Foot Distance Guide Common Sense 2 Controller

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Scenario

2 Crops - One Pots, One Not

Joe has 2 crops. Crop 01 is poinsettia cuttings, and crop 02 is chrysanthemums in 8" pots spaced in rows 14" apart. He's just installed a Foot Distance Kit on his Common Sense 2 boom and he's ready to grow!



He wants to water Crop 01 at speed 20 every 10 minutes between 7am and 7pm, and he wants to water Crop 02 only twice per day, 7:30 am and 6pm, 15 seconds per pot.

Configuration

Starting at the Manual Mode base screen:

MANUAL	DAY4	23:07
BOOM IDLE		
PRESS DAII	LY PRO	OGRAM
C01 B1 L00	00'00	T00

Joe notices a few things about the screen.



The 'Config' menu is a good place to start, so Joe presses



1)	SET CLOCK
2)	BOOM DEFAULTS
3)	SYSTEM CONFIG
4)	UPDATE FIRMWARE

No changes here. In 2) BOOM DEFAULTS, though, there is a difference, in the first option:

1)	FOOT DISTANCE
2)	SPEED DEFAULTS
3)	NUMBER OF CROPS
4)	MISC SETUP

He presses "1" to see the Foot Distance menu:

\square	1)	UNITS
1	2)	BAY
	3)	PLACES
	4)	TACH

Having been warned ahead of time by a GTI tech guy, Joe picks "4) Tach" first. Even though it's the last option in the list, it needs to be adjusted first. More on that in a second.



The magnet wheel and the magnet reader reading it form something called a **"Tachometer"** (pronounced "Takometer"). Each pulse from a magnet on the wheel passing the reader is called a **"Tach"** (pronounced "Tak"). The boom uses the number of pulses per revolution and the wheel diameter where it contacts the rail to calculate how much distance each tach pulse means.

Note: The boom "mentally" stores all distances and locations in Tach, so it's very important to get this number correct before you program anything else. Changing this number changes all distances and locations in the controller.

Joe takes the time to measure the diameter of one of his <u>idler</u> wheels where it contacts the rail. It turns out to be 1.433 inches, as Joe's wheel is old and worn. His tach wheel has 6 magnets in it, so Joe enters the info he has:

ТАСН
PULSES/REV: 06 WHEEL OD: 1433

Entering this information works just like entering anything in the original zone-based Common Sense II controller, so Joe feels right at home.

He presses Escape to leave

	1	.)	UNITS
_	2	2)	BAY
Escape	3	3)	PLACES
	4	E)	TACH

and then presses "1" to configure his units:



Joe doesn't have a metric greenhouse, and he's not a fan of metric in general, so he just keeps the default units.

\square	1)	UNITS
Escano	2)	BAY
LScape	3)	PLACES
	4)	TACH

He's ready to configure the bay:



Growing area isn't the same thing as the length of the bay - it's the area you can (or want to) water. In this case, It's about 41 feet long and starts 5 feet back from the first truss. Oh, and Joe's trusses are 10 feet apart.



\frown	PLACES
2	HOME: FLOATING
3	PURGE: 000'00
	AISLE: 000'00-000'00

Joe wants to have home be a particular location, so he exits to the config menu:

```
    SET CLOCK
    BOOM DEFAULTS
    SYSTEM CONFIG
    UPDATE FIRMWARE
```

\frown	SYSTEM CONFIG
3	CONFIG=-2 PRESS ENTER

2 on is the setting to activate "no motion" alarming, just as in the zone-based Common Sense 2 controller, and that's crucial, so Joe keeps it. Joe presses

5	SYSTEM CONFIG CONFIG=-25 PRESS ENTER		
Enter	 SET CLOCK BOOM DEFAULTS SYSTEM CONFIG UPDATE FIRMWARE 		

Now the "Places" screen has a settable "Home" location!

PLACES		
HOME :	000'00	
PURGE:	000'00	
AISLE:	000'00-000'00	

Joe sets home to 001'00 (he wants it within arms' reach of the 5' aisle at the end of the bay. He doesn't set a purge (he doesn't plan to fertigate) or an aisle (his only aisle is at the end of the bay and isn't in his growing area).

