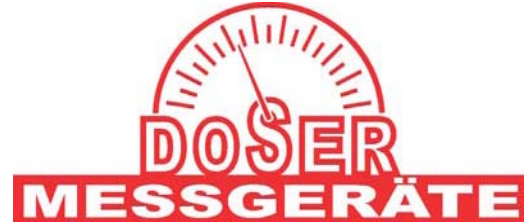


# Feuchtigkeitsmessgeräte Moisture Meter Humidimètre



DM 4 A Operating Instruction



## Moisture Meter type DM4A for wood building materials, paper and cardboard

### Moisture Meter Type DM4A

**Description:**

The electronic moisture meter DM4A is used to determine in a matter of seconds the moisture in materials. The average moisture, down to a depth of approx. 3 cm is measured.

**materials:** wood, building materials, paper and cardboard

**Measuring Ranges:**

wood:	0,0 -99,9 % H <sub>2</sub> O
building materials:	0,0 -20,0 % H <sub>2</sub> O
paper and cardboard:	0,0 -50,0 % H <sub>2</sub> O
material temperature range:	5 -40°C
working temperature range:	5 -40°C
storage temperature range:	-20 -70°C

**Method of Operation:**

The measuring electrodes ⑩ of the meter are pushed during the measuring process on the material to be measured, so that a high frequency electrical field is able to pass through the material. A micro processor receives the measured signals and determines from the measured value the percentage water content taking into account the material setting group.

**Measuring Principle:**

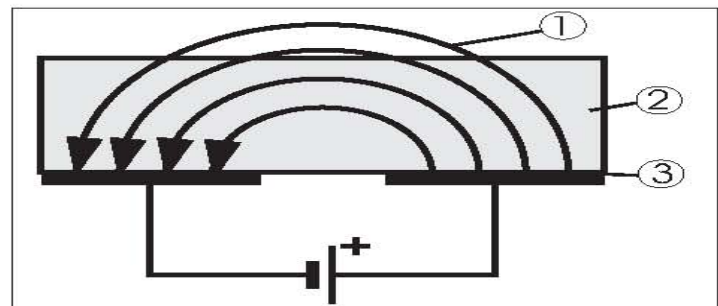
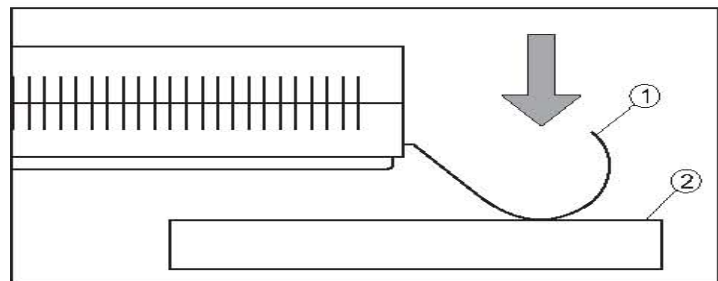
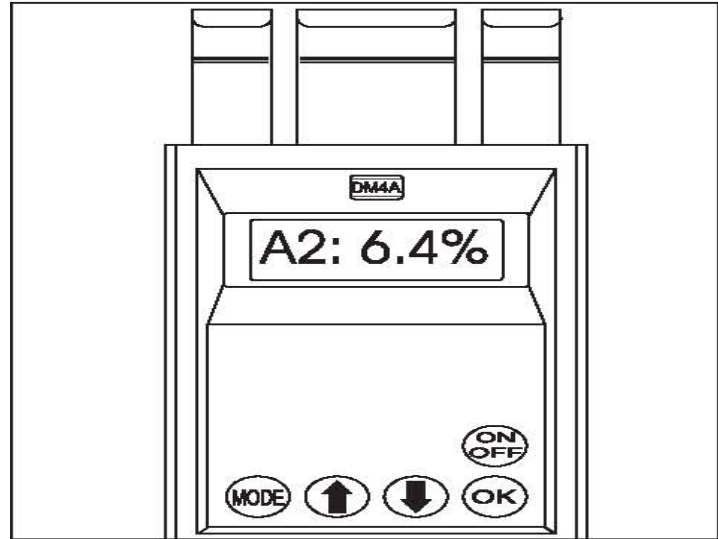
The meter works in accordance with the principle of an opened plate capacitor. The capacity of the capacitor depends on the material-(dielectric)-constant of the material in between the plates. Compared with air ( $\epsilon_r \approx 1$ ), for example water has a very high dielectric-constant ( $\epsilon_r \approx 80$ ). The water content of a wet material can therefore be determined

by determining the dielectric constant of this material.

