WAGNER METERS
Unleash Your Expertise

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

L5300 & L5200

INDUSTRIAL HANDHELD WOOD MOISTURE METER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 01

Meter Specifications 02

Meter Layout 03

Understanding Your Meter Display 04

Histogram Display 05

Getting Started 06

- Powering on Your Meter 06
- Selecting a Species 06
- Taking and Storing Readings 06

Reading Modes 07

Groups 08

- Viewing Stored Readings and Statistics 08
- Quick Group Select 09
- Group Information 09
- Deleting Group Data 10
- Naming a Group 11

Factory Reset 11

Customize Your Species List 12

Adjusting Meter Settings 14

Using the L722 Lumber Stack Probe Accessory 15

WoodStat™ Pro 16

Bluetooth® 18

Calibration 18

Technical Notes 19

Warranty 20

Registration 20

FAQs 21

Wood Species Database 23

Technical Support 24

Repair Service 24

INTRODUCTION

The L5300 supports direct data transfer to WoodStat™ Pro by USB and Bluetooth® (on Bluetooth-equipped meters). See FAQ #17 on page 23 for details about Bluetooth connectivity. To confirm whether your meter is equipped with Bluetooth, look for the Bluetooth tile in the main menu. The redesigned interface updates the reading, Group, species and settings screens. Both meters provide patented Auto-Reading Mode and Continuous Reading Mode.

The L5200 and L5300 industrial handheld wood moisture meters are the latest advancements in the renowned L-series line.

L5200 Overview
The L5200 is designed for professionals seeking a reliable, easy-to-use tool for accurate wood moisture measurement without additional connectivity features. This model provides essential functionality for on-site moisture measurement with the trusted accuracy of Wagner's IntelliSense™ pinless technology.

L5300 Overview
The L5300 is compatible with Wagner Meters' L722 Lumber Stack Probe accessory, allowing you to measure hidden moisture deep within stickered lumber stacks. The L5300 transfers readings to WoodStat™ Pro through its USB computer port or through Bluetooth® (on Bluetooth-equipped meters). This added functionality makes the L5300 ideal for professionals needing advanced data and quality control management.

Key Differences Between L5200 and L5300

- **Stack Probe Compatibility**: The L5300 is able to connect to the L722 Lumber Stack Probe accessory (sold separately).

- **WoodStat™ Pro Moisture Analysis Software:** The L5300 has a Mini USB port for data transfer to WoodStat™ Pro. This software enables advanced moisture management and analysis.

Both meters feature Continuous Reading Mode and the patented Auto-Reading Mode.

Like all Wagner Meters' handheld moisture meters, moisture readings are virtually unaffected by wood temperature in the normal operating range outside of a kiln environment or if the wood is frozen. Contact Wagner Meters technical support for more information.

METER SPECIFICATIONS

Physical Size	L 9.37 in. × W 4.3 in. × H 3.8 in. (237 × 109 × 96.5 mm)
Weight	18 oz. (510 g)
Power	Two 9V rechargeable lithium-ion or two 9V alkaline batteries.
Battery Life	Approximately 28 hours of continuous use
Scanning Area:	2.8 × 4.0 in. (7.11 × 10.16 cm)
Scanning Depth:	1" (25.4 mm)
Measurement Range	4% to 32% MC; low end depends on species setting
Specific Gravity	0.30–0.75
Group Storage	100 Groups; up to 1,000 readings per Group
Display	1.6 × 2.2 in. (40.6 × 55.9 mm)
Species	46 built-in species with ability to add up to 100
Real-Time Clock	Stores date and time of readings
Connectors	IP67-rated
Auto Off	1, 2, 5 or 10 minutes; factory default setting 5 minutes
Statistics	Minimum, maximum, average, and standard deviation
Histogram	Graphical display of readings
Computer Port (L5300)	USB 2.0 Mini-B, IP67-rated
Probe Port (L5300)	6P6C R/A connector, IP67-rated
Bluetooth® (L5300)	Available on meters equipped with Bluetooth®. To learn more, see FAQ #17 on page 23 below.
Operating Temperature	30°F to 120°F (−1.1°C to 48.9°C)
Included USB cables	USB-C to Mini USB and USB-A to Mini USB