PLACES	
HOME: 001'00	Enter
PURGE: 000'00	Linei
AISLE: 000'00-000'00	

Joe's almost finished configuring his boom. He goes back to the main config menu:



Then to the Boom Defaults menu



and picks "Number of Crops"

ſ	3	

TOTAL	CROPS:01
TOTAL	NUMBER OF
CROPS	(1-16)

sets this to "02"

TOTAL CROPS:02	
TOTAL NUMBER OF	Enter
CROPS (1-16)	

Joe presses

a few times, until he ends up at the

manual mode base screen:

MANU	JAL	D	AY4	23:19
BOON	/ II	DLE		
PRES	SS I	DAILY	PRO	DGRAM
C01	В1	L000	'00	т00

Finally, Joe tells the boom where it is. From the manual mode (or any mode) base screen, Joe presses



SET BOOM LOCATION

085'11

SET	BOOM	LOCATION
<u>0</u> 10	00	

Finally, Joe tells the boom where it is. From the manual mode (or any mode) base screen, he presses



SET	BOOM	LOCATION
<u>0</u> 85'	11	

He doesn't have to get it exact - just within a foot or two. The boom should self-correct any major inaccuracies when it gets to its first truss:

CIER	DOOM	
SEI	воом	LOCATION
010	00	

He's ready to set up his crops!

Manual Mode - Setup Crops

Joe is ready to set up his 2 crops. The menus are mostly the same as in all Common Sense booms:



He immediately notices some differences with the old zone-based edit crop screens:



Crop 01 is in these two locations:



Joe could enter numbers (much like in the zone-based Common Sense Controller), but there's an even better option the GTI tech told him about - Boom Learning:



Joe jogs the boom until the spray bar is above the lower edge of the crop. Then he presses

VALVES:					
SPEED: <12>					
LOC: 000'00					
JOGGING	FWD				

Since the first crop starts at 000'00, the screen still looks the same:







Joe presses "1". The block now matches his first crop's first block:



He fills out the start location using "Boom Learning",



He's tired of jogging the boom, so he just enters "020'00" in the "End Position" field using the number keys.

010'0	0 -	20'	00		
	-				
01 0	05'0	0		2	/1

and fills in the valves for this block:

010'	00	- 1	020'0 _2	0		
01	005	5'0	00		2	/1

and presses block:



to save the block, which brings him to another new

00'	00	-	000	00	
		-			
01	020)'(0		NEW



Which, exactly as in the zone-based Common Sense controllers, lands him on the speed/passes screen:

PASSES: 0		
DIRECTION:	2-	WAY
SPEED: 12		
01 MANUAL		WATER
	/	
	Ne	w!

But the speed & passes screen is different now. It has a new parameter, "<u>Direction</u>". Direction is about how your boom waters.

Do you want to save time? Pick "2-way" to water passes forward, reverse, forward, reverse, etc.

Do you want each plant to have more even 'wait times' between waterings? pick "1-way" to water passes forward, forward, forward, or reverse, reverse, reverse depending on where you start relative to the crop. Joe enters "02" for the number of passes, and arrows down to "Direction":



He's finished programming crop 1 for Manual Mode. Telling the boom to water crop 01 works the same as it always has - from the manual mode base screen, use the Daily Program menu, go to "Quick Pass", pick crop 01, set speed and passes, and let it go.

Manual Mode - Run Crops

1. Run all crops with Setup > Start

Joe starts at the Manual Mode Boom Idle Screen:

MANUAL DAY4 23:19 BOOM IDLE WAITING FOR NEXT CMD C01 B1 L000'00 T00



2. Run some crops with Quick Pass



Joe may pick any of his crops from this screen. So far only crop 01 is programmed, so he presses



In quick pass, Joe can change any of these parameters, and the changes aren't saved and don't overwrite the values he programmed earlier. Instead, it's one-and-done. The boom waters with the changed parameters, then forgets them.





The boom is asking if Joe would like to water Crop 02 during this Quick Pass. If Joe had a few crops programmed, he might have selected another couple of crops and tweaked them for this Quick Pass. But Joe doesn't have anything programmed for any crops other than Crop 01, so he presses



and the boom is off to water Crop 01

Auto Mode - Setup Crops

Joe wants to put crop 01 on a schedule. His boom is at the Manual Mode main screen:

MANUAL	DAY4	23:07
BOOM IDI	ΞE	
PRESS DA	AILY PRO	OGRAM
C01 B1 I	000'00	T00

He presses



to put it in auto mode:

