

## Balemaster – User Instructions

The GE Protimeter Balemaster consists of a handheld battery powered instrument with a liquid crystal display and a stainless steel probe. It is used to measure the moisture level of baled products such as straw and hay. The instrument is calibrated for wheat straw and may be used to take relative measurements in other baled products.

### Moisture Measurement in Bales

1. Connect the baleprobe to the instrument and switch on by pressing  $\Phi$
2. Push the baleprobe into the bale to the required depth
3. Note the reading on the display

To assess the moisture level of whole bales it is recommended that the average value is obtained from numerous readings taken from different sides and at different depths.

The following moisture measurement ranges may be used for guidance:

Less than 15%mc: bales are in a safe condition for storage

Greater than 15%mc : bales are not in a safe condition for storage.

Additional drying is recommended.

After use, switch the instrument off by pressing and holding  $\Phi$  for 2 seconds, or leave the instrument to switch off automatically.

### Set up Mode

The Balemaster is set up to switch off automatically after 5 minutes to conserve battery life. If you wish to change this default setting, enter the set up mode by pressing  $\blacktriangleright$  and  $\Phi$  simultaneously and then release. A series of numbers will scroll across the display, finishing with the code 0=0. Press  $\Phi$  twice to display 2=0, then press  $\blacktriangleright$  successively to set the auto switch off time (between 1 to 9 minutes). Finally, press  $\Phi$  again to confirm the setting.

### Balemaster Specification

Calibration: wheat straw

Nominal measurement range: 8.5 to 40%mc

Batteries: AA/LR6 x2

Baleprobe lengths: standard; 600mm, short; 300mm

Note that the smaller of the sockets on the right hand side of the instrument is for use with an optional temperature probe. For further details of this option please contact GE Protimeter.

**Caution!** Replace the batteries when the low battery power symbol appears on the display. Remove the batteries if the instrument is not going to be used for extended periods.