METER LAYOUT

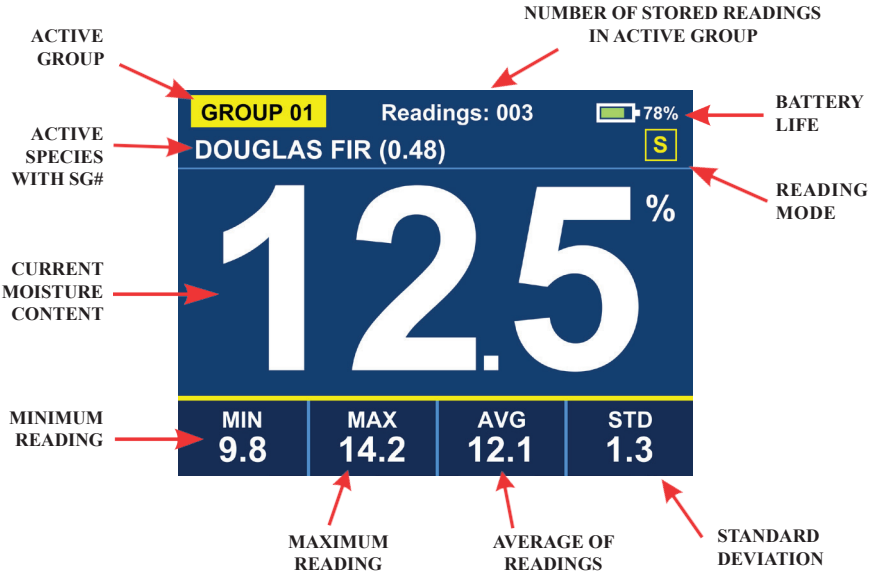
Components

- **Display Screen** – Displays moisture readings, statistics, and settings
- **Directional Pad** – Allows navigation through menu options
- **Menu/Select Button** – Accesses the main menu and confirms selections
- **Power Button** – Turns the meter on and off; stores readings
- **Cancel Button** – Cancels actions and returns to previous menu
- **Sensor Plate** – Used for moisture content readings
- **Battery Door** – Two 9V rechargeable lithium-ion batteries
- **Computer Port** – L5300 only
- **Stack Probe Port** – L5300 only; connects to the L722 through the legacy adapter or blue coil cord

(L5300 Only)

UNDERSTANDING YOUR METER DISPLAY

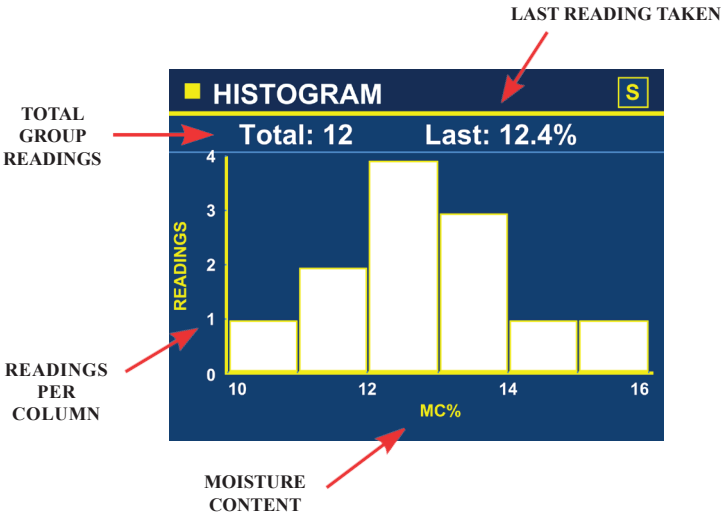
Home Screen



HISTOGRAM DISPLAY

The histogram screen displays the distribution of all the moisture readings in a Group. This feature helps users quickly identify moisture variations in a pack or unit, in a run, or in a board. This makes it easier to spot inconsistencies, assess overall wood quality, and make informed decisions.

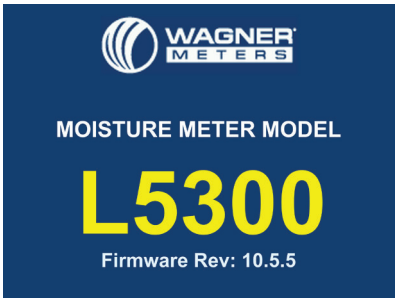
The scale adjusts to the readings in the group, so a tight run and a wide one are both readable.



To switch between the reading screen and HISTOGRAM screen, press **LEFT** or **RIGHT** on the **Directional Pad**. To change Groups, press and hold the **Cancel Button** while pressing **LEFT** or **RIGHT**. See Changing Groups from the Reading Screen under Groups.

Readings taken in this mode will update on the histogram.

Powering On the Meter



1. Insert two **fully charged** 9V rechargeable lithium-ion batteries into the battery compartment.
2. Press and hold the **Power Button** for one second.
3. The display will show the model, show latest version, and revision numbers.
4. The display will show the **Home Screen**, indicating the meter is ready for use.

Selecting a Species

1. Press the **Menu/Select Button** to access the main menu.
2. Use the **Directional Pad** to navigate to the **"SPECIES"** menu option.
3. Press the **Menu/Select Button** to confirm.
4. Scroll through the species list using the **Directional Pad** and select the desired species.
5. Press the **Menu/Select Button** to save your selection.

If you need to scroll through the species list quickly, press and hold the **UP** or **DOWN** button on the **Directional Pad** to scroll through the pages.

Taking and Storing Readings

1. Ensure the sensor plate is positioned flat against a smooth, clean wood surface, *aligning it **with** the grain* for accurate readings.
2. Apply slight downward pressure to ensure proper contact.
3. The moisture reading will appear on the display.
4. Press the **Power Button** to store the reading in the active Group.

READING MODES

From the reading or histogram screen, press **UP** or **DOWN** on the **Directional Pad** to change modes. The letter at the upper right shows the active mode.

(S) SINGLE

Press the **Power Button** once to store one reading. The meter starts in **Single Mode** each time it powers on.

(C) CONTINUOUS

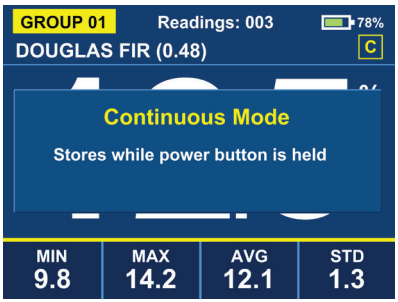
Press and hold the **Power Button** while sweeping a board or pack to store approximately three readings per second.

