INSTRUCTION MANUAL

CLASS A EVAPORATION PAN
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1. INTRODUCTION

The Class A Evaporation Pan is used for measurement of water evaporation. It is normally installed on a wooden platform set on the ground in a grassy location. The pan is filled with water and exposed to represent an open body of water. The pan is filled to the datum in the fixed point gauge. The evaporation rate can be measured by hook gauge or by refilling to the datum in the fixed point gauge.

**Figure 1:** CLASS A EVAPORATION PAN WITH FIXED POINT GAUGE AND MEASURING CYLINDER
2. SPECIFICATION

Material: Stainless Steel
Construction: Welded.
Bird Guard: Optional with a hinged door
Size: 255 mm x 1225 mm diameter
Packed Weight: 65 Kg Crated.

3. INSTALLATION

The Class A Evaporation Pan is normally installed on a wooden platform on the ground. Please refer to figure below for details.

Figure 2: CLASS A EVAPORATION PAN INSTALLED ON A WOODEN PLATFORM
4. **OPERATION**

### A. Rainfall

To calculate the evaporation it is necessary to measure the rainfall and the water level in the pan at the same time.

**Normal Rainfall Situation:**

1. Read the raingauge every day at 8:00 or 9:00 O’clock. If the raingauge is empty no entry need to be made against the date [i.e in column (L)]. [see figure (4) and figure (6)].

2. If the reading is 0.1 mm (i.e below the first graduation in the measure) enter the word “trace” in column (L) [see figure (4) and figure (6)]. **Note:** Days in which rainfall is less than 0.1 mm are not considered as rain days.

3. If the amount measured is due entirely to frost, fog or dew please write the word “frost”, “fog” or “dew” beside the entry of the amount. **Note:** although an amount of 0.2 mm or more may be entered these particular days are not counted as rain days.

4. If there is an error in the raingauge reading due to “raingauge overflow”, “raingauge leaking” or “funnel blocked by hail” enter the amount and enter the reason for suspecting the reading in the “remarks” section.

**Unusual Heavy Rainfall**

1. In addition to the routine check of rainfall at 8:00 or 9:00 O’clock, it is valuable to provide information of the actual time when heavy rainfall occurs.

2. If heavy rainfall has been falling for some hours a reading of the raingauge at the time is considered a valuable information.

3. A reading of the raingauge at the end of a thunderstorm also provides valuable information.

### B. Class A Evaporation Pan

1. Measure the evaporation daily at 8:00 or 9:00 O’clock.

2. If an observation is missed leave the columns for that day blank and enter the time interval since the previous observation in the remarks section (e.g. “72 hours period” entered on Monday when Saturday and Sunday are missed).
Case 1: Water level in the pan is below the fixed point proceed as follow:

(a). Let “A” be the amount of water added to the pan, enter the “A” value in column (F) of the observation chart.

(b). Water should only be added using the supplied measuring cylinder. Always full measures should be used.

Figure 3: Refilling water to the fixed point gauge (datum).

(c). Let “G” be the number of full measures (i.e filled to the zero mark in the measuring cylinder).

(d). Add the “G” value to column (G) in the observation chart and times the “G” value by 4.

(e). Let “H” be the value of full measure amount added to the pan. Therefore the H value is obtained as shown in equation (1) below.

\[ G \times 4 = H \]  

(Equation 1).

Let say \( G = 5 \)  \( \Rightarrow H = 5 \times 4 = 20 \text{ mm} \)  (Equation 2)

(f). Add the “H” value to the observation chart as shown in figure (4) below.

(g). When the water level just reaches the fixed point read, to the nearest 0.2 mm, the level of the water remaining in the measure.
Figure 4: Example (1)- When adding water to the pan.

(h). Let “J” be the level of the water remaining in the measure. Add this value to the observation chart (see figure 4)

Let Say: J = 2.4 mm  (equation 3)

(i). Let “K” be the entries added in column “H” and “J”

Therefore: K = H + J  (equation 4)

Substitute equations (2) and (3) in equation (4)

Therefore K = 20 + 2.4 = 22.4 mm  (equation 5)

(j). Add the rainfall value in column “L” to the “K” value and enter the result in column “M” of the observation chart

Therefore the evaporation to the nearest 0.2 mm is calculated as follows:

M = L + K  (equation 6)

By looking at the example in figure (4) the value of “M” will be:

M = 0.6 + 22.4 = 23.0 mm

Note: Please note equation (6) is only used when water is added to the evaporation pan by the observer.
Case 2: Water level in the pan is above the fixed point proceed as follow:

(a). Let “R” be the amount of water removed from the pan, enter the “R” value in column (F) of the observation chart.

(b). Water should only be removed using a vessel and the supplied measuring cylinder. Remove water with a vessel and pour into measuring cylinder till you reach the zero mark. Continue with the operation until the level of water required in the pan is reached. If the last measure is partly filled read value to the nearest 0.2 mm.

(c). Let “G” be the number of full measures removed (i.e. filled to the zero mark in the measuring cylinder).

(d). Add the “G” value to column (G) in the observation chart and times the “G” value by 4.

(e). Let “H” be the value of full measure amount removed from the pan. Therefore the H value is obtained as shown in equation (7) below.

\[ G \times 4 = H \quad (equation \ 7). \]

Let say G = 2 \[ \Rightarrow H = 2 \times 4 = 8 \text{ mm} \quad (equation \ 8) \]

(f). Add the “H” value to the observation chart as shown in figure (6) below.
Let “J” be the level of the water remaining in the partly filled measure. Add this value to the observation chart (see figure 6)

Let Say: \( J = 1.6 \text{ mm} \) (equation 9)

Let “K” be the entries added in column “H” and “J”

Therefore: \( K = H + J \) (equation 10)

Substitute equations (8) and (9) in equation (10)

Therefore \( K = 8 + 1.6 = 9.6 \text{ mm} \) (equation 11)

Subtract the rainfall value in column “L” from the “K” value and enter the result in column “M” of the observation chart

Therefore the evaporation to the nearest 0.2 mm is calculated as follows:

\[ M = L - K \] (equation 12)

By looking at the example in figure (6) the value of “M” will be:

\[ M = 24.8 - 9.6 = 23.0 \text{ mm} \]

**Note:** Please note equation (12) is only used when water is removed from the evaporation pan by the observer.

If there is a Bird Guard in use with the evaporation pan. Please use the gate on the top when adding or removing water from the pan and close when operation is finished.
5. **OBSERVATION CHART TEMPLATE**

Please refer to the recording template below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Rainfall, Evaporation</th>
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<th>Date: / /26</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water Temperature (°C)</td>
<td>Amount of Water Added or Removed (mm)</td>
<td>Rainfall (mm)</td>
<td>Evaporation (mm)</td>
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<td>before touching</td>
<td>after setting</td>
<td>A or R</td>
<td>no. of full measures</td>
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Total Rainfall | Total Evap. | Name of Observer: ____________________________
Signature: ____________________________
6. PART LIST

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7. REFERENCES

1. Bureau Of Meteorology Australia
2. WWW.FAO.ORG/