Bangalore Bird Scarer

Michael Williams Engineering Ltd

Bangalore 2003
Operating Instructions

Your serial number: _____

Date of purchase: _____

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Visit www.birdscaring.co.uk/support for full maintenance and service guides

1. Contents

1. Before you start

Important: Please read these instructions before attempting to operate the Bangalore Bird Scarer.

Caution: The Bangalore Bird Scarer is an auditory, gas-powered bird scarer and can emit extremely loud noises. Always wear suitable ear protection when working with or nearby a Bangalore Bird Scarer.

Caution: Never operate a Bangalore Bird Scarer indoors - always operate outside in non-enclosed spaces.

Caution: Never stand in front of the barrel or place any objects or parts of your body at or near the end of the barrel.

Note: Please be considerate to your neighbours when using your Bangalore Bird Scarer and refer to the National Farmers' Union's Code of Practice on the use of Auditory Bird Scarers. Copies of these can be obtained directly from the NFU or from their website at www.nfuonline.com.

2. You will need...

Your Bangalore Bird Scarer is designed to work straight out of the box. However, you will need to supply the following items to operate your Bangalore Bird Scarer:

- a cylinder of propane gas (red bottles)
- a 12 volt battery, such as a car or tractor battery

Caution: Never attempt to operate your Bangalore Bird Scarer with butane gas (blue bottles). Always use propane gas (red bottles).

3. Setting up

Connect the gas regulator supplied with the Bangalore Bird Scarer to the cylinder of propane gas.

Connect the battery as follows:

- connect the RED lead to the POSITIVE (+) terminal
- connect the BLACK lead to the NEGATIVE (-) terminal

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4. How the Bangalore Bird Scarer works

The Bangalore Bird Scarer operates using its own internal 24-hour clock. There are no photocells to detect between day and night. Simply set the Bangalore Bird Scarer's clock to the correct time of day.

The Bangalore Bird Scarer's day is divided up into 30-minute periods. The whole 24-hour day therefore contains 48 of these 30-minute periods.

You can program the Bangalore Bird Scarer to do a number of different things during each 30-minute period. You can program the Bangalore Bird Scarer to:

- be dormant (no reports)
- give 1 report
- give 2 reports
- give 3 reports

Each report consists of three bangs in quick succession.

When you disconnect the battery, your program is retained indefinitely in the Bangalore Bird Scarer's memory. You will not lose your program should you need to re-locate your Bangalore Bird Scarer.

When you re-connect the battery, the Bangalore Bird Scarer will continue its program from where it left off when the battery was disconnected. Note that you may have to re-set the Bangalore Bird Scarer's internal clock to the correct time.

5. Programming the Bangalore Bird Scarer

Note: Throughout these instructions, you will see references to "pulse pressing" buttons. This simply means press and quickly release the button.

Caution: Always wear suitable hearing protection when approaching, setting up or retreating from a Bangalore Bird Scarer.

5.1   The Control Panel

Figure 1 shows the control panel of the Bangalore Bird Scarer. It consists of a four-digit display screen and four programming buttons.
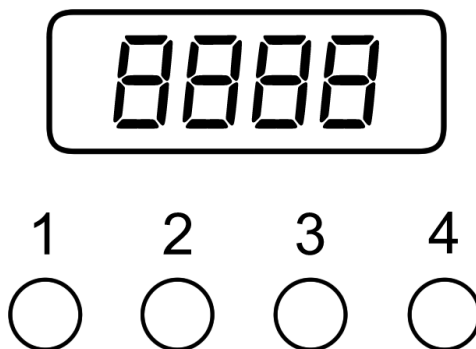

Figure 1 - Bangalore Bird Scarer Control Panel

5.2   Set the Time

The Bangalore Bird Scarer does not use photocells to detect between day or night. It uses its own internal clock which must first be set to the correct time of day. Connect the Bangalore Bird Scarer to your battery (see Section 2, "You will need...", and Section 3, "Setting up").

To set the time, pulse press Button 3 on the control panel (see Figure 1). The current time will be shown on the display screen.