To turn the meter off in **Continuous Mode**, hold it in the air with nothing behind the sensor. Confirm that no readings are displayed, then press and hold the **POWER BUTTON** until the meter turns off. Alternatively, switch to **Single Mode** or **Automatic Mode** before powering off.

(A) AUTOMATIC

Hold the sensor still against the board. After the displayed moisture value stays unchanged for approximately one second, the meter stores a reading without a button press. Check the display to confirm the capture before moving to the next board.

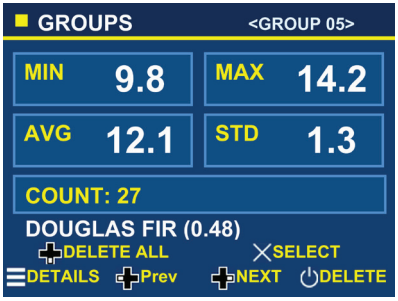
All three modes use the active sensor, including a connected L722. Automatic capture needs a stable reading; meter movement can prevent capture. When consecutive automatic readings are identical, only one value is saved.



GROUPS

A Group is a collection of readings on a single species. Each Group can only contain one species. You can manage Groups through the main menu by selecting the “GROUPS” tile. The L5200 and L5300 meters can store up to 1,000 readings per Group, with 100 Groups available.

Viewing Stored Readings and Statistics



1. Press the **Menu/Select Button** to access the main menu.
2. Navigate to the **“GROUPS”** menu option using the **Directional Pad** and confirm with the **Menu/Select Button.**
3. Use the **LEFT** and **RIGHT** sides of the **Directional Pad** to scroll through Groups. For each Group, you can view its minimum, maximum, average, and standard deviation.

To continue taking readings in a Group:

1. Press **LEFT** or **RIGHT** until the Group you want appears.
2. Press the **X** button, labeled **BACK** on this screen, to return to the reading screen.

New readings will be stored in the selected Group. If the Group already contains readings, the meter restores its saved species and specific gravity. If the Group is empty, the current species selection remains in effect.

Each Group holds readings for one species. If you change species while the selected Group contains readings, the meter asks whether to create a new Group. If you select **NO**, the reading is not stored.

Quick Group Select
The Quick Group Select feature lets you quickly switch to the desired group directly from the main menu. You can quickly change Groups directly from the reading screen or HISTOGRAM screen without opening the GROUPS menu.

1. From the reading screen or HISTOGRAM screen, press and hold the **Cancel Button (X)**.
2. While holding the Cancel Button, press the **RIGHT** side of the Directional Pad to select the next Group, or press **LEFT** to select the previous Group. A box appears showing the selected Group's name, species, and number of stored readings.
3. Continue holding the Cancel Button and press **RIGHT** or **LEFT** until you reach the desired Group.
4. Release the Cancel Button and resume taking readings. **The Group is selected immediately; no confirmation is required.**

Group Information
As you move between Groups, the screen updates to show the selected Group's name, reading count, species, and statistical values: MIN, MAX, AVG, and STD. If the Group contains stored readings, the meter automatically switches to that Group's species.

The shortcut cycles through all 100 Groups, including empty Groups. An unnamed Group appears as "**GROUP**" followed by its number. An empty Group displays "**Readings: 000**" and retains the species you had selected before switching to it.

Pressing **RIGHT** from Group 100 returns to Group 1. Pressing **LEFT** from Group 1 moves to Group 100.

Moving Quickly Between Groups
To move through Groups continuously, hold the **Cancel Button** and the **RIGHT** or **LEFT** side of the Directional Pad. The meter initially advances one Group at a time. After approximately 2–3 seconds, it advances in increments of 10, stopping at multiples of 10, such as Groups 40, 50, and 60.
Release the Directional Pad, then press it again to return to single-Group increments.

Closing the Group Information Box
The box automatically closes approximately 1.5 seconds after the last Group change. To close it immediately, press the **Menu/Select Button**. The selected Group remains active, and the menu does not open. Once the box has closed, the Menu/Select Button opens the menu as usual.

Using the Shortcut on the Histogram Screen
The shortcut works the same way on the HISTOGRAM screen. The Group information box temporarily covers the histogram. When the box closes, the histogram displays data for the selected Group, and the meter remains on the HISTOGRAM screen.

Note: Pressing **LEFT** or **RIGHT** without holding the **Cancel Button** switches between the reading screen and HISTOGRAM screen.

Deleting Group Data
To delete an individual reading in a Group:

1. Jog left or right to select the Group with the reading that will be deleted.
2. Select the **DETAILS** option.
3. Jog to the reading that will be deleted.
4. Press the **Power Button** to delete.
5. Press the **Power Button** again to confirm deletion.

To delete all data in an individual Group:

1. Jog left or right to select the Group data to be deleted.
2. Press the **Power Button** to delete this Group's data.
3. Press the **Power Button** again to confirm deletion.

To delete all data in all Groups:

1. Jog down to **DELETE ALL** to delete the data in all Groups.
2. Press the **Power Button** to delete all the data in all the Groups.
3. Press the **Power Button** again to confirm deletion.

Naming a Group

You may enter a unique Group name to replace the default (GROUP ##). The name shows on the reading screen and group list, making a kiln charge or pack easier to find.