**Safety Tips:**

- ⑩ follow the operating instructions
- ⑩ only use the meter as directed (see page 1)
- . ⑩ keep the meter away from live and current carrying parts
- . ⑩ avoid impacts
- . ⑩ protect the meter from heat
- . ⑩ keep the meter dry and try to prevent dirt from entering the case
- . ⑩ protect the meter from electrostatic discharge.
- . ⑩ the meter must be repaired or serviced only by qualified specialists

**Damages caused by failure to follow the above Safety Tips are not covered by the warranty !**



- ① *field lines*
- ② *material to be measured*
- ③ *plate capacitor*



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## Measurement Preparation:

- . ⑩ **material thicknesses < 5 cm** ,: use suitable bases  $\diamond$  (for example: polystyrene or foamed plastic plates -no metal!) or even better: hold the material to be measured into the air
- . ⑩ **thin materials (< 2 cm)** ,: measure on a pile (thickness at least 2 cm, avoid air gaps between the individual layers)
- . ⑩ look for an **even, smooth surface**  $f$  (minimum size for the measurement 10x10cm)
- . ⑩ **minimum distance of the electrodes**

from the edge of the surface: 1 cm

## Turn on the Meter:

- . ⑩ Push ON/OFF-button, the display shows the adjusted material group. Hold the instrument into the air for automatic zero point measurement and correction, if the zero point is not in the valid range, the display shows "NP-ERROR".
- . ⑩ release the ON/OFF-button, the display shows e.g. "A1: 0,00%", the instrument is now ready for use (the first two characters show always the adjusted material group and number).

## Parameter Settings:

With code numbers parameter settings can be changed. Press both arrow buttons, the display shows "code:00", adjust the required code with the arrow buttons and confirm it with OK. The following parameters are changeable: code 11: storage adjustments (OFF, ON single, ON auto)

- ON single:** single values will be stored by pressing the OK-button **ON auto:** All values > 0 will be stored automatically after pressing Ok till the storage is filled up or till the OK-button is pressed again.
- code 12: number of measurements per second (mps) range 0-10 code 13: number of measurements till automatic switching off (loops) range 0 -999, loops = 0: no automatic switching off code 14: delete storage, through changing the material setting the storage will be deleted too. code 21: attenuation (brake), range 0-99 code 22: automatic maximum value measuring (automax) no automatic maximum measurement (float)

