



**Great Plains**  
Manufacturing, Inc.  
[www.greatplainsmfg.com](http://www.greatplainsmfg.com)

## **Seed and Small Seeds Rate Charts**

The following pages are to assist in the proper setting of seeding rates for the 2700, 3000, and 3700 3-Point Drills.

The rates indicated in the charts are approximate values. To assure the most accurate seeding rate it is recommended that the drill be calibrated for the desired seed at the time of planting.

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Printed in the United States of America





## Main Seed Box Planting

Calibrating the seeding rate requires four steps:

1. Arranging the drive sprockets,
2. Setting the seed-rate handle,
3. Positioning the seed-cup door, and
4. Checking the seed rate.

Refer to the seed rate charts beginning on page 5. These charts list the proper sprocket sizes and seed rate handle settings for various seeds and seeding rates.

The seed rate charts are based on cleaned, untreated seed of average size and test weight. The rates are based on 9.5L x 15 rib implement tires.

Many factors will affect seeding rates including foreign material, seed treatment, seed size, field conditions, tire pressure and test weight. Minor adjustments likely will be needed.

Set and check the seeding rate using the procedures on page 3, then adjust the rate as necessary.

## Change Drive Sprockets

**Refer to Figure 1**

See the seed-rate charts to select the correct drive type. The drive types are 1, 1A, 2, and 2A.

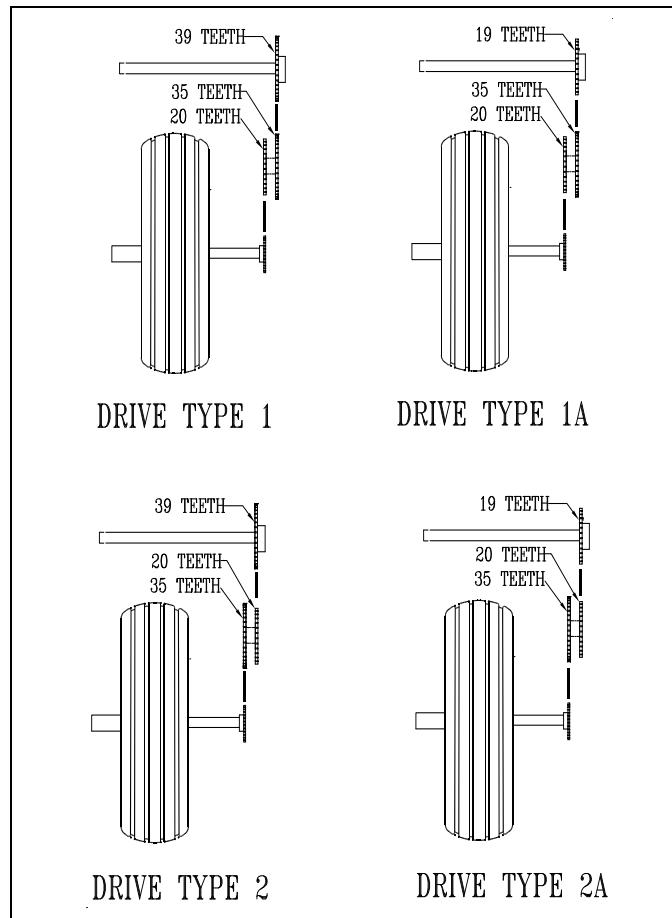


Figure 1  
Drive Types

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To change the drive type

**Refer to Figure 2**

1. Loosen the idler-arm bolts and remove chains.
2. To change the double speed-change sprocket, remove nut and turn sprocket over

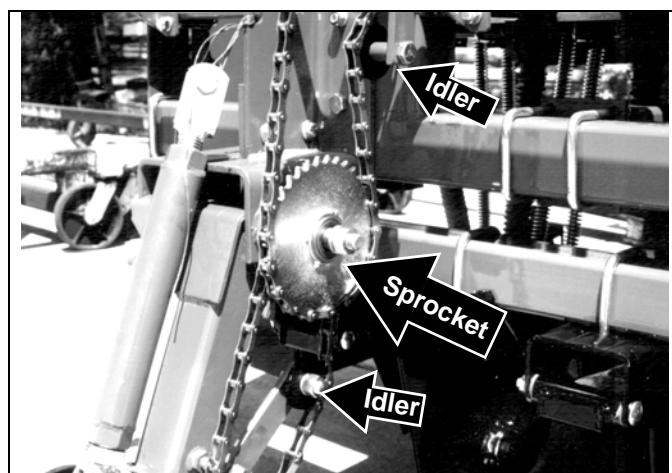


Figure 2  
Double Speed-Change Sprocket

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**Refer to Figure 3**

3. To change the jackshaft sprocket, remove the set screws and slide the sprockets so the correct-sized sprockets are aligned. Reinsert set screws.

