

SPISE 7

Athens 26 – 28 September 2018

Test methods not yet covered by EN
16122 – micro granular applicators
and slug pellet applicators



National Sprayer Testing Scheme (NSTS) UK



History

- NSTS started in 2003
 - 17,800 sprayers tested in last 12 months
- Started testing granular applicators in 2005
- Testing slug pellet applicators from Feb 2016



Legislation

- Directive 2009/128/EC (Sustainable Use Directive)
 - UK Crop Assurance and supermarket protocols
 - UK requirement for operators to be qualified
 - Industry led initiatives – pre SUD
 - Nematicide Stewardship Programme (NSP) - 2015
 - Metaldehyde Stewardship Group (MSG) - 2008
- Best practice advice and recommendations



Granular applicators

- Machines tested may be applying
 - Nematicides
 - Herbicides (Avadex)
 - (Slug pellets)
 - Powders



Granular applicators

- 103 qualified Examiners - 20 doing most tests
- 1100 machines tested in the last 12 months
- Annual testing



Granular applicators

- Machine test
 - Check guards, structural condition, hoppers
 - metering system, pipework, fishtails
 - Boom and pneumatic system



Granular applicators

- Output check of metering system
 - Tolerance +/- 10% of the average



Slug pellet applicators

- 1300 – 1600 tested per year
- Farmer awareness of SUD requirements



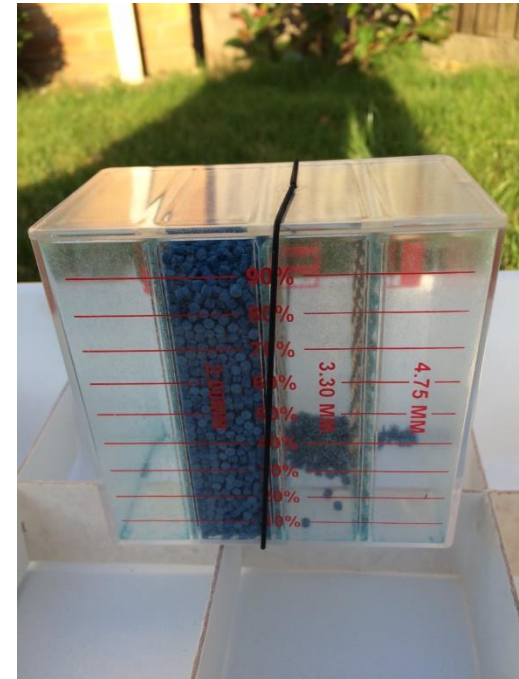
Slug pellet applicators

- 2 Examiner training centres
- 100 qualified Examiners, many also testing fertiliser spreaders



Slug pellet applicators – Test Kit

- 20 trays with baffles (up to 24m)
- Litre measure & scales, hardness tester, granulometer
- Tachometer – contact & optical



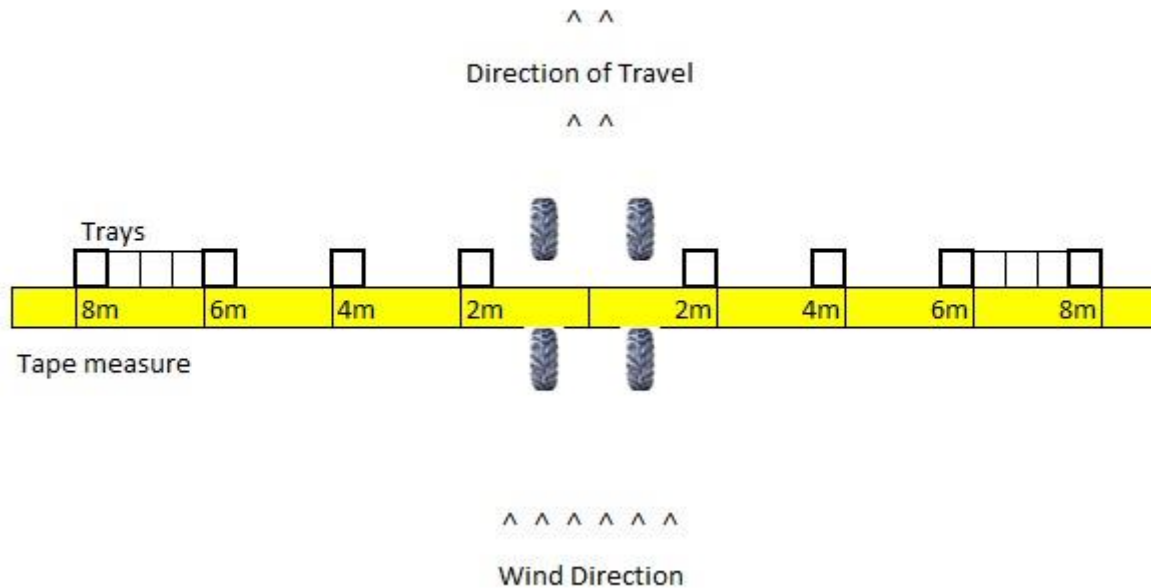
Slug pellet applicators

- Test procedure similar to granules
- Two part output check using trays
 1. To confirm width of spread
 2. To check balance of spread left and right to within +/- 15% of the average



Slug pellet applicator

Slug pellet applicator tray layout - 12 metre spread



Slug pellet applicators

SUD requirements

- Machines less than 5 years old do not need testing
- Once tested, re-test due every 6 years

Thank You

National Sprayer Testing Scheme

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