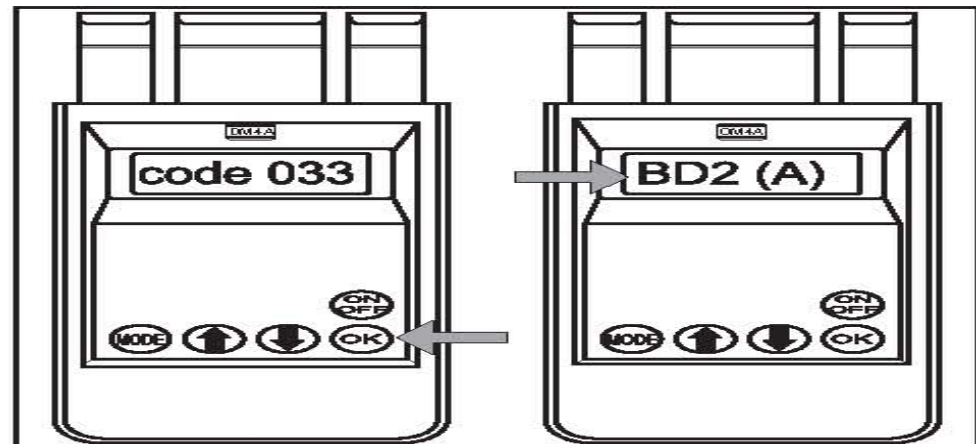
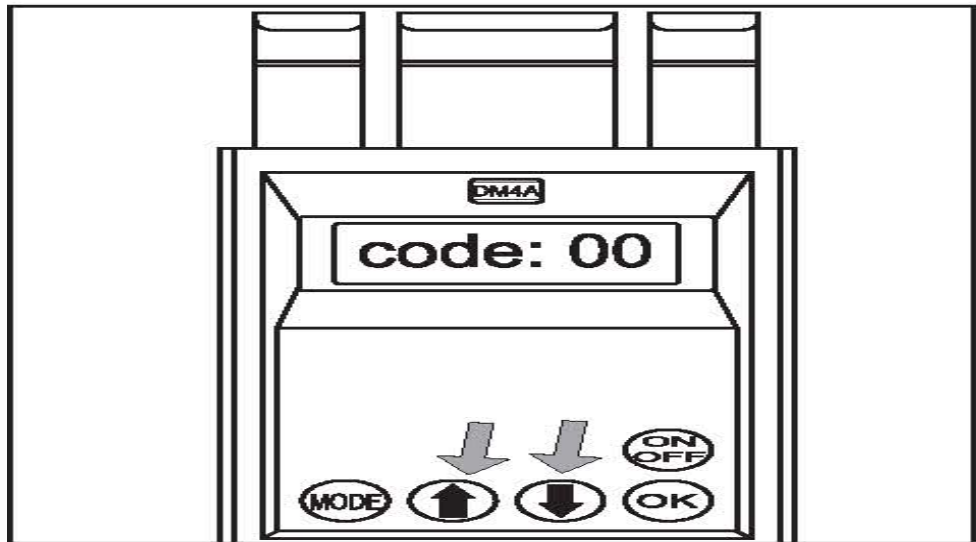
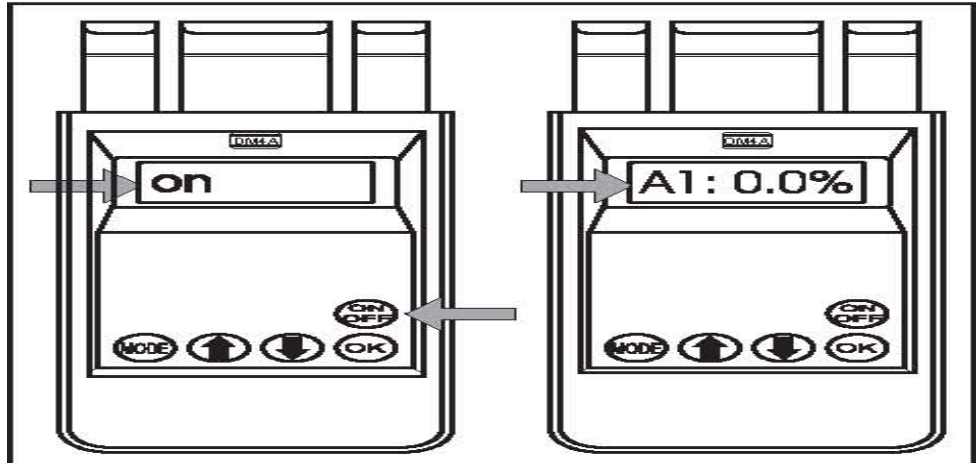
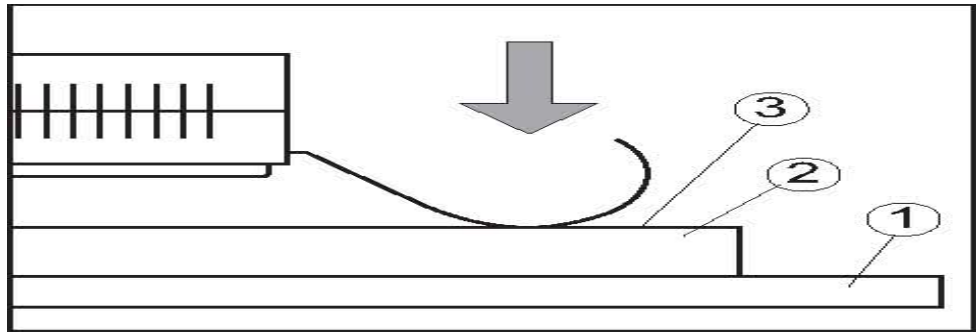
## Material Groups:

For using the required stored material group the corresponding code has to be selected (the sign is always displayed as the first character):

- code 30: sign S, customer specific curves
- code 31: sign H, wood (HD5)
- code 32: sign P, paper and cardboard (PD2)
- code 33: sign A, wood (BD2)
- code 34: sign B, building materials (BD2)

the selected group is always displayed during the measurements

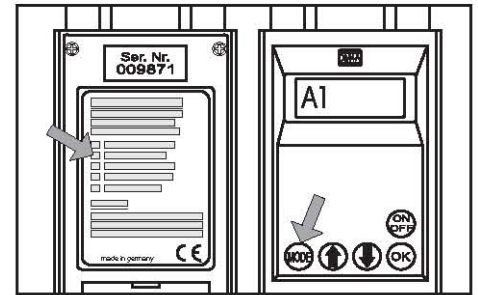
**Additional adjustments can be made with the optional PC-Software DMI-Controller**  
**Checking Measuring Quality:**