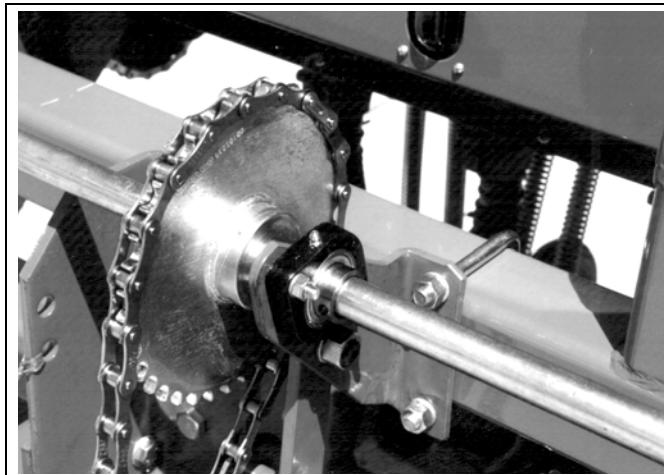


Figure 3  
Jackshaft Sprocket

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4. Shorten or lengthen chains as necessary and reinstall chains. Be sure chain is installed with the chain connector link retainer towards the centerline and the clip opening (split end) is facing the opposite way of the chain travel.
5. Move the idler arms into chains. See Figure 4 for correct chain slack.

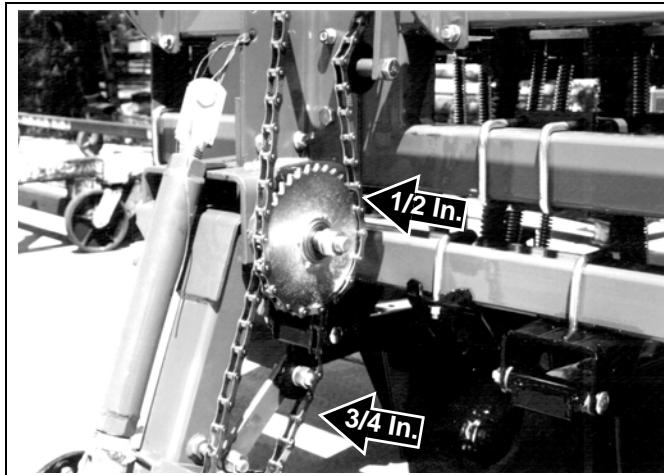


Figure 4  
Chain Slack

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**Set Seed-Rate Handle****Refer to Figure 5**

Position each handle to the setting indicated on the seed rate chart.

To adjust each handles:

1. Loosen the wing nut (1) under the handle.
2. Slide the handle until the indicator (2) lines up with the correct setting.
3. Tighten the wing nut.

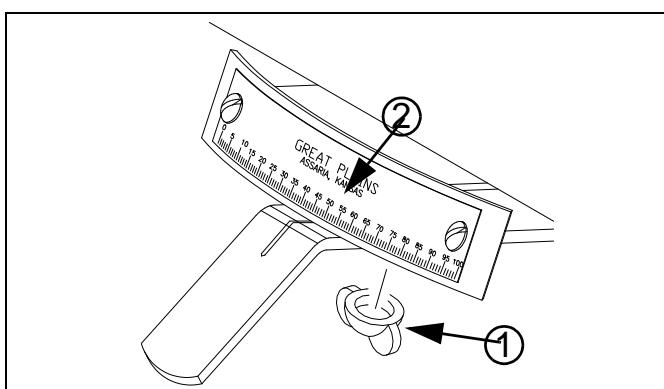


Figure 5  
Seed Rate Handle

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## Position Seed-Cup Doors

### Refer to Figure 6

At each seed box seed tube, adjust the seed cup door handle for the seed size.

The seed cup door handle has three normal operating positions.

1. Top position is for smaller seeds. Use it for wheat and similar small seeds.
2. Middle position is for larger seeds. Use it for soybeans and similar larger seeds.
3. Bottom position is for oversize or fragile seeds. If you experience excessive cracking with the middle position, use the bottom position.

