INSTRUCTION MANUAL

SHEPHERD SM 90 ALL PLASTIC DRONE REED

THE SHEPHERD WAY

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SHEPHERD SM90 ALL PLASTIC DRONE REEDS

Since R. T. Shepherd & Son introduced the first all plastic drone reed to the piping world more than a decade ago, there has been a constant supply of similar and variations of the concept of a drone reed manufactured from man made materials.

Our original drone reed which is still available and still in demand was designed for easy operation and instant "set up" with a minimal adjustment of the bridle if necessary. It was designed to fulfil these conditions at a frequency of around 472Hz

The SM90 on the other hand was designed to operate at around 476Hz but still identifying the principle of easy operation and "set up". Incorporating features to allow adjustment if not using the preset setting.

It is therefore strongly recommended to use the preset setting as per the instructions on pages 3 and 4 (the preset position is locked with the white collar acting as a distance piece). This will enable you to achieve the currant popular tuning of around 476Hz.

1. **Remove the distance piece**
2. **Slacken LOCK ring by ¼ turn, bringing flat to top of BRIDLE.**
3. **Lengthen or shorten the TUNING SLIDE as required: retighten the LOCK RING by: reversing your ¼ turn, either clockwise or anticlockwise.**
4. **Please note it should not be necessary to move the BRIDLE POSITION.**

If for any reason a drone stops and your satisfied that your chanter reed is properly balanced re-establish the memory of the blade by:
Simultaneously holding down the bridle with slight pressure and slide the Advanced Instruction card or similar under the blade towards the bridle.

Replacement Blades are available CODE: RP35/B

SM 90 ALL NEW PLASTIC DRONE REED

Remove reed from packaging and fit into your drone by either removing or adding hemp to suit your reed seat.

Set the length of your tenor drones on the hemp. The approx length of drone should be 161/8 inches (41 cm).the bass drone will be tuned to suit tenors. If Shepherd Pipes, there should be two fingers spacing on the pin at the bottom joint, and three at the top joint. This will bring you close to final tuning.

A unique feature of the SM90 is its ability of maintaining tuning frequency independent of pressure.

At this position and with <u>CHANTER STOCK CORKED.</u> Blow the pipes with all three drones sounding. The drones should tune at approximately 476 Hz irrevalent of pressure. THERE SHOULD BE NO NEED TO MOVE THE BRIDLE OR TUNING PIN.

<u>MOUTHBLOW CHANTER ACHIEVING 476Hz or slightly above (as per the instruction manual on manipulation of pipe reed.)</u>

Finally blow complete instrument and you should find drones and chanter in close harmony with only minimal adjustment of drones required.