1. Press the **Menu/Select Button** to reach the main menu and select **GROUPS**.
2. Use **LEFT** and **RIGHT** on the **Directional Pad** to reach the group.
3. Press the **Menu/Select Button** for **DETAILS**.
4. Press the **Menu/Select Button** again for **RENAME**.
5. Type the name. The **123 key** switches the keyboard to numbers and symbols. **DEL** erases a character.
6. Press the **Power Button** to **SAVE**.

A name can be up to 15 characters, fewer if the characters are wide. The meter stops accepting characters when the name fills the display badge.

To restore the default GROUP number, delete every character and save. Deleting Group readings leaves its name in place. A factory reset clears all Group names.

FACTORY RESET

A factory reset permanently removes stored meter data. Export any readings you need before continuing.

Reset the L5200 or L5300 Using the Meter

1. Press and hold the **On/Off button** for approximately 10 seconds.
2. The meter will begin the reset process. To cancel the reset, press the **X button**.

Reset the L5300 Through WoodStat™ Pro

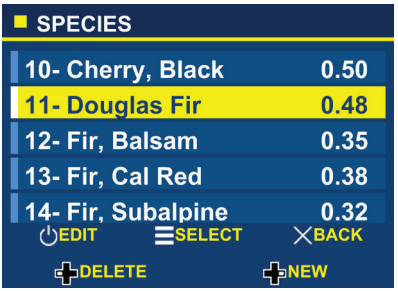
1. Connect the L5300 to WoodStat™ Pro using a USB cable.
2. Open **Settings**.
3. Select **Meter**.
4. Select **Danger Zone**.
5. Select **Factory Reset**.
6. Review the data-loss notice and follow the on-screen instructions to confirm the reset.

What the Reset Clears or Restores

- All stored readings and Group names are erased.
- Factory species are restored; custom species and edits are removed.
- Default settings and the factory calibration reference are restored.
- Bluetooth turns off on Bluetooth-enabled L5300 meters.

Meter identity, company name and the stored calibration date are preserved.

CUSTOMIZE YOUR SPECIES LIST



The L5200 and L5300 come with 46 built-in wood species and room to expand your list to 100 species. To find specific gravity (SG) information for thousands of additional species, scan the QR code to explore our online wood species database. L5300 users can also access the species database directly in WoodStat™ Pro. To customize your meter's species list, follow the instructions below.

Scan the QR code for instant access.

wmeters.com/wood-species

Add a New Species

Follow the instructions below to customize the species list on your meter. L5300 users can also customize species lists directly in WoodStat™ Pro.

1. Press the **Menu/Select Button** to access the main menu.
2. Navigate to the **SPECIES** menu option and confirm with the **Menu/Select Button.**
3. To add a new species to your list, click **RIGHT** on the **Directional Pad**.
4. Use the **Directional Pad** and the **Menu/Select Button** to enter the species name.
5. To set the specific gravity, use the **Directional Pad** to reach the yellow **SG** key on the keyboard, then press the **Menu/Select Button**.
6. Use **LEFT** and **RIGHT** to pick a digit and **UP** and **DOWN** to change it. The meter prints the allowed range under the title.
7. Press the **Power Button** to **SAVE** the specific gravity, or press the **X Button** for **BACK** to leave it as it was.
8. Press the **Power Button**, labeled **SAVE**, to save your new species.

Edit an Existing Species

1. Navigate to the **SPECIES** menu option and use **UP** and **DOWN** on the **Directional Pad** to locate the species you would like to edit.
2. Press the **Power Button** to edit your selection.
3. Use the **Directional Pad** and the **Menu/Select Button** to edit the species name.
4. To edit the specific gravity, use the **Directional Pad** to reach the yellow SG key on the keyboard, then press the **Menu/Select Button**.
5. Use **LEFT** and **RIGHT** to pick a digit and **UP** and **DOWN** to change it.
6. Press the **Power Button** to **SAVE** the specific gravity, or press the **X Button** for **BACK** to leave it as it was.
7. Press the **Power Button** to **SAVE**, to save your edits to this species. A species used by a Group containing stored readings cannot be edited on the meter; existing Groups retain their saved species information.

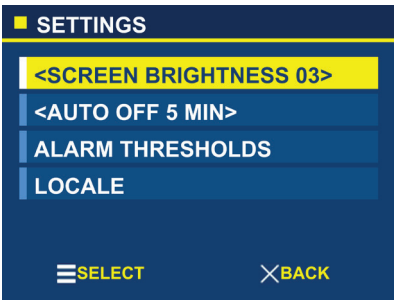
Adjusting Specific Gravity Using a Board with Known Moisture Content

Specific gravity is what turns the meter's measurement into a moisture content for your species. If you have a board whose moisture content you already know, from an oven-dry sample or from a reference meter, you can dial the specific gravity in until the meter agrees with it.

Press the **Menu/Select button**, then select the Species tile.

1. Select the species you want to adjust, then press the **Power Button** to edit it.
2. Reach the yellow SG key and press the **Menu/Select Button.**
3. Rest the sensor plate flat on the known board, aligned with the grain, and keep it there.
4. The bottom of the screen shows the live reading at the specific gravity now on screen.
5. Change the digits until that reading matches the moisture content you know the board to be.
6. Press the **Power Button** to **SAVE**, then press it again on the name screen to save the species. Keep the meter still while you work. Moving it changes the reading, not the setting. Readings already stored in a group are not changed by a later edit to the species.

