



IS 12337 : 1988 SPECIFICATION FOR MANUALLY OPERATED FERTILIZER BROADCASTER

Fertilizer broadcaster refers to an equipment used for **application of fertilizer uniformly** over an entire field or planting area. It is suitable for large and small-scale application, and for various fertilizer types, including **granular, coated**, and powdered fertilizers. There are primarily two types of fertilizer broadcasters: manually operated and tractor-operated. For large fields, tractor-operated broadcasters are preferred for efficiency, while manually operated broadcasters are ideal for smaller areas, providing flexibility and control for targeted application.

Manually operated fertilizer broadcaster is a simple, hand-powered tool used for uniform broadcasting **fertilizers**, seeds, or other granular materials over a field. It involves a **hopper to hold the material** and a **spreading disc to disperse it**. The user walks across the field, turning the **crank** to spread the **material evenly**. They are commonly used in small-scale farming, gardening, and landscaping to distribute fertilizers.

The Indian standard IS 12337 : 1988, prescribes the material requirement, constructional and other requirements of various components of manually operated fertilizer broadcaster including **hopper, spreading disc, feed control mechanism, agitator, crank, straps**, etc.,. Key specifications include shape of **hopper as concave or conical** at bottom with a slope of **30 to 50°** for easy movement of fertilizer to the feed control mechanism (FCM), **requirement of lid** over the hopper to protect fertilizer from absorbing moisture, requirement of agitator is given near orifice of hopper to avoid the clogging of the aperture, the **mass** of the empty broadcaster with all its mounting is limited to **5 kg** and **capacity** of the hopper is limited to **12 to 15 litres** for easy carriage.