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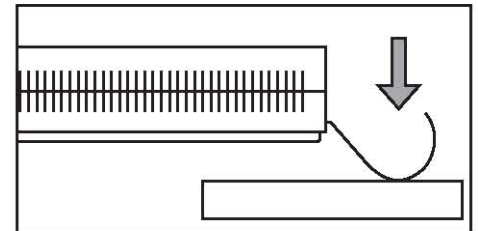
## Setting of Material number:

With the MODE-button the required material number can be selected. The display shows A1 if the material setting A1 was selected before. The material number can be changed with the arrow buttons. At the material groups A, B, C and D it's possible to switch between wood to building materials by pushing the MODE button. The change has to be confirmed with OK. The material number is shown as the second character in the display.



## Material Moisture Measuring:

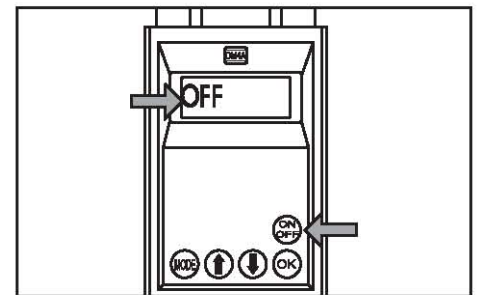
- press the meter on the material, if "automax" is activated, the maximum value is taken automatically and if the meter is pushed again with the sensors to a material, a new measurement starts.
- read off the moisture.



## Turn off the Meter:

- push "ON/OFF" button until the display shows "OFF"
- release "ON/OFF" button, the meter is turned off

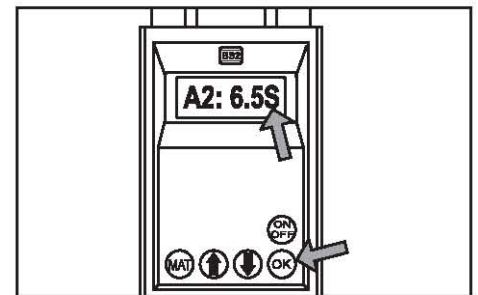
After an adjustable number of measurements (loops) the instrument switches off automatically. If loops is adjusted to 0, the automatic turning off is deactivated. In this case the instrument has to be turned off by



## Storing of Moisture Values:

If the storage is activated, by pushing the OK-button up to 100 values can be stored. If the storage parameter is set to "on single" always one value is stored, if the parameter is set to "on auto" every value > 0 is stored automatically until the storage is full or the OK button is pressed again. The numbers of measurements per second (mps) can be adjusted between

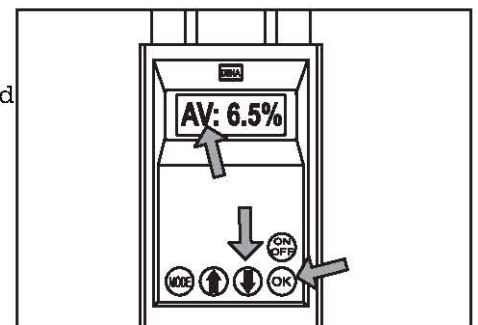
1 and 10. The storage procedure will be signed with an "S" at the end of the display instead of the %-sign.



## Restorage of the Stored Values:

By pushing the "OK" and the "↓" button, the stored values can be restored with the arrow buttons. The first two signs always shows the storage place:

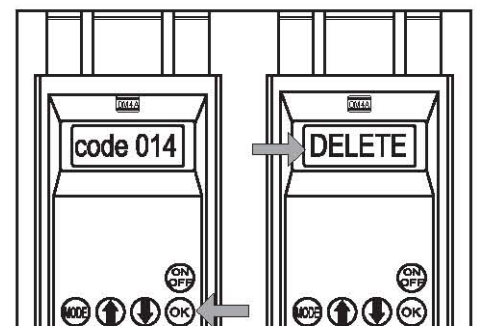
MA:	8.7%	highest value
AV:	4.5%	average value
MI:	9.6%	lowest value
01:	5,2%	1. stored value
.	.	.
.	.	.
100:	7,3%	100. stored value



With our optional PC-interface cable and software **DMI-Controller** the stored values can be transferred to a PC for storing them into a file or showing them on a graph.