Make sure all handles are in the same position before drilling.

To clean out the seed cup, put the handle in the wide-open position.

**Note:** The wide-open position is for clean out only. If the handle is set in the wide-open position with seed loaded, it may be difficult to reset it to a normal operating position.

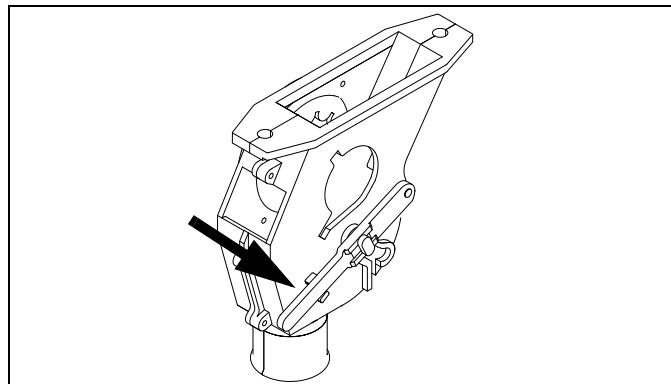


Figure 6  
Seed Cup Door Handle

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## Check Main Box Seed Rate

### NOTICE

*These seed rate charts are estimations of maximum seed rates. Actual result will vary based on conditions and machine maintenance. Maintain your machine regularly for optimum performance.*

1. Record the weight of an empty container large enough to hold the seed metered for one acre.
2. Place several pounds of seed over three seed cups on an outside end of the drill box. Pull the seed tubes off these three openers.
3. Raise the drill off the ground.
4. Turn the gauge wheel a few turns to fill the cups with seed. Turn wheel until seed drops to the ground from all three cups.
5. Place a container under the three seed tubes to gather the seed as it is metered.
6. Turn the drive gauge wheel until one acre has been counted on the acremeter
  - 200 rotations on a 27-foot drill
  - 182 rotations on a 30-foot drill
  - 142 rotations on a 37-foot drill

Check that the three seed cups have plenty of seed coming into them.

## 7. Calculate the seed rate

- Weigh the metered seed and subtract the initial weight of the empty container.
- Divide by three for the amount metered by each seed cup.
- Multiply by the number of drill openers for the pounds-per-acre seeding rate.

If this figure is different than desired, adjust the seed-rate handle and recheck the rate.

## 8. When drilling, note the acres drilled, amount of seed added, and level of seed in drill box. If you are seeding more or less than desired, adjust seeding rate slightly to compensate for field conditions.

$$\frac{\text{metered seed weight} - \text{empty container}}{3} = \text{pounds per seed cup}$$

$$\text{pounds per seed cup} \times \text{number of openers} = \text{pounds per acre}$$

Note: If your results vary greatly from the charts, you may want to repeat the calibration process.











**Wheat Grass**

Drive Type 2	Seed Rate Handle Setting																				
	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100
Rows	Seed Rate in Pounds Per Acre																				
6 inch	0	1	2	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13	14	14	15	15
7 inch	0	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	11	12	12	13	13
7.5 inch	0	1	1	2	2	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	8	8	9	10	10	11	11	12	12
8 inch	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	8	8	9	10	10	10	11	11
10 inch	0	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	9



## Small Seeds Attachment (27 ft and 30 ft)

### Change Small Seeds Drive Sprockets

Arrange the sprockets on the small-seeds attachment according to which drive type you will use on the main drill box.

Note: For accurate metering on the small seeds attachment, the main drill box sprockets must be set to drive type 1, 2, or 2A.