ADJUSTING METER SETTINGS

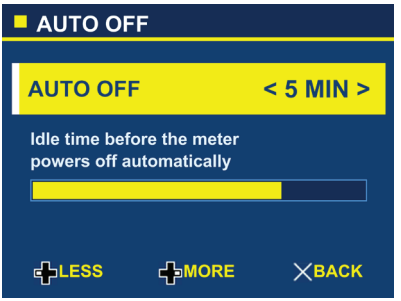


1. Press the **Menu/Select Button** to access the main menu.
2. Navigate to the **SETTINGS** menu option and confirm with the **Menu/Select Button.**
3. Adjust the following options:
   - **Screen Brightness:** Push **LEFT** or **RIGHT** on the **Directional Pad** to adjust brightness levels.
   - **Auto Off:** Set how long the meter remains inactive before automatically powering off. Press **LEFT** or **RIGHT** on the **Directional Pad** to adjust the setting.
   - **Alarm Thresholds:** Set visual moisture alerts. Readings and applicable statistics are highlighted red when thresholds are met, including in Continuous mode; no separate audible alarm sounds for each stored reading.
     To adjust alarm thresholds:
     1. Press the **Menu/Select button** and use the **Directional Pad** to navigate to the **SETTINGS** tile.
     2. Select **Alarm Thresholds** in the Settings menu.
     3. Use the **Directional Pad** to adjust **MIN, MAX, MIN AVG, MAX AVG,** and **MAX STD** to your desired values.
     4. Press the **Power button** to **SAVE** your settings.
   - **Locale:** Change language, date, and time formats.
     To change locale settings:
     1. Select **Locale** in the **Settings** menu.
     2. Use the **Menu/Select button** to choose **Language, Set Date,** or **Set Time.**
     3. Use the **Directional Pad** to adjust your selection.
     4. Press the **Power button** to save your settings.

Scan the QR code for instant access.

www.wagnermeters.com/pdf/wagner-meters-l722-manual.pdf

Auto Power-Off

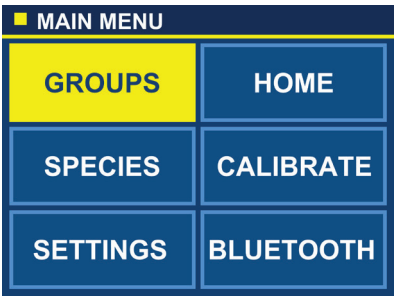


The meter turns off automatically after a set period of inactivity. To change this setting:

1. Select **SETTINGS** and move to **AUTO OFF.**
2. Use **LEFT** or **RIGHT** to choose a time, or press the **Menu/Select Button** to open the **AUTO OFF** screen.
3. Select **1, 2, 5, or 10 minutes.**

New meters are set to **5 minutes**. If the meter has been updated, it retains its previous setting. The selected time is shown in the menu as <**AUTO OFF** xxMIN>

USING THE L722 LUMBER STACK PROBE ACCESSORY (L5300 ONLY)



LEGACY ADAPTER*

STACK PROBE PORT

CABLE STRAIN RELIEF

THE L5300 PAIRED WITH THE L722 STACK PROBE DIVES DEEP INTO LUMBER STACKS TO UNCOVER HIDDEN MOISTURE

1. Attach the legacy adapter to the **Stack Probe Port.**
2. Connect the **L722 Stack Probe** to the adapter.
3. Use the Velcro strap provided to secure the coil cord to the L5300 handle.
4. For proper use of the L722 Stack Probe, please refer to the L722 manual. Scan the QR code below for instant access.

Direct Connection Option: Wagner Meters offers a streamlined blue coil cord that connects the L722 Lumber Stack Probe directly to the L5300 moisture meter, eliminating the need for the Legacy Adapter.

TO VERIFY THE L722 LUMBER STACK PROBE ACCESSORY

Verify the Meter

1. **Disconnect the L722 Stack Probe, if connected**. The meter cannot begin its calibration routine while the probe is connected.
2. **Check the meter reading.** Select Douglas Fir (SG .48) and place the meter on its matching On-Demand Calibrator (ODC). Compare the reading with the reference value on the ODC label.
3. **Recalibrate if needed.** If the reading differs from the reference value by more than ±1 percentage point of moisture content, select **CALIBRATION** from the main menu and follow the on-screen prompts. Calibration instructions are also provided on the back of the ODC.

If Recalibration Fails

The meter displays an error and recovery options. Follow the on-screen recovery instructions. A failed recalibration attempt does not immediately turn the meter off; the normal Auto Off setting still applies. After repeated failures, an option to restore factory calibration may appear.

If you can not recalibrate your meter after a factory reset, contact Wagner Meters to see if it needs to be sent in for service.

VERIFY THE L722 STACK PROBE

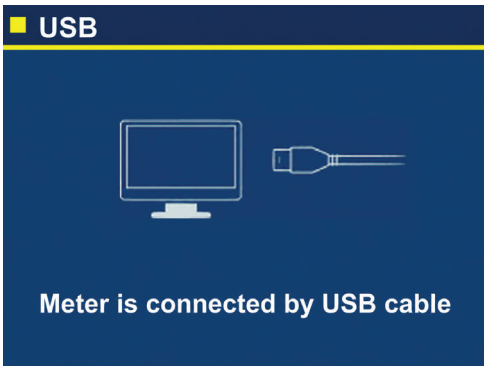
The L5200/L5300 On-Demand Calibrator (ODC) can verify the calibration of the L722 Lumber Stack Probe, but it cannot recalibrate the probe. Recalibrating the meter does not recalibrate the probe.

