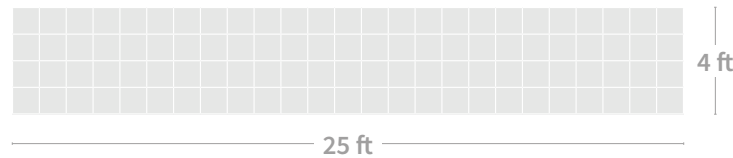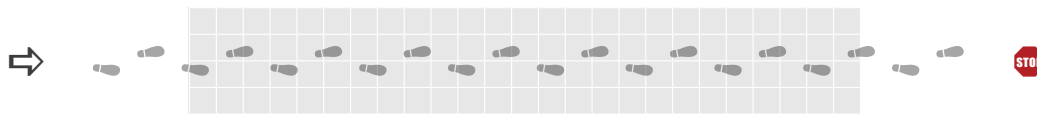# How to Calibrate a Bait Spreader

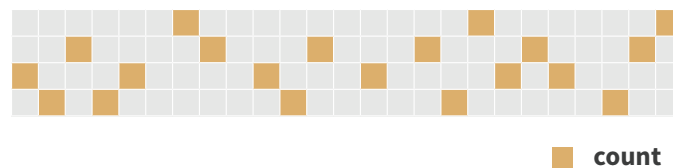1. Designate a test area that is at least **25 feet long and 4 feet wide** (find a clean, flat area or lay out a tarp).

4 ft

25 ft

2. Fill the hopper of the spreader with clean oats and walk through the center of the test area (starting at a short side) while turning the crank at a fixed rate per step (start turning the crank before you reach the test area and continue until you have cleared the test area).

3. Count the number of oats in **random 1-square foot sections** along the entire length of the 25-foot test area. Record the number of oats counted in each square. **Count 20 random squares** from one end to the other (it is important to count random squares and not just the areas where the most oat kernels lie).

■ count

4. Calculate **the average number of oats per square foot** for this trial run.

$$\frac{(5+7+2+4+4+3+5+8+2+3+4+5+5+4+4+6+3+4+5+4)}{20 \ [\text{number of squares counted}]} = \textbf{4.35} \ \text{oats/ft}^2$$

5. Repeat steps 2-4 at least four more times.

6. Calculate the average number of oats per square foot for all five trials. Compare this average to your **goal of 4.13 oats per square foot**. Adjust the spreader accordingly until your average and your goal are similar.

$$\frac{(4.35 + 5.2 + 4.75 + 3.85 + 4.2)}{5 \ [\text{number of trials conducted}]} = \textbf{4.47} \ \text{oats/ft}^2$$

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