Press and hold down Button 3 then at the same time pulse press either:

- Button 1 to advance the clock
- Button 2 to reverse the clock

   Note: The Bangalore Bird Scarer's clock operates in 24-hour format. For example, 11:30am would be displayed as "1130"; 2:30pm would be displayed as "1430".

Once the correct time is shown in the display screen, release all the buttons. After a short pause, the time will disappear from the display screen, indicating that the clock has now been set.

   Note: Remember to change the Bangalore Bird Scarer's time at the start of British Summer Time (advance the clock 1 hour) and at the end of British Summer Time (put the clock back 1 hour).

5.3 Programming the firing

The Bangalore Bird Scarer's day is divided up into 30-minute periods. The whole 24-hour day contains 48 of these 30-minute periods, each of which can be programmed individually.

You can program the Bangalore Bird Scarer to do a number of different things during each 30-minute period. You can program the Bangalore Bird Scarer to:

- be dormant (no reports)
- give 1 report
- give 2 reports
- give 3 reports

The display screen on the control panel is shows the 30-minute period selected and the activity programmed for that 30-minute period. The programmed activity is shown on the display screen by 4 different symbols:
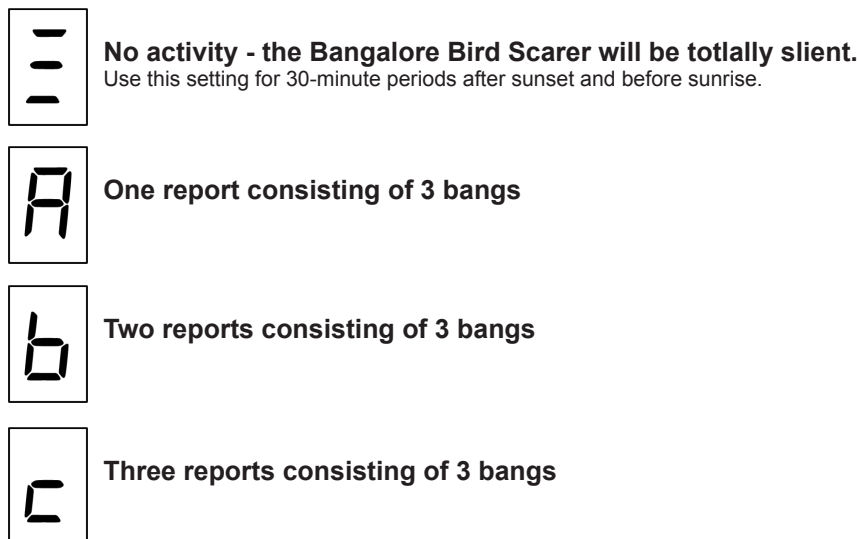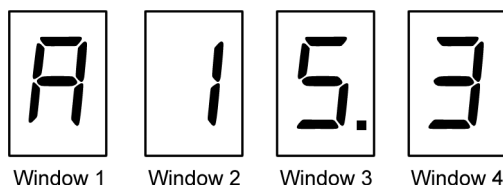
No activity - the Bangalore Bird Scarer will be totlally slient.
Use this setting for 30-minute periods after sunset and before sunrise.

One report consisting of 3 bangs

Two reports consisting of 3 bangs

Three reports consisting of 3 bangs

Figure 2 - Bangalore Bird Scarer activity symbols showing the number of reports fired in each 30-minute period

Note: Each report consists of 3 bangs in quick succession. Where two or more reports are selected in a 30-minute period, the reports will fire at random times during that 30-minute period.

To program the activity in a 30-minute period, pulse press Button 1 on the control panel repeatedly to advance to the 30-minute period you wish to program. The 30-minute period selected is shown on the display screen (see Figure 3) in Windows 2, 3 and 4.

Windows 2, 3 and 4 show the start-time of the 30-minute period selected. In this case, the start time is 15:30 (3:30pm) and the program will be applied to the 30-minute period from 15:30 to 16:00 (3:30pm to 4:00pm)

Window 1   Window 2   Window 3   Window 4

Figure 3. Programming the firing

Window 1 shows the current activity programmed for that period. Pulse press Button 2 to loop through the different activity symbols until the required activity symbol is shown in Window 1.

To advance to another 30-minute period, pulse press Button 1 again to display the 30-minute period required.