## Cancellation of the Stored Values:

After changing the material adjustment or with code 14, the stored



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We recommend carrying out regular periodical controlling check measurements, as different local circumstances might need different material adjustments. (recommendation: controlling measurements by oven

## Screed Moisture Measuring:

For accurate determination of moisture in different kind of screed we recommend the instrument G812 together with the test module PE05. On interest, please contact:

**DNS-Denzel Natursteinschutz GmbH** • Am Wasserturm 5 • 73104 Börtlingen; Germany Tel: +49 (0) 7161 959 336 • Fax: +49 (0) 7161 959 337 • info@dns-denzel.de • www.dns-denzel.de The DM4A can be used for measuring moisture differences

1. the measurements are non damaging
2. the measurements are very quickly done
3. if the measured values are too high time sensitive exact measurements e.g. the oven drying method, are superfluous.

Even in one room great differences of the moisture in the flooring are possible. Therefore non damaging measurements are necessary to find out the critical places for an exact time sensitive measurement as e.g. the oven drying method.

The number of such damaging measurements are then minimised.

The result of our capacitive moisture meter depends on differences in density, mixtures and surface roughness. It depends also from the moisture profile. The influence to the moisture gets smaller for higher depth. The measuring result is an average moisture value.

With our moisture meter it's possible to observe the drying process. If at the same place after several days the moisture result does not change, the moisture is in balance with the air humidity. In this case also at high moisture readings an exact comparing measurement e.g. with the oven drying method is recommended.

## Oven Drying Method:

The oven drying method is the most accurate way to measure the material moisture in wood (ISO 3130-1975), building materials and paper (DIN ISO 287).

We recommend this for testing and calibrating of all electronic moisture meters.

Short description:

1. For measuring the weights we recommend a balance with an measuring range of 200g and an accuracy of 0,01g
2. For drying you need an oven with adjustable temperatures of 40, 100 and 104°C
3. Take a probe from wood with a sharp saw, avoid edge parts. For building materials take a probe with a sharp chisel to a depth of approx 3cm. the probe should be at least 20g
4. It is very important to take the weight of the first probe immediately, as air humidity may change the moisture content. Name of the first weight: wet weight (WW)
5. The probe must be dried in the oven until the weight is constant. The maximum drying temperatures: for wood: 104 °C (ISO 3130-1975) for paper 100°C (DIN ISO 287) for e.g. concrete flooring: 100 °C for anhydride flooring: 40°C
6. The name of the dry weight is DW.
7. 8. The moisture content is calculated with the formulas:



wood moisture (ISO 3130-1975):

$$\text{MOISTURE} = \frac{(\text{WW} - \text{DW})}{\text{DW}} * 100 \%$$

building materials and paper:

$$\text{MOISTURE} = \frac{(\text{WW} - \text{DW})}{\text{WW}} * 100 \%$$

## Moisture Meter Type DM4A

### Customer Specific Linearisation Curves:

It can be programmed up to 10 customer specific linearisation curves. Each curve is programmable with up to 8 points. The curves are stored in a EEPROM, the curves will not get lost through changing of the battery: For changing the linearisation curves you need the PC interface cable and the software DMI-Controller.. The customer specific curves can be selected with code 30. The material group is the "spec. curves".

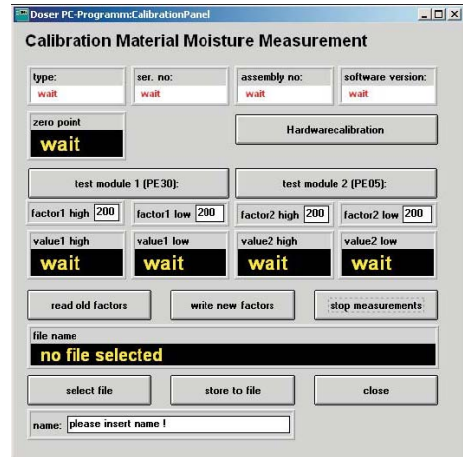
### Basic Calibration:

The moisture meter can be tested and calibrated with two test modules.

material group	test module	rated value
BD2 (A0)	PE05	37±2%
BD2 (B0)	PE05	10±1%
HD5 (H0)	PE30	12±1%
PD2 (P0)	PE30	8,5 ± 0,5%



For changing the calibration you need the PC interface cable and the software DMI-Controller.