Complete steps 1–3 under **Verify the Meter** before checking the probe.

1. **Connect the probe**. Connect the L722 Stack Probe to the meter.
2. **Position the probe and take a reading.** With Douglas Fir (SG .48) still selected, place the L722 on the ODC with its sensor plate seated inside the recess of the ODC block. Apply light, firm pressure to the L722 head while taking the reading to keep the sensor plate securely seated.
   A reading is not valid if the sensor plate is outside the recess or is not held firmly in place.
3. **Check the reading.** Compare the reading with the L722 target value of **22.3% ±1 percentage point of moisture content**, an acceptable range of **21.3% to 23.3%.**
4. **Send the probe for recalibration if needed**. If the reading is outside the acceptable range, send the stack probe to Wagner Meters for recalibration. Scan the QR code below or visit the link to complete the Wagner Meters repair form and view shipping instructions.

NIST-traceable meter ODC blocks are also available for documented verification against a national reference.

WOODSTAT™ PRO (L5300 ONLY)



WoodStat™ Pro helps organize, analyze and report moisture readings collected with the L5300.

Connect and transfer

- **iPhone and iPad:** Bluetooth connection.
- **Android, macOS and Windows:** Bluetooth or USB cable connection. Readings are stored locally; they are not automatically backed up or synchronized through a cloud account. Import readings from the meter on each device where you need them.

Analyze and report

- Organize readings into Groups and folders.
- Review counts, averages, minimums, maximums, standard deviations, and moisture histograms.
- Create Summary, Detailed and Comparison reports; print or save PDF reports, and export Excel or CSV files.
- Create or edit species profiles and consult the online species database.

Optional AI assistant

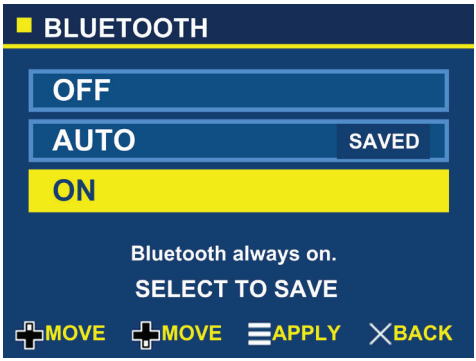
- AI is off by default. Enable it in **Settings** to ask questions about selected readings, explore comparisons and draft report commentary. All standard statistics and reports work without AI.
- AI requires your provider API key. Provider charges may apply, and the included data context is sent to that provider.

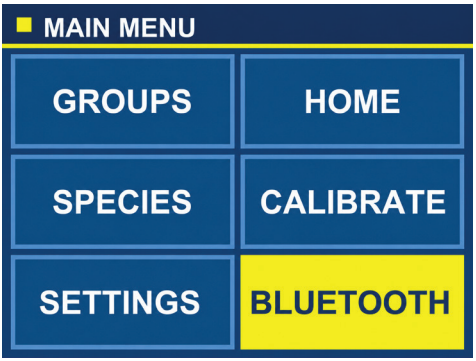
To get started, please refer to the **WoodStat™ Pro QuickStart Guide**. Scan the QR code here or or visit the URL to access step-by-step instructions for using WoodStat™ Pro efficiently.

Scan the QR code
for instant access.

wmeters.com/WSP-QuickStart

BLUETOOTH® (L5300 ONLY)





L5300 meters equipped with Bluetooth® display a **BLUETOOTH®** tile on the main menu. Select this tile to choose when Bluetooth® is active:

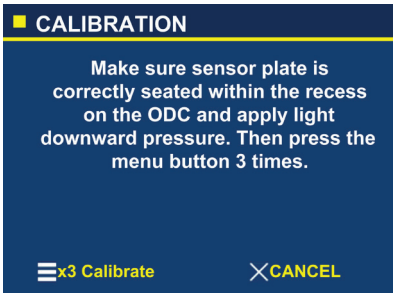
OFF — Bluetooth® off. Saves battery.

AUTO — The meter opens a two-minute pairing window each time it is switched on.

ON — Bluetooth® always on. Use **UP** and **DOWN** to move, then press the **Menu/Select Button** to apply. The **SAVED** badge marks the setting the meter is using.

For connecting a meter to a computer or a mobile device, see the WoodStat™ Pro documentation.

CALIBRATION



Verify the meter

1. If you are using an L722 Stack Probe, disconnect it before checking meter calibration. The meter will not begin its calibration routine while the probe is connected.

2. Select **Douglas Fir (SG .48)**, place the meter on its matching **On-Demand Calibrator (ODC)**, and compare the reading with the reference on the ODC label.
3. If the difference exceeds **±1 percentage point** of moisture content, select **CALIBRATION** from the main menu and follow the on-screen prompts to recalibrate. The ODC also carries instructions on its back.

If recalibration fails, the meter will display an error and recovery options.
A failed attempt does not immediately turn it off; the normal Auto Off setting still applies. Follow the on-screen recovery instructions. After repeated failures, a factory-calibration restore option may appear.