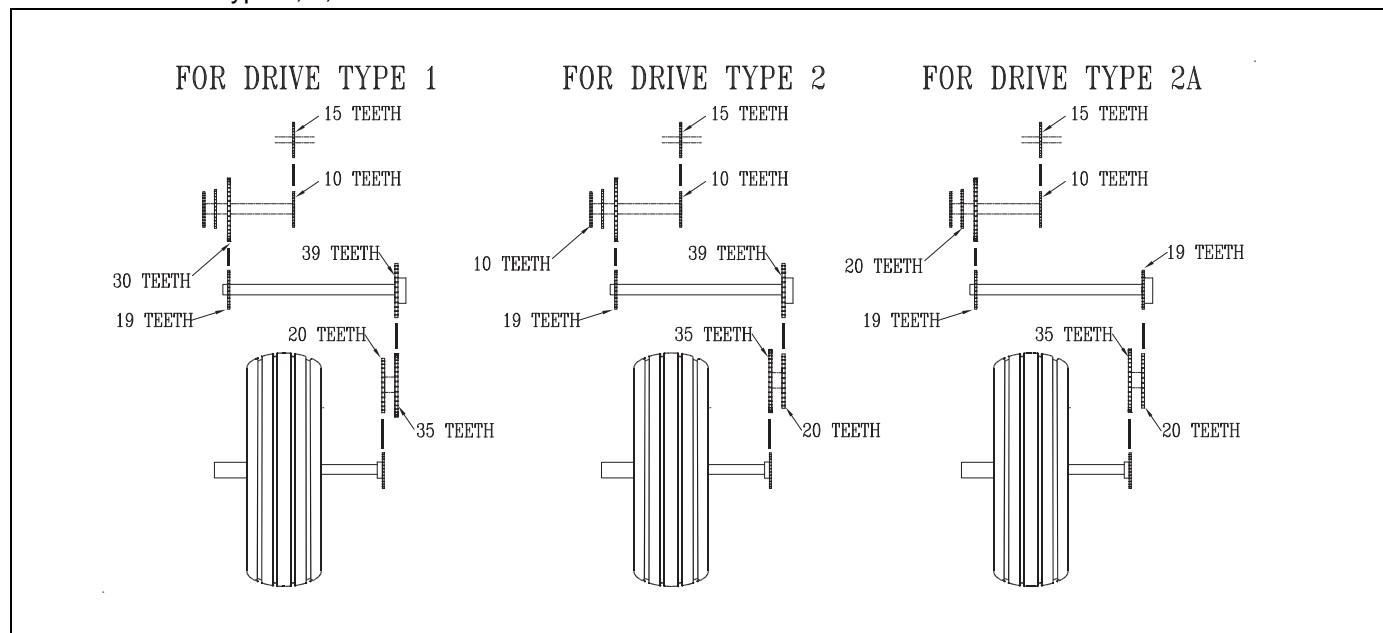


Figure 7  
Small Seeds Sprocket Arrangements

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### Set Small Seeds Rate Handle

Position each small seeds rate handle to the setting indicated on the Small Seeds Seed Rate Chart.

To adjust:

1. Loosen the wing nut under the small seeds rate handle.
2. Slide the handle until indicator lines up with the correct setting.
3. Tighten wing nut.

## Check Small Seeds Rate

The small seeds rate charts are based on cleaned, untreated seed of average size and test weight. The rates are based on 9.5L x 15 rib implement tires.

Many factors will affect seeding rates including foreign material, seed treatment, seed size, field conditions, tire pressure and test weight. Minor adjustments likely will be needed.

Set and check the seeding rate using the following procedure, then adjust the rate as necessary.

Note: Seeding rates will vary with variations of seed size. The seeding rates listed are based on an average seed size. Test and adjust your drill using the procedure below to help ensure an accurate seeding rate.

1. Record the weight of an empty container large enough to hold the seed metered for one acre.
2. Place several pounds of seed over three small seeds cups on an outside end of the small seeds box. Pull the seed tubes off these three openers.
3. Raise the drill off the ground.
4. Turn the gauge wheel a few turns to fill the cups with seed. Turn wheel until seed drops to the ground from all three cups.
5. Place a container under the three seed tubes to gather the seed as it is metered.
6. Turn the drive gauge wheel until one acre has been counted on the acremeter
  - 200 rotations on a 27-foot drill
  - 182 rotations on a 30-foot drill
  - 142 rotations on a 37-foot drill

Check that the three small seeds cups have plenty of seed coming into them.

7. Calculate the small seeds rate:
  - Weigh the metered seed and subtract the initial weight of the empty container.
  - Divide by three for the amount metered by each seed cup.
  - Multiply by the number of drill openers for the pounds-per-acre seeding rate.If this figure is different than desired, adjust the small seeds rate handle and recheck the rate.
8. When drilling, note the acres drilled, amount of seed added, and level of seed in drill box. If you are seeding more or less than desired, adjust seeding rate slightly to compensate for field conditions.

$$\frac{\text{metered seed weight} - \text{empty container}}{3} = \text{pounds per seed cup}$$

$$\text{pounds per seed cup} \times \text{number of openers} = \text{pounds per acre}$$

Note: If your results vary greatly from the charts, you may want to repeat the calibration process.





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