



AMTEC
Agricultural Machinery Testing and Evaluation Center
1977

ACR 031:2023 CHECKLIST AND REMINDERS FOR THE AMTEC TEST CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR FORAGE CHOPPER

■ Application for AMTEC Test

The test applicant shall submit AMTEC-OP-F01 (Agricultural Machinery Test Application Form) together with the following requirements:

- AMTEC-OP-F16 (Waiver for Machine Specifications)
- AMTEC-OP-F18 (Data Privacy Consent Form)

■ Technical Specifications of the Machine

The test applicant shall submit any document/s indicating the specifications and other relevant information of the machine upon application for testing.

- Operator's manual with complete specifications as indicated in Annex B of PAES 219:2004
- Brochure
- Machine specifications sheet (shall be filled out upon request and receipt of copy from AMTEC in case the manual or brochure is not available)

■ Preparation and Operation of the Machine

During the field performance test, the forage chopper shall be ready for operation. The officially designated representative and/or operator of the test applicant shall operate, demonstrate, adjust, repair, and decide on matters related to the operation of the machine. The operator shall be skilled in operating a forage chopper.

■ Running-in of the Machine

A test run shall be conducted prior to the official test to check its condition and make necessary adjustments to the machine. During the field performance test, no other adjustments shall be permitted while the official test is on-going.

■ Test Material

- Test materials to be used shall be commonly or locally grown and newly harvested forage crop. The amount of test material to be supplied shall be at least 75 % of input capacity of forage chopper.

■ Other Test Necessities

The following shall also be adequately supplied during the conduct of testing:

- Engine ready for operation (already broken-in with sufficient oil and water, for water-cooled);
- Fuel sufficient for the entire duration of test trials (for engine-driven machines); and
- For electric motor-powered machine, an extension cord shall be available in case the test is done away from the power supply.

■ Machine Setting

The forage chopper shall be tested at the manufacturer's recommended settings.



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■ Performance and/or Fabrication Test Requirements

AMTEC shall conduct various tests and verification on different performance parameters of the machine including the following requirements as per PAES 218:2004:

■ Fabrication Requirements, and Design and Workmanship

Criteria	Requirement as per PAES 218:2004
General	<input type="checkbox"/> Steel bars and heavy-duty mild steel shall be generally used for the manufacture of the different components of the forage chopper.
Knives	<input type="checkbox"/> Shall be made of AISI 1080 to AISI 1085 or its ISO equivalent.
Bolts and Screws	<input type="checkbox"/> Shall conform with the requirements of PAES 311 and PAES 313
Others	<input type="checkbox"/> Cutting mechanism shall be accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Knives shall be individually adjustable, replaceable, and can be easily sharpened. <input type="checkbox"/> There should be provision for adjusting the clearance of flywheel/cylinder and stationary knife. <input type="checkbox"/> Random fed forage chopper shall have a feeding table length of not less than the arm length. <input type="checkbox"/> The base of the forage chopper shall be rigid and all components shall be dynamically balanced. <input type="checkbox"/> The machine shall be free from manufacturing defects. <input type="checkbox"/> Any uncoated metallic surfaces shall be free from rust and shall be painted properly. <input type="checkbox"/> The machine shall be free from sharp edges and surfaces other than cutting mechanism that may injure the operator. <input type="checkbox"/> Belt cover r guard and provisions for belt tightening and adjustments shall be provided. <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanism for immediate load disengagement between prime mover and forage chopper shall be provided.

■ Performance Requirements

Criteria	Requirement as per PAES 218:2004
Cutting Length Settings, minimum	3*
Variation of Cut, %, maximum	5*
Chopping Quality	Clear-cut
Noise Level, dB(A), maximum	96

*For precision-cut and semi-precision cut forage chopper

■ Standard Tools

Basic tools shall be provided for the forage chopper. These tools shall be suitable for the necessary adjustment operations during maintenance and operation.

■ Suspension and Termination of Test

If the test material does not conform with the recommended quantity and characteristics, AMTEC shall not proceed with the test. Should the test applicant request the conduct of the test despite the non-conformity to the test requirements identified by AMTEC, the applicant shall sign the AMTEC Waiver for Nonconformity to Test Requirements.

- AMTEC-OP-F24 (Waiver for Nonconformity to Test Requirements)

If the machine stops due to a breakdown or malfunction during the test run affecting the machine's performance, the test may be suspended. If the machine cannot continue the operation, the test shall be consequently terminated.



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■ Other Assistance During Test

1. For field and laboratory tests outside the AMTEC premises, the applicant shall shoulder the transportation expenses (i.e. fuel, toll fees, vehicle rental, plane fare, sea fare, etc.) of the AMTEC Staff assigned for the testing activity.
2. The applicant is requested to assist the AMTEC Staff in looking and/or making arrangements for hotel accommodation and food near the test site.
3. The applicant shall provide drinking water to the AMTEC Staff during the testing activity.
4. The applicant shall provide any form of shed or sunshade (e.g. tent, umbrella, etc.) for the test equipment, samples (if applicable), and AMTEC Staff during the testing activity in the field.
5. The applicant is requested to assist the AMTEC Staff in finding any means to access a safe and convenient restroom near the test site during the testing activity.

■ Testing Fee

1. The testing fee for forage chopper is PHP 9,000.
2. To proceed through AMTEC test, the test applicant shall settle at least 50 % of the testing fee which is non-refundable but transferrable.
3. In cases of additional testing during the field, the test applicant shall immediately submit the required documents and settle at least 50% of the testing fee within 5 working days after the testing proper.
 Additional testing, number of machines: _____
4. Payment/s shall be directed to the following:
 Through UPLB Cashier's Office (8AM to 12PM): AMTEC Trust Fund Code No. 8271632-40A2040101000
 Through Landbank (8:30AM to 3PM): UPLB Trust Fund Account No. 1892100507 or UPLB FI Account No. 1892-1003-29

■ Other Reminders

1. All manufacturers, fabricators, assemblers, and importers (MFAI) shall secure a Certificate of Conformity (CC) from the Bureau of Agricultural and Fisheries Engineering (BAFE) which guarantees that their agricultural and fisheries machinery conforms with PNS/BAFS PABES or other relevant standards identified by BAFE. More information about the application for CC can be found at <http://bafe.da.gov.ph/index.php/certificate-of-conformity-of-manufacturers-fabricators-assemblers-distributors-dealers-importers-and-exporters/>.
2. All MFAI shall employ an Agricultural and Biosystems Engineer (ABE), as mandated by RA 10915 (ABE Law), who shall facilitate all activities and concerns pertinent to AMTEC testing and BAFE requirements. Do you currently have an ABE in your roster of employees? Yes No