The L5200/L5300 On-Demand Calibrator (ODC) can verify the calibration of the L722 Lumber Stack Probe, but it cannot calibrate the probe. Disconnect the L722 before recalibrating the meter, as this process does not recalibrate the probe. If calibration is required, contact Wagner Meters for instructions on sending your stack probe in for service.

NIST-traceable meter ODC blocks are also available for documented verification against a national reference.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Clock and calendar: Both meters record date and time. Set these through SETTINGS > LOCALE, or through WoodStat™ Pro on the L5300.
Company name: Configure the company name and optional logo in WoodStat™ Pro for use on reports (L5300 only).
Non-volatile memory: Stored readings remain when the batteries are removed.
Auto Off: Choose an idle interval in SETTINGS. New meters are set to five minutes.
Firmware version: The meter's current firmware appears at startup. Have it ready when contacting Technical Support. You can find the meter's firmware version and other device information in the "About" section under Settings.
About: View the meter's model and firmware version, and scan the QR code to access the L722 Stack Probe manual.

Maintenance Tips

- Store the meter in a dry, dust-free environment.
- Recharge batteries as needed and always have spares ready.
- A Phillips head screwdriver is needed to access the battery compartment.
- Clean the sensor plate regularly with a soft, dry cloth.
- Clean the LCD protector with a microfiber cloth. Avoid abrasive cloths, which may scratch the surface.
- If meter is not going to be being used for an extended period, remove batteries.

WARRANTY

Wagner Meters warrants this product against defects in material and workmanship for one (1) year from the date of purchase, subject to the following terms and conditions: Wagner Meters' liability under this warranty shall be limited, at Wagner Meters' option, to repair or replacement of this product or any part thereof, which is demonstrated to be defective. To exercise this warranty, customer must telephone, fax or email Wagner Meters' Customer Service Department for factory instructions for shipment.

This limited warranty does not apply if accident, negligent handling, misuse, alteration, damage during shipment, or improper service have damaged the product. Wagner Meters shall, in no event, be liable for incidental or consequential damages for the breach of any express or implied warranty with respect to this product or its calibration. With proper care and maintenance, as recommended in the manual, the meter should stay in calibration; however, because Wagner Meters has no control over the manner in which the unit will be used, it makes no warranty that the meter will stay in calibration for any specific period of time.

This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties, whether oral or written, express or implied. Any implied warranties, including implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are excluded.

Agents and employees of Wagner Meters are not authorized to make modifications to this warranty or additional warranties binding on Wagner Meters.

Accordingly, additional statements, whether oral or written, except written statements from an officer of Wagner Meters, do not constitute warranties and should not be relied upon by the customer. This warranty is personal to the customer purchasing the product from Wagner Meters and is not transferable.

REGISTRATION

Register your new meter today to activate its 1-year warranty. Scan the QR code below or use the link below to get started.

Scan the QR code
for instant access.

Register your meter at GenuineWagner.com

FAQS

1. Why doesn't my Wagner meter match my old pin-type meter?

Pin-type meters measure resistance, which means they send an electric charge through the wood and measure how easily it flows. This method can be affected by factors like chemical content, temperature, and surface moisture. Pin-type meters also require temperature corrections for accurate readings. Wagner Meters' pinless moisture meters use electromagnetic wave technology, which scans the wood and provides precise moisture content readings without damage. Because pin meters measure a very small area and can be skewed by small wet fibers or dry patches, their readings may not always align with Wagner Meters' broad scanning method.

2. What is the main difference between pin and pinless meters?

Pin meters: Read only at the depth of the pins, usually a small line between the pin tips.

L5200 and L5300 Pinless Meters: Use a three-dimensional electromagnetic field that scans from the surface down to 1 inch deep over the entire sensor area (about 2.8 × 4 inches [7.1 × 10.2 cm] on the L5300).

3. Can I measure plywood, particle board, or OSB?

Due to varying densities and adhesives, readings may not be as reliable. If you work with these materials frequently, custom calibration guidelines can be developed. Contact Wagner Meters for recommendations.

4. What is the narrowest piece of lumber I can measure accurately with my Wagner meter?

The L5200 and L5300 can measure boards as narrow as 2.8 inches (7.1 cm) wide.

***Note:* When to Use Air Gap Behind a Board Being Tested**

Air gaps are rarely needed for accurate moisture measurements. However, use a 1-inch (2.54 cm) air gap between the test board and underlying material in the following situations:

Required Air Gap Conditions

High moisture differential: When the board being measured sits on another board with moisture content 7% or higher than the test board.

Non-wood substrates: When measuring boards placed directly on materials that read as high moisture content, such as concrete, metal, or other materials that cause elevated meter readings.

Thin board measurements: When the test board thickness is less than the meter's specified measurement depth, as readings will be significantly affected by materials behind the test board. (However, on thin boards, several can be stacked to get a better average reading.)

No Air Gap Needed

Air gap is not necessary when the board being tested sits on another board with reasonably similar moisture content to the board being measured.

Important: Failure to use proper air gap spacing in the above conditions may result in artificially elevated moisture readings that do not accurately reflect the moisture content of the intended test board.

5. What thickness of boards can I measure?

The meter scans to a specified depth of 1 inch (2.54 cm). For a board thinner than that depth, use a 1-inch air gap behind the board or stack boards to provide sufficient thickness; material behind a thin board can influence the result.

