



An Overview of the Kasco Versa No-Till Drill

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With advance notice, I am happy to come and help calibrate the drill
and assist in getting the drill ready to operate.

If you have any questions about operating the drill, feel free to call
(307)-624-3145.

Components of the Drill

- **Control Box** – This will raise and lower the drill, which determines how deep the coulters will cut into the ground. It is also important to make sure that the press wheel is making good contact, as it is what turns the seed droppers.
- **Hitch** – The drill has a pin hitch to attach the ATV/UTV.
- **Leveling Bar** – This will raise and lower the hitch when attaching to an ATV. When the drill is hooked up this bar will adjust the tilt of the drill, which can adjust how the coulters and the press bar contact the ground.
- **Coulters** – These are what cut into the ground to make seed furrows. There are two rows, and they are on a ‘rolling beam’. When taking the drill over uneven ground, this system allows at least one coulters to cut into the ground.
- **Seed drop tubes** – There are two rows of tubes, one connects to the primary box, and the other connects to the warm season grass box. These tubes are right behind the coulters and are placed to drop the seed into the furrows.
- **Primary Seed Box** – This is the first seed box on the drill and is connected to the smaller black seed tube. This box’s seeding rate is controlled by a lever that will adjust the size of the opening in the seed drop bar. The larger the opening, the more seed will drop with each revolution. It is also controlled by the sprocket setting on the gear box. The gear box determines how fast the seed drop bar will turn. More revolutions mean more seed dropped.

- **Native Grass Seed Box** – This seed box is for ‘fluffy’ warm season grasses. There is an agitator in the box that will aid in moving the seed down into the larger gray drop tubes. This seed box’s rate is only controlled by the gear setting, which will control the revolutions of the agitator.

The two seed boxes can be used in concert with each other.

Most producers will only use the primary seed box. Many seed mixes will have seeds too small for the native grass box. Using a seed that is too small in the native grass box will result in very high seeding rate, which will waste seed.

- **Gear Box**- This is located on the back of the drill. The gear box connects to the drive chain, which turns the agitator in the native grass box and the seed drop bar in the primary box. There are three sprocket settings. The setting on the right will result in more revolutions, dropping the most seed. The setting on the left will cause the least number of revolutions.
- **Press Wheel** – The last part of the drill is the press wheel. This wheel works the ground behind the seed drop tubes to cover the furrows and protect the seed. The press wheel also initiates the drive train, which controls the agitator and seed drop tubes in the grass boxes.

Calibration of the Drill

Calibration is an essential step to make sure that you are putting out the proper amount of seed. The drill does have a chart that will give an idea of the settings you will use for your seed, but if using a seed not on the chart, or a mix, this is only a starting point.

- 1) The first step in calibration is to determine the settings on the drill you need to use. If the seed chart has your seed type or a similar one, you can start there. If you find no similar seed, I recommend placing all the settings in the middle, and with the results of your first test you can adjust the drill as needed.
- 2) Fill one side of the seed box with the seed you will be using. You need to make sure there is enough seed to fully cover the opening of the seed drop tube for the duration of your test.
- 3) Make sure the calibration mark (white paint on the press wheel) is lined up before you place your seed capture container.
- 4) Then place a plastic bag or measurement pitcher underneath the seed drop tube to catch the seed you need to weigh for your test.
- 5) Weigh the captured seed in **GRAMS**.
 - a. *Conversion equation for ounces to grams: (weight in oz) * (28.3495) = (weight in grams)*
- 6) Multiply the weight of captured seed by 3.2013 to find the final seed rate.
 - a. **Equation: (seed weight in grams) * (3.2013) = (seeding rate in Pounds/Acre)**
 - b. **Example equation shows the seed rate from demo video**
 - i. **(0.26 oz) * (28.3495) = (7.3709 g) * (3.2013) = (23.5963 lbs/Acre)**
- 7) If the final rate is not what is recommended for your seed, adjust the metering system and repeat steps 5 & 6.

Operation of the Drill

When the drill is ready for you to use, there are a few things to keep in mind to ensure safe operation, both for you and the drill.

- When moving locations, the drill should be fully raised, and speeds should not exceed 10mph.
- When seeding, the drill should **NEVER** exceed 5mph.
- At no point should a person ride or hang on the drill.
- The coulters should not cut into the ground more than an inch. This ensures the safety of the coulters, and that the seed is in the germination window.
- When turning, the drill needs to be raised. Turning with the cutting wheels in the ground risks breaking them. Turning with the wheels in the ground also results in uneven seeding and improper cutting depths.
- When driving the drill keep an eye out for obstacles. Cutting into large rocks or other debris could damage the drill.
- When finished with the drill, spray off coulters and press wheel, and get any remaining seed out of the seed boxes.