	7.97
52	230.4	8.13
53	234.8	8.28
54	239.2	8.44
55	243.7	8.59
56	248.1	8.75
57	252.5	8.91
58	256.9	9.06
59	261.4	9.22
60	265.8	9.38
62	270.2	9.53
62	274.7	9.69
64	2/9.1	9.64
65	289.0	10.00
For Event Cond Data	200.0	10.10
Divide Test Weight by:	4.43	0.156



### AIR BAFFLE OPERATION

To achieve optimum seed spread the DS860-T is equipped with an air baffle system to restrict air flow for low seed rate plantings. The air baffle is located directly under the hopper and has 6 positions, Closed, 1, 2, 3, 4, and Open. The seed rate tables include the proper air baffle setting based on which meter you are using, and the seed rate it is set to. To adjust the baffle, loosen the adjustment screw and slide the baffle plate to the desired position and then retighten the screw. The meter gage can be used as a wrench to loosen and tighten the screw. Do not over tighten, a few pounds of force on the wrench is sufficient to lock the baffle in place. The air baffle is "Closed" when the plate is slid towards the seed meter until it stops. The air baffle is "Open" when the plate is slid towards the hitch until it stops. To set the air baffle position to "1" through "4" align the edge of the baffle opening to the inner points of the triangles next to the number you are setting it to as shown below. (The hopper is hidden for clarity; you do not need to remove it.)



#### Example:

If you are planting Crimson Clover at 20 Lb/Acre you would use the 8 Flute Meter with it set to 13.25 turns. The 8-Flute Meter Seed Rate Table specifies an Air Baffle setting of 2 for seed rates from 16 - 21 Lb/Acre. Set the air baffle to "2."

						DS	360 8	FLU	TE M	ETER	R SEE	D RA	TES	(LB/	ACRE	)										
METER SETTING	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
TURNIPS	2.9	4.0	5.2	6.3	7.5	8.6	9.7	10.9	12.0	13.2	14.3	<b>15.5</b>	16.6	17.7	18.9	20.0	21.2	22.3	23.4	24.6	25.7	26.9	28.0	29.1		
RAPE	2.7	3.8	4.9	6.0	7.2	8.3	9.4	10.5	11.6	12.8	13.9	15.0	16.1	17.2	18.4	19.5	20.6	21.7	22.8	24.0	25.1	26.2	27.3	28.4		
KALE	2.8	3.9	5.1	6.2	7.3	8.4	9.6	10.7	11.8	13.0	14.1	<b>15.2</b>	16.4	17.5	18.6	19.8	20.9	22.0	23.2	24.3	25.4	26.6	27.7	28.8		
DAIKON RADISH	2.2	3.3	4.4	5.4	6.5	7.6	8.6	9.7	10.8	11.8	12.9	<b>14.0</b>	15.0	16.1	17.2	18.2	19.3	20.4	21.4	22.5	23.6	24.7	25.7	26.8		
COLLARDS	3.0	4.1	5.3	6.5	7.6	8.8	10.0	11.1	12.3	13.5	14.6	<b>15.8</b>	17.0	18.1	19.3	20.5	21.6	22.8	24.0	25.1	26.3	27.5	<mark>28.6</mark>	29.8		
CHICORY	3.0	4.2	5.5	6.8	8.0	9.3	10.6	11.8	13.1	14.4	15.6	16.9	18.2	19.4	20.7	22.0	23.2	24.5	25.8	27.0	28.3	29.6	30.8	32.1		
LADINO CLOVER	4.1	5.6	7.0	8.5	10.0	11.5	13.0	14.4	15.9	17.4	18.9	20.4	21.9	23.3	24.8	26.3	27.8	29.3	30.7	32.2	33.7	35.2	36.7	38.1		
DURANA CLOVER	4.2	5.7	7.3	8.8	10.4	11.9	13.5	15.0	16.6	18.1	19.7	21.2	22.8	24.3	25.9	27.4	28.9	30.5	32.0	33.6	35.1	36.7	38.2	39.8		
MED. RED CLOVER	3.7	5.1	6.5	7.9	9.2	10.6	12.0	13.4	14.8	<b>16.1</b>	17.5	<b>18.9</b>	20.3	21.7	23.0	24.4	25.8	27.2	28.6	30.0	31.3	32.7	34.1	35.5		
ALSIKE CLOVER	4.0	5.5	6.9	8.4	9.9	11.4	12.9	14.3	15.8	17.3	18.8	20.3	21.7	23.2	24.7	26.2	27.6	29.1	30.6	32.1	33.6	35.0	36.5	38.0		
BALANSA CLOVER	4.2	5.8	7.3	8.8	10.4	11.9	13.5	<b>15.0</b>	16.6	18.1	19.7	21.2	22.7	24.3	25.8	27.4	28.9	30.5	32.0	33.5	35.1	36.6	38.2	39.7		
CRIMSON CLOVER	3.3	4.7	6.0	7.4	8.7	10.1	11.5	12.8	14.2	15.6	16.9	18.3	19.7	21.0	22.4	23.7	25.1	26.5	27.8	29.2	30.6	31.9	33.3	34.7		
ТІМОТНУ	4.0	5.4	6.9	8.3	9.8	11.2	12.6	14.1	15.5	17.0	18.4	19.9	21.3	22.8	24.2	25.7	27.1	28.6	30.0	31.5	32.9	34.4	35.8	37.3		
BIRDSFOOT TREFOIL	3.8	5.2	6.6	8.0	9.4	10.8	12.2	13.6	15.0	16.4	17.8	19.2	20.6	22.0	23.4	24.8	26.2	27.6	29.0	30.4	31.8	33.2	34.6	36.0		
ALFALFA	3.9	5.3	6.8	8.3	9.8	11.2	12.7	14.2	15.7	17.1	18.6	20.1	21.6	23.0	24.5	26.0	27.5	28.9	30.4	31.9	33.4	34.8	36.3	37.8		
SWITCHGRASS	3.1	4.3	5.6	6.8	8.0	9.2	10.4	11.6	12.9	14.1	15.3	16.5	17.7	19.0	20.2	21.4	22.6	23.8	25.0	26.3	27.5	28.7	29.9	31.1		
AIR BAFFLE	AIR BAFFLE CLOSED					1					2		3				4					OPEN				
ID/ACDE		0	10			11	15		16 21					22	27			20	22			24.				