А	UT.	0]	DAJ	1	23	:18
Ν	0	CRC	ΟP	RE	QUE	SI	ED	
S	ТΑ	RT	DI	ELA	Y:	03	3	
С	01	B-	- I	200	0'0)9	т0	0

Then he presses



Finally he presses



It's the same blocks from manual mode, so he skips them

\frown	D	IRECTION: -WAY
_	SI	PEED:12 PRIORITY:1
Escape	WI	EEK: 1234567
	01	1 AUTO WATER

He notices "Direction". It works the same way here, at least in Pass-based time zones. In Delay-based time zones, the boom does only one pass, and it can be from any direction at any time. Everything looks good, so he presses



This screen is pretty dense - A whole time zone has been distilled into one screen, but it's all the same stuff:



He fills it out to run every 10 minutes between 8am and 4pm

08: 010	00 - 16:(DELAY	0 ([Factors
ACT	IVE	m 7	1 / 0	Enter
OI A	0.1.0	ΤZ	T/8	

0	:00 - 00:	00	
00	0 PASS		
IN	ACTIVE		
01	AUTO	ΤZ	2/8

But Joe only wants one time zone, so he leaves this screen and goes back to the Auto mode main screen:

\frown	AU	ίΤΟ	DAY1	23:18
Escape	NC	CROP	REQUEST	ΓED
	ST	'ART DI	ELAY: 03	3
	CO	1 B- 1	L000'09	т00

There's no "Copy Setup to Daily Program" screen anymore. Joe 's boom is good to go.

Auto Mode - Run Crops

To run his crops, Joe just puts/leaves the boom in the Auto Mode "No Crop Requested" Screen. Any crops with active time zones should run as soon as the Start Delay finishes counting down.

Pot Mode - Setup Crops

How Does Pot Watering Work?

1. The boom starts watering at the block's low end - the centerline of the first row of pots - with the odd valves.



2. The boom steps forward to each row center and waters alternating odd and even valves.



3. The high end *includes* the centerline of the last row of pots, but you want it to be a couple inches past. If you don't give the extra space, you might not water the last row!

Joe's Pots

It's later in the summer, and Joe has started growing pots in this bay. He has two pot crops, Crop 02 and 03. Crop 03 is already placed on the floor, but Crop 02 isn't yet, and Joe wants to use the boom to place Crop 02.



Joe doesn't need to change the configuration; everything is set up already. He jumps right ahead to Setup.

Starting at the Pot Mode idle screen:



Unlike in Manual or Auto mode, in Pot mode, you see the Water screen before the Block screen. If you use step-learn to lay out a block, the 'Pot Spacing' number tells the boom how much to step between rows.

PASS	SES: 0
WATE	CR TIME: 001
POT	SPACING: 001'00
02	POT WATER

Joe fills out the screen. He wants the boom to do 2 passes:



PASS	SES: 02	
WATI	ER TIME:	01
POT	SPACING:	001'00
02	POT	WATER

On each of the two passes, he wants the boom to water every row for 8 seconds:



PASS	SES: 02	
WATI	ER TIME:	008
POT	SPACING:	01'00
02	POT	WATER

And although the center-to-center between pots in the same row is 1'06", he wants the rows to be offset, and the pot (row) spacing to be 16 inches, or 001'04.



PASS	SES: 02	
WATE	CR TIME:	008
POT	SPACING:	01'04
02	POT	WATER

Looks good! Joe presses



and now he's at the block screen:

ſ	00	00	-	000	00'	
			-			
			-			
	02	000) ' (0 (NEW

3 ways to program a Pot Block

1. How to Program a Pot Block by Step-Learn

Use Step-Learn to place your pots and program your crop at the same time, using the boom as the pot-spacer. Here's how:

Joe is here, at an empty (new) Pot Block screen:

00	00 '	-	000'00	
		-		
		-		
02	000) ' (00	NEW



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Ok, so this order is different from Auto or Manual or Remote mode - but there's a reason: you want to tell the boom what valves to use for each row before you start stepping.



The way the cursor moves is different from in Auto or Manual or Remote mode, and there's a reason:

you want to tell the boom what valves to use for each row before you start stepping.





again to move the cursor to the block high end.

030	'00 - 00'00	
	3-	
	4	
01	000'00	NEW

The boom is physically at the block low end right now (from when Joe saved the location). This is really important!

To Step-Learn, you have to start at the block low end (the centerline of the first row). Otherwise, it doesn't work!

Joe wants to place his first row of pots. He presses



The boom spits out a little puff of water. Joe uses this as a guide to place his pots.

000000



and the boom spritzes another puff of water. This is the second row, so the water comes from valve 4



Joe uses the water spritz to place his pots. This row is offset from the first row. He lays pots using the waterered spots as a guide.

