

## HOW TO USE A MOISTURE CONTENT STANDARD (MCS)

The electrical accuracy or calibration of a Moisture Meter can be checked either through the internal check (if equipped), or by using an external Moisture Content Standard (MCS). The MCS can also verify the integrity of the electrode being used with the meter.

Be sure to have the correct MCS for your model meter and that electrode contact points are clean. If they are not, clean with an appropriate cleaner such as denatured alcohol.

### Procedure:

- 1) **Pin Type** – if the meter has an on/off switch, turn the meter on. Touch the center (common) contact and one of the side contacts of the MCS with the pins on top of the meter or the electrode attached to the meter. The meter should indicate the value of the contacted side of the MCS. A tolerance of +/- 0.2% is acceptable for digital meters; 0.5% for analog meters.



**Note:** When checking a digital wood meter with the MCS-1, the meter should be set to default: 4-pin /non-insulated, 70°F, Douglas Fir to obtain the nominal 12% and 22% readings. If set to 2-pin, 70°F, Douglas Fir, the readings will be 12.7%, and 23.6%.

- 2) **Prod Type** – Insert the prod in the clips, with the tip held in the center clip and the lower metal band in either of the outer clips. Take a reading; the meter should indicate the value indicated on the contacted side of the MCS. A tolerance of +/- 0.2% is acceptable for digital meters; 0.5% for analog meters.
- 3) **Note:** When checking the FX-20 or FX-30 hay meters with the MCS-5, set the meter temperature to 80°F.