### PLANTING OPERATION

Planting with the DS860-T is very simple. There are two operating positions;

- 1) Seeding Position: 3-point lifting arms full down and allowed to float.
- 2) Lift/Transport Position: 3-point lifting arms raised high enough so that the ground wheel is elevated to clear the ground and any brush or debris encountered while driving.

**Attention:** the DS860-T is not designed to operate with any down pressure on the 3-point system. Most tractors allow the lifting arms to float so that implements can follow the ground. If your tractor has a down pressure system be sure it is disengaged before installing the DS860-T. To verify this, the lifting arms should be able to be easily raised by hand when disengaged.

Planting operation is as follows.

- 1) Drive to the planting location and stop when the drop tube is positioned where you want seeding to start.
- 2) Turn on the blower by connecting the power cable to the aux plug cable or ring terminal cable previously installed.
- 3) Lower the seeder onto the ground wheel using the 3-point hitch. Any rotation of the ground wheel, forward or reverse will now spread seed.
- 4) Drive across the area to be planted and stop when the drop tube is positioned where you want seeding to stop.
- 5) Lift the seeder using the 3-point hitch high enough to ensure the ground wheel will not contact the ground or any weeds/brush.
- 6) Reposition the tractor to the starting point for the next seeding pass. Repeat until the planting area has been covered.

**Attention:** the ground wheel driven seed meter ensures accurate seed rates at any reasonable speed. However, it is gravity fed meaning excessive speed will result in lighter than expected seed rates. We recommend a maximum planting speed of 8mph to eliminate the effects of gravity on seed rate.

### **EMPTYING THE HOPPER**

If you are finished planting and still have some seed remaining in the hopper it can be quickly emptied by partially removing the seed meter. Remove the drop tube and place a clean container under the chute the same way you would for hand calibration. Remove the calibration nut and slide the shutoff and meter spring off the meter shaft. Lift and hold the small spring-loaded follower bolts upwards while sliding the roller out of the meter housing about an inch. Seed will now flow quickly through the meter housing and out of the seed chute. We recommend



emptying the hopper and rotating the wheel/meter until all leftover seed is expelled before storing the machine for any length of time.



### MAINTENANCE

The DS860-T requires very little maintenance to stay in perfect working order. The entire chassis is made of welded Aircraft Grade Aluminum with no paint or coatings to worry about damaging. The aluminum will develop a patina of aluminum oxide over time which protects the metal from corrosion. All fasteners are either Stainless Steel or Zinc Yellow-Chromate Plated Steel to protect against corrosion. All rotating shafts ride on sealed ball bearings that do not require lubrication. All pivot points use Nylon sleeve bearings for smooth long wearing operation without grease.

**Attention:** The DS860-T is designed and intended to spread ONLY seed. Any other material such as fertilizer, salt, sand, etc. will damage the machine.

#### Air Intake Screen

Inspect the air intake screen beneath the air baffle frequently for build up of debris. Remove any debris before planting with the machine.

#### Drop Tube Clean-out Caps

If planting in excessively wet or muddy conditions make sure the drop tube is clear of any mud or debris that could block the seed holes. Remove both clean-out caps to inspect. A clean rag or similar can be pushed through the tube to remove any debris.

#### **Chain and Sprockets**

The chain and sprockets are black oxide coated steel and do require a coating of oil to stay rust free. We recommend a light coating of WD40 once or twice a season or anytime the machine gets wet. Do not apply heavy weight chain or gear oil to the meter chain as this will just attract dirt and cause it to wear. All roller chains will stretch slightly over time. If you notice the chain is sagging more than a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " below the chain guard it can be tightened by spreading the guard slightly. To do this, loosen the chain guard bolt closest to the meter sprocket with a  $\frac{5}{8}$ " wrench and socket. Insert a large flat blade screwdriver into the guard adjustment slot and twist until the slack is taken up. Re-tighten the guard bolt securely.



#### **Ground Wheel**

The ground wheel is a pneumatic tire and could leak down over time. If you notice the tire looks low fill with air to the pressure indicated on the sidewall of the tire. Do not over-inflate as this could change the diameter of the tire and affect calibration accuracy.

#### Seed Meter

If you cannot easily close the meter to the zero setting there may be debris in the fluted roller. To correct this, remove the meter from the machine and inspect the roller flutes for debris. Re-install the meter components and calibration nut and check that the meter can now be fully closed.