

# Gandy Drop Spreader Hopper Maintenance and Calibration

## Empty when finished.

### Remove hopper bottom and rotors

1. After hopper has been emptied, pull out hair pin cotters and remove wheels. Remove hair pin cotter that connects lever to spreading plates.
2. Loosen six latches that secure bottom and slide to hopper. (Lift spreading plate for easy access to rear latches.)
3. Loosen wing nuts on bearing retainers and remove bottom.
4. Remove rotors.
5. Some materials have a fine powder in the mixture; it may be necessary to oil the bearings more often to prevent the powder from working into the bearings.

### To remove slide from hopper for cleaning:

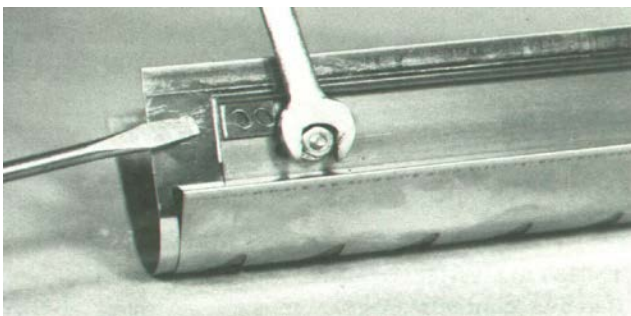
Some materials may build up on the hopper bottom, especially when atmospheric humidity is high. It may be wise to remove the slide from the bottom for cleaning.

To remove the slide, remove the four nuts, nylon washers and slide hanger.

### Re-assemble slide onto hopper bottom.

For proper slide tension gently drive the hanger to the left, using a screw driver against the tab at the right end of the hanger. When the end of the hanger lines up with the scribed line on the hopper bottom, slide tension is correct. Bottom is ready for reinstallation.

## Calibration



### 1. Determine speed.

88 feet in one minute equals 1 mile per hour  
176 feet in one minute equals 2 miles per hour  
264 feet in one minute equals 3 miles per hour  
352 feet in one minute equals 4 miles per hour  
440 feet in one minute equals 5 miles per hour  
528 feet in one minute equals 6 miles per hour

### 2. Set gauge.

Refer to rate charts included with your Turf Tender hopper. Remember, the settings in the charts are guides for beginning only. You should check your results as outline in Step 3.

You can 'fine tune' the gauge with extreme precision. The first half of the gauge is marked in increments of one. (Second half in increments of five.) If you tune to a tenth of one gauge stop (set at 27.8 instead of 27.7), the slide will open approximately one thousandth of an inch more. You can be sure of this because the gauge is attached directly to the slide so there is no linkage slack possible. When setting the gauge, use the top surface of the stop as the indicator to tell you where the gauge is set.

**NOTE: Always move the gauge away from the stop before attempting to set the gauge.**

### 3. Check Rate.

Making a precision application is now simply a matter of filling up the hopper, moving the lever so the gauge is against the stop, walking and/or driving at your selected speed, and checking your rate.

Most rates are expressed in terms of pounds applied per thousand square feet. Check your rate as follows.

Fill the hopper level full. Treat known area, such as 1,000 square feet. Take enough material to more than fill the hopper full again, and weigh it. Re-fill the hopper level full and weight the material left over to see how much was applied on the 1,000 feet. If necessary, adjust gauge up or down and make another application.

You can make the check on smaller areas, such as 500 square feet, or 250 square feet, using  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the rate per 1,000.

It is important that you check your rate to see that the setting you chose from the chart is giving you the results you want. Atmospheric conditions alone can affect the flow of materials.

**CAUTION:** When applying high potency fertilizer that will burn, be sure to be moving when you open the slide or lower the spreading plate for application.