

YSI 550A Field Guide

Reminders

- Calibrate the instrument at the lake level before every sampling event.
- Ensure probe is kept in a moist environment.
- Anchor at sampling site.
- Record DO readings in mg/L.

Calibration

- Ensure sponge inside calibration chamber is moist and insert probe.
- Turn instrument on and allow it to warm up for ~15-20 minutes.
- Press and release the up and down arrows at the same time to enter calibration mode.
- Press *MODE* until % is displayed, press *ENTER*.
- Enter the local altitude in hundreds of feet (e.g. 12 indicates 1200 ft). Round to nearest foot.
- Enter 0 for salinity as you will be sampling in freshwater.
- Once current DO reading is stable, press the *ENTER* button

Contact Information

Contact our office for assistance:

- Phone: **1-877-BCLAKES**
- Email: **info@bclss.org**



For more information, consult the instrument's user manual.

How to Take a DO and T Profile

- Lower probe over the side of the boat.
- Lower the probe until the sensor is submerged just below the surface of the water (the "0 m" reading).
- Take measurements every 1 m until probe is 1 m above lake sediment.
- Allow readings to stabilize before lowering probe.

Probe Maintenance

- Clean off oxidized material on anode every 2 to 8 weeks. Use ammonium hydroxide solution or sandpaper.
- The membrane cap and solution should be changed every ~6 weeks.
- After the membrane cap and solution has been changed, wait 12 hours before recalibrating and using the meter in the field.

Storage

At the end of the sampling season, prepare your instrument for long-term storage through the winter.

- Sensor should always be stored dry.
- Remove membrane cap and clean the whole sensor with fresh water.
- Dry it completely and install a new membrane cap to protect the electrodes.
- A new membrane cap will need to be installed with electrolyte solution before using it in the field.