# Instructions

▲ Keep this sheet for your records.



# **Using the Pocket Sling Psychrometer**

No. 89033 Pocket Sling Psychrometer



If you need more information or would like advice from an experienced professional, call our Technical Support team.

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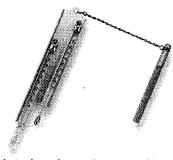












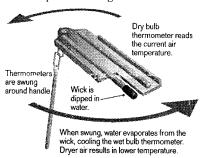
Relative humidity can be measured by an instrument called a hygrometer. The simplest hygrometer - a sling psychrometer - consists of two thermometers mounted together with a handle attached on a chain. One thermometer is ordinary. The other has a cloth wick over its bulb and is called a wet-bulb thermometer.

When a reading is to be taken, the wick is first dipped in water and then the instrument is whirled around. During the whirling, the water evaporates from the wick, cooling the wet-bulb thermometer. Then the temperatures of both thermometers are read.

If the surrounding air is dry, more moisture evaporates from the wick, cooling the wet-bulb thermometer more so there is a greater difference between the temperatures of the two thermometers. If the surrounding air is holding as much moisture as possible - if the relative humidity is 100% - there is no difference between the two temperatures.

To use a Sling Psychrometer, first obtain a small cup or wide-mouthed bottle of water, preferably distilled, which has come to ambient equilibrium temperature. Completely immerse the wick of the wet bulb thermometer in the water. Whirl the psychrometer rapidly for 15 or 20 seconds then quickly read the wet bulb thermometer. Keeping this reading in mind, immediately whirl again and take another reading. Repeat this process three or four times, or more, if necessary, until at least two successive readings of the

wet bulb are found to agree very closely; thereby showing that it has reached its lowest temperature. A minute or more is generally required to secure the correct temperature. If the wick begins to dry out it will be necessary to reimmerse it and start the process over again.



With the wet and dry bulb temperatures, psyschrometric tables or charts may be used to determine the percent relative humidity, dew point or saturation temperature, absolute humidity (pounds of water per pound of dry air), etc.

Evaporation from the wick will leave behind any salts or residues which are dissolved in the water. These may be removed by washing the wick in water or soap and water. Be sure to rinse well to remove all trace of the soap.

Reference: C.F. Marvin, "Psychrometric Tables for Obtaining the Vapor Pressure, Relative Humidity, and Temperature of the Dew Point from Readings of the Wet- and Dry-Bulb Thermometers," W.B. No. 235, U.S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau, 1941.



205 West Rankin Street Jackson, MS 39201

## **Using the Pocket Sling Psychrometer**



#### Using the Relative Humidity Table

The Sling Psychrometer is based on the principle that evaporation consumes heat and, therefore, lowers the temperature. It consists of two thermometers: one with a dry bulb for indicating the atmospheric temperature, and one with a wet bulb, the indication of which varies with the degree of relative humidity. The difference between the dry bulb and the wet bulb indications depends on the rate of evaporation from the wet bulb, which in turn is dependent upon the degree of relative humidity. When the humidity is 100%, there will be no evaporation from the wet bulb, and the two thermometers will read the same.

The following example demonstrates the use of the table: assume a "dry bulb" temperature of 90°F and a "wet bulb" temperature of 80°F. The difference is 10°F. Locate the figure 90 in the vertical column marked "Air Temperatures" and the figure 10 in the horizontal column marked "Difference, etc." Follow the columns to their intersection, and the figure 65 is reached, indicating that when the "dry bulb" temperature is 90°F and the "wet bulb" temperature is 80°F there is 65% of relative humidity.

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