6. Can I take readings on 4x4 or thicker lumber?

Not with just one reading, but you can quickly scan all sides of a 4x4 (10.16 × 10.16 cm) board using an L5200 or L5300 moisture meter. Note: Most wood grading agencies consider 1-inch (2.54 cm) depth scanning sufficient for thicker beams and posts.

7. Does surface moisture affect readings?

Surface moisture may cause a slight increase in readings (typically 3-4% higher than normal). To ensure accuracy, always wipe off excess water before taking a measurement.

8. How does relative humidity (RH) impact readings?

As long as condensation does not form on the meter's bottom surface, RH will not affect readings.

9. How often should I check my meter's calibration?

Verify calibration with the meter's On-Demand Calibrator before each day's critical measurements, after a drop or suspected damage, and whenever readings seem questionable. Recalibrate the meter only if verification fails.

10. Can I measure moisture through laminated materials?

For thin laminated materials, stack sufficient material for the meter's 1-inch (2.54 cm) scan depth, or provide the specified air gap behind the test material. Plastic or Formica laminates have their own density, which affects readings. You can determine the variance by measuring the core alone and then with the laminate applied.

11. Does the meter work the same on rough lumber as it does on smooth lumber?

Rough lumber may trap air between the meter and the wood surface, slightly reducing accuracy. Apply firm, even pressure for good sensor contact. If exceptionally rough surfaces prevent consistent readings, contact Wagner Meters for guidance on validating an appropriate correction.

12. Does the orientation of a Wagner handheld moisture meter on the wood affect accuracy?

Yes, to ensure accurate readings, always position the meter with the grain of the wood.

13. Does temperature affect readings?

Readings are virtually unaffected by wood temperature under normal operating conditions. Hot kiln lumber and frozen wood require additional consideration. For kiln hot checks using the L722, follow the L722 measurement guidance. Contact Wagner Meters for guidance on frozen wood.

14. Are Wagner moisture meters safe to use?

Yes. Wagner's meters comply with FCC and CE safety regulations and pose no health risks.

15. What is the ideal moisture content for wood?

This depends on wood type and application: construction lumber (studs, framing) 15-19%, furniture making 6-8%, and wood for gluing must be neither too dry nor

too wet, so check manufacturer guidelines. For industry-specific recommendations, consult a University Wood Product Representative or the Forest Products Research Laboratory in Madison, WI (608-231-9200).

16. How can I confirm that my moisture meter is providing accurate readings?
To ensure your meter's accuracy, use the On-Demand Calibrator (ODC). This allows you to quickly verify that your meter is reading within its specified accuracy range. If the meter's readings do not match the reference value on the ODC, it may need recalibration. For professionals who need to validate and document their moisture meter's accuracy against a recognized national standard, Wagner Meters offers a NIST traceable ODC complete with a certification of accurate calibration.

17. How do I know if my L5300 is equipped with Bluetooth, and how can I add it?
If your L5300 is equipped with Bluetooth, a Bluetooth tile will appear on the main menu screen. If your meter does not display this tile and you would like to enable Bluetooth, contact Wagner Meters for instructions on sending your meter in for a Bluetooth firmware update at no charge.

18. How do I know if my L5200 has the latest features?
If your L5200 has the original screen display, 46 built-in wood species, and only Single Reading Mode, it has not received the latest firmware upgrade. The upgrade includes an updated screen interface, 100 built-in wood species, Auto-Reading Mode, and Continuous Reading Mode and extended languages. Contact Wagner Meters for instructions on obtaining your firmware upgrade at no charge.

WOOD SPECIES DATABASE

The L5200 and L5300 come with 46 built-in wood species and room to expand your list to 100 species. To find specific gravity (SG) information for thousands of additional species, scan the QR code to explore our online wood species database. L5300 users can also access the species database directly in WoodStat™ Pro.

Scan the QR code
for instant access.

wmeters.com/wood-species

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Should you require support outside of what this manual provides, please contact a Wagner Meters' Technical Service Representative during normal business hours:

Phone: (844) 755-3460
Fax: (541) 582-4138
Email: support@wagnermeters.com

Mail:
Technical Services Department
Wagner Meters
326 Pine Grove Road
Rogue River, OR 97537

All products returned for repair must be accompanied by a **Repair Order Form** found on our website at: **WagnerRepairs.com**

Repairs should be returned to the following address:

Wagner Meters
326 Pine Grove Road
Rogue River, Oregon 97537

REPAIR SERVICE

Before you ship

1. Complete the Repair Order Form at WagnerRepairs.com and include it with the return.
2. Remove both 9V rechargeable lithium-ion batteries from the meter.
3. Ship the meter and its matching-serial-number ODC to: Wagner Meters, 326 Pine Grove Road, Rogue River, OR 97537, United States.

Shipping costs

Standard repair: The customer pays shipping to and from Wagner Meters.
Warranty repair: The customer pays shipping to Wagner Meters. Wagner Meters pays surface-carrier return shipping within the continental United States. The customer pays for expedited shipping and shipping outside the continental United States.

International repair service

Call **(844) 755-3460** (Worldwide Toll-Free) or email **support@wagnermeters.com** for the nearest repair depot.

Notes

Notes

Wagner Meters
326 Pine Grove Road
Rogue River, OR 97537
United States
info@wagnermeters.com

WagnerMeters.com
(800) 505-1409

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