000000

Note: Offset bars are typically forward and reverse of the center of the boom. If you center the pots exactly under the tips, you end up with closer-further-closer-further rows. Your tips are more of a guideline than a ruler in this case. Put your pot centers forward or reverse of the tips as needed.

Joe presses

Pot to ste

to step to the next row,



(we're back to an odd row, so valve 3 spritzes), and places pots:





Joe has placed all of his pots for crop 02, so he's done. He adds a couple of inches to try and make sure the boom doesn't ever miss the last row (otherwise, that can definitely happen):



Notice the number at the bottom (035'06). This is just a handy way to remind you where the last block for this crop ended, in case you need that for reference. Joe doesn't have any more pots to place, so he doesn't need to create any more blocks for this crop.

He presses



to leave this screen without creating a new block.

ENTER EDIT:	CROP 3	NUMBI	ER	ТО
		POT	MC	DDE

2. How to Program a Pot-Block by Jog-Learn

Use "Jog-Learn" to program a pot block if you don't want to step it (maybe you use a spacer with your pots and would rather not use the boom to space them) or maybe if your pots are already there, and you are reprogramming the block.

This works just like block learning from Manual or Auto Mode. You basically use jogging to show the boom the low and high ends of the block. Starting here: (Pot Mode > Setup > Edit Crop):



And quickly enters parameters for crop 03: 1 pass, water time = 20 seconds, and pot [row] spacing of 18" (001'06):

```
PASSES: 01
WATER TIME: 020
POT SPACING: ∎01'06
03 POT WATER
```



And this is the block that he wants to program using Jog-Learn.



when it's over the center of the first row of pots)

VALVES:		
SPEED: <	>	
LOC: 040	'00	

Cool, the first row of pots is centered at 040'00 exactly!

He presses

Escape

to store this location as the block low end

40	00 '	_	000	00	
		-			
		-			
03	000	0'C	0		NEW

Since the pots are positioned on a square grid, the even and odd valves are the same:





to stop the boom a couple of inches past the centerline of the last row of pots



then

	\frown		ENTER	CROP	NUMBER	TO
Joe presses	Enter	to save the block.	EDIT:	1		
					POT M	ODE

3. How to Program a Pot Block by Key-Press Only

If Joe knows all the distances involved, and is confident that his boom is accurate, he can just enter a block in by typing everything directly

Pot Mode - Run Crops

You run crops exactly as in Manual Mode, whether via Setup > Start or Daily Program > Quick Pass.

Remote Mode - Setup Crops

Remote Mode is a lot like Manual mode, with a few differences:

- 1. There's a screen for entering a network address
- 2. The Daily Program button does nothing in Remote Mode
- 3. There's this thing called a "Stagger Delay"

Starting at the Remote Mode "Waiting for Remote Cmd" screen:



The Common Sense 2 Foot Distance boom only works on a Spooler Network (not a Go-1 network) so it doesn't technically *have* to have a unique address. However, for alarms on the Spooler to work correctly, it helps for each boom to have a unique address. Joe gives this boom the address 02:







Joe fills out this block screen:

4

2

0

Config



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PASSES: 05 DIRECTION: 1-WAY SPEED: ∎8 04 REMOTE WATER

Enter

Joe

ST	AGGER	DELAY	: 00
04	REMO	ГЕ	STAGGER

Stagger delay has to do with how a Spooler works. The spooler receives a 24 volt signal (from an environmental system, typically) and sends a command to all the booms on the network to water the corresponding crop. So if it receives a signal on input #4, it sends a message to all the booms to water crop 04, and any boom that has a valid Crop 04 (with blocks, passes, etc.) waters it.

If too many booms water at the same time, water pressure might drop. Stagger delay lets you tell the boom to delay by some number of minutes before watering the crop.

If water pressure loss is a problem in your greenhouse, keep things simple by giving each boom the same stagger delay across all of its crops. So one boom is the 'water right away' boom, another is the 5 minute delay boom, another the 10 minute delay boom, then the 15 minute delay boom, and so on.

presses	0 Config	0 Config	5
STAGG	ER DELA	AY: 05	
04 RE	MOTE	STAGGER	

for a 5 minute Stagger Delay.



Remote Mode - Run Crops

To test any crop on this boom, Joe finds the 24VAC output on the environmental system that corresponds to that crop, then manually switches it on for 1-2 seconds, then off again. The corresponding number on the Spooler 2-number display should flash quickly, then the boom should water this crop, or wait for the stagger delay, then water.

Another great idea is to use a VPD algorithm to determine which should water fiesl.