Once you have finished making programming changes, simply leave the control panel alone and the system will revert to its operating state.

Note: The NFU's Code of Practice recommends that you do not fire more than 4 reports in each hour. If programming the Bangalore Bird Scarer to give 3 reports in one 30-minute period, please program no more than 1 report in the successive 30-minute period. If programming to give 2 reports in one 30-minute period, please program no more than 2 reports in the successive 30-minute period.

6. The Test Fire Button

The Bangalore Bird Scarer has a unique Test Fire feature to re-assure you that the Bangalore Bird Scarer has been set up correctly and is ready for operation.

Connect up your Bangalore Bird Scarer to the battery and gas supply, as described in Section 2 and Section 3. Program the firing sequences you require, as described in Section 5.

Caution: Ensure you are wearing suitable hearing protection before proceeding.

Press Button 4 on the control panel and retire immediately. After 10 seconds, the Bangalore Bird Scarer will fire a single test shot, letting you know it's set up correctly.

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7. Troubleshooting and Maintenance

Note: A fully comprehensive guide to troubleshooting, maintaining and servicing your Bangalore Bird Scarer can be downloaded from our website at: www.birdscaring.co.uk/support

7.1 Troubleshooting

7.1.1. There is nothing shown on the display screen

Solution: Check that the battery is connected correctly - connect the RED lead to the POSITIVE (+) terminal and the BLACK lead to the NEGATIVE (-) terminal (see Section 3).

Solution: Check that the battery isn't flat - replace with a fully charged battery.

Solution: Check that the fuse hasn't rusted or blown.

7.1.2. The Bangalore Bird Scarer doesn't fire

Solution: Check that there is gas in the bottle - replace with a full gas bottle.

Solution: Ensure you are using the gas regulator supplied with the Bangalore Bird Scarer. If this has been replaced, check that the replacement delivers gas at a minimum pressure of 1 bar.

Solution: Check the ignition coil is connected correctly - connect the BLUE wire to the NEGATIVE (-) terminal and the BROWN wire to the POSITIVE (+) terminal.

7.2 Care and Maintenance

The Bangalore Bird Scarer is designed to be used outside at all times and in all weathers. Consequently, regular care and maintenance of your Bangalore Bird Scarer can keep it operating efficiently and prolong its life.

Keep the gas regulator clean at all times. Always attach the red protective cap to prevent mud and dirt ingressing.

Creeping corrosion can occur with your Bangalore Bird Scarer over time. Consequently an earth route from the spark plug to the battery can become established, deteriorating the performance of the Bangalore Bird Scarer over the years. Annually, remove the components of the ignition system and clean thoroughly. Refer to the Bangalore Bird Scarer service guide for full details (available from www.birdscaring.co.uk/support).

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8. Advanced Controls

Under normal circumstances, you can safely ignore these advanced controls They are for use where the control box is being used as a replacement on any of our earlier gas guns: the Bangalore Bomber, the Surefire Super-charger, the Challenger and the Handiman. The following adjustments should not be necessary on the Bangalore 2003.

8.1   To change the amount of gas entering the gun

1.   Pulse-press Buttons 1, 2 and 3 together. The display will show the time already allocated in the program i.e. g 3.2 (Gas 3.2 seconds)

2.   Increase the time, press and hold Button 1 then pulse-press Button 2 until the desired time is displayed. Release the buttons to store the time. Once the time reaches 15 seconds, it will cycle back to zero and continue counting upwards again with each press of Button 2.

8.2   To change the time between bangs in the three-bang report

1.   Pulse-press Buttons 2, 3 and 4 together. The display will show the time already allocated in the program i.e. 10 (10 seconds).

2.   To increase the time, press and hold Button 1 and pulse-press Button 2 until the desired time is displayed. Release the buttons to store the time. Once the time reaches 30 seconds, it will cycle back to zero and continue counting upwards again with each press of Button 2.

8.3   To change the number of bangs in a report

1.   Pulse-press Buttons 1, 3 and 4 together. The display will show the number of bangs already allocated in the program i.e. b3 (3 bangs).

2.   To increase the number of bangs, press and hold Button 