## Moisture Meter Type DM4A

### Special Usings, Recommendation

#### Measuring moisture in **caravans, trailers, mobile homes**

For this using we are producing instrument with shorted sensors as showed in the picture nearby. With such sensors measurements can be made in edges without being influenced through the adjoined wall.

We recommend the material setting HD5(H) (code 31) measurement:

1. 1. make a reference measurement at a dry place
2. 2. change the material setting till the instrument shows approx. 5%
3. 3. now different similar places can be checked for higher moisture content.

#### **Attention:**

Frames may also causes higher moisture readings. Therefore the instrument also can be used to detect frames.

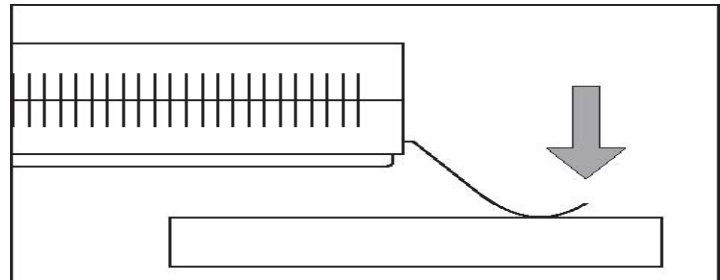
#### **Moisture measurement in plastic boates:**

Caused through Osmose plastic boates can get blisters below the water line. At thsi blistes the moisture in the plastic rises up. Befor starting a repair such parts must be completely dry. To measure this we recommend to select the wood material group, material no. 0. The surface of the place where you need to measure must be dry!

Measurement:

1. 1. take a reference measurement above the water line
2. 2. select the material no. till the reading is approx 10%
3. 3. now you can measure at similar places to see the moisture differences.

**Attention: Frames or moutings** may also causes higher moisture readings. Therefore the moisture meter also can be used to detect frames or mountings at the opposite side of the wall.



## Moisture Meter Type DM4A

### Battery:

The meter works with a commercial 9V block battery. The capacity of this is continuously controlled. If the battery is running low, the display shows "B" instead of the % in final position.

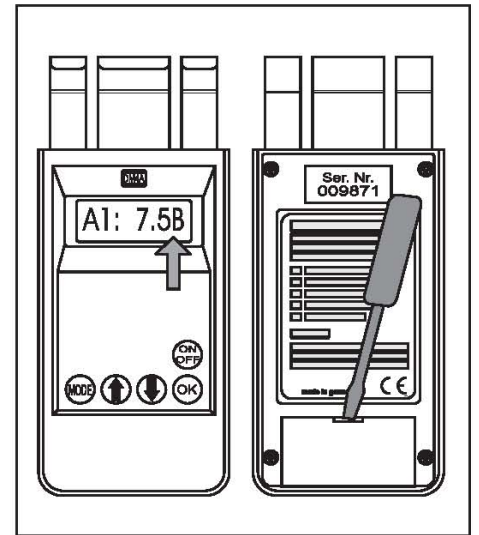
### Change battery:

- open the battery box for example with a small screw driver
- take out the battery
- insert new battery, observing the correct polarity

### Attention!

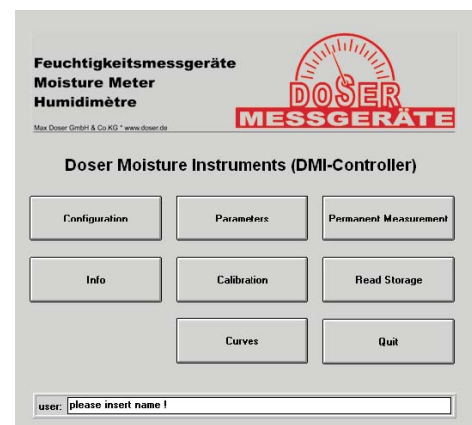
In accordance with battery legislation, all used batteries must be disposed off in special battery collecting bins.

The disposal of old or used batteries as part of normal waste is not allowed!



### Optional Extras:

- ⑩ test modules for checking and calibrating the moisture meter (state the type of the meter)
- ⑩ plastic case for better protection
- ⑩ different types of moisture meters
- ⑩ special calibration of the moisture meter
- ⑩ interface cable and PC software DMI-Controller



Our operating instructions are intended for guidance and to provide information on our products and their uses. They should not be taken to imply special characteristics or suitability for any specific purpose, other than those stated.

We constantly work to improve our products and reserve the right to alter our products and operating instructions without advanced notification.