



**QAQC LAB**

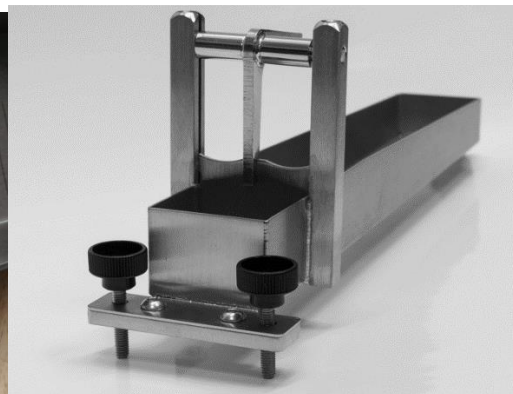
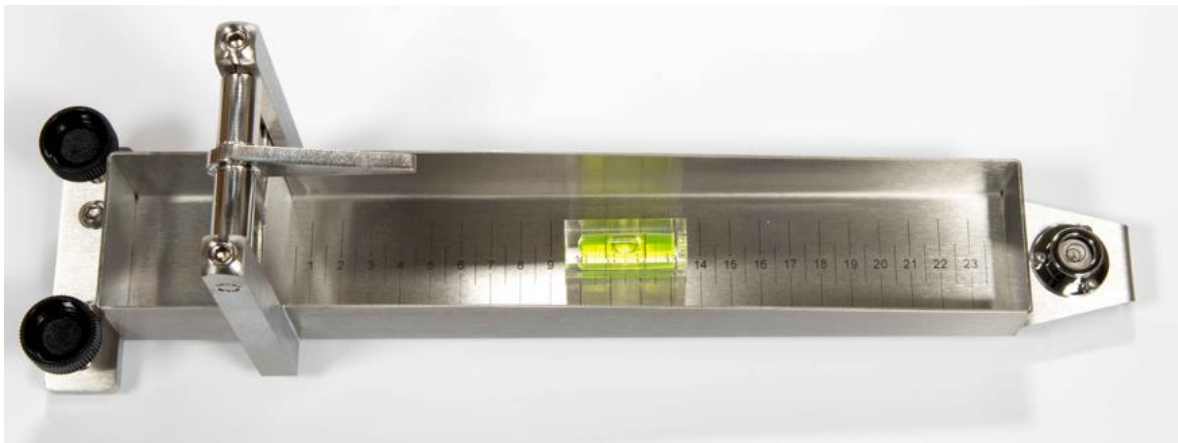
***www.qclabequipment.com***

## **BOSTWICK CONSITOMETER**

Specifications: 24cm. Engraved Graduations in 0.5 cm Divisions. Length - 24cm: Trough length - 24cm: 240 mm Width: 88 mm Height: 104 mm

Rear strengthening bar built in as standard, increases durability. Every unit is serial numbered for 100% traceability. Laser etched scale is longer lasting, wear and smear resistant assuring accurate results.

Included • Additional spirit level – so you can double check accuracy prior to use • Instructions – step by step so you know how to use and maintain unit



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## Bostwick Consistometer – Instructions

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The CONSISTOMETER is an instrument used to determine the consistency of viscous materials by measuring the distance that the material flows under its own weight in a given time interval. The instrument allows producers of such viscous products as jellies, preserves, sauces, etc. to predetermine formulas for their product and to standardize production lots.

### 2. DESCRIPTION

The CONSISTOMETER is made of stain-resistant metal. It consists of a trough divided into two sections by a gate. The smaller section serves as a reservoir for the material to be tested. The larger section is graduated along the bottom in one-half centimetre divisions beginning at the gate. The gate is spring-operated and is held by a trigger that permits instantaneous release. In operation, the gate slides vertically in the grooves of two posts extending upward from the sides of the trough. The L-shaped trigger release hooks over the top of the gate to hold it in a closed position. Two levelling screws are located at the reservoir end of the trough and a circular spirit level is located at the other end of the trough.

### 3. SETTING UP

Place the CONSISTOMETER on a LEVEL surface and adjust the levelling screws until the bubble in the circular level is centred. Check the level by placing another spirit level, on the bottom of the trough about midway along the length of the graduated section. The two levels should agree. (If they do not, then proceed as follows: Adjust the levelling screws until the bubble of the level in the trough is centred. Then, bend the pointed, vertical lip of the CONSISTOMETER slightly until the two levels agree. Do not bend the horizontal part of the lip as this may prevent proper levelling of the instrument.)

Once the CONSISTOMETER is level close the gate and hook the trigger release over the top.

### 4. OPERATION

Fill the reservoir with the material to be tested and level off the top with a spatula or other straight-edge. (The material to be tested should be at a consistent temperature, usually 20 degrees centigrade or 68 degrees Fahrenheit and should be a uniform temperature throughout).

Press down on the trigger to open the gate and, at the same time, start a stopwatch. At the end of the selected time period, determine how far the material has flowed along the trough. Take the maximum reading at the centre of the trough and the minimum reading at the edge of the trough, and average the values. The average value is then compared against a previously determined standard.

When using the CONSISTOMETER, make certain that the gate is fully closed before filling the reservoir. The reservoir should always be filled completely to the top and levelled off.

A material should always be tested as quickly as possible after being removed from the constant temperature oven or bath to prevent any consistency changes caused by temperature change or exposure to air.

### 5. MAINTENANCE

Very little maintenance is required, except occasional checking of the level (as explained in Section 3) and cleaning of the troughs after each test. Should any difficulty occur, contact QAQC Lab for further instructions. We recommend you return your Bostwick Consistometer annually for a full service and calibration to prolong the life of your product.

#### **Important:**

When cleaning the Consistometer make sure the water temperature is not greater than 55 degrees centigrade.

Included with your Bostwick Consistometer is an additional spirit level, to be used as an extra check to ensure the unit is level. It is recommended to carry out regular checks as the fixed spirit level at the end of the Bostwick Consistometer can become unaligned due to the spirit level mounting getting bent if knocked or dropped.



It is normal to see a small amount of leakage from the bottom of the gate (as pictured opposite).

Bostwick Consistometers manufactured to ASTM Designation: F1080 – 93 (Reapproved 2008) are not completely watertight around the gate.

A small leakage like you can see here will not affect your results, please proceed as normal.



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**Manufacturers Bostwick Consistometer Test and Mechanical\*  
Calibration Certificate**

This certifies that the Bostwick Consistometer has been fully tested and calibrated in accordance with ASTM quality and test procedures on the date recorded below.

We recommend all units are returned annually for a service and calibration to prolong the life and quality of your product. Please contact us to arrange this.

Serial number: 1960

<b>Mechanical parts – functional</b>	<b>Pass v</b>
<b>Gate - operational</b>	<b>Pass v</b>
<b>Consistometer is and can be levelled</b>	<b>Pass v</b>
<b>Scale – clear and accurate</b>	<b>Pass v</b>
<b>Mechanical dimensions correct</b>	<b>Pass v</b>

Tested and calibrated by: John Anthony

Date: 25/10/2021

\*A mechanical calibration is carried out using a certified jig. This method ensures the bubble level is able to give an accurate reading when the unit is levelled using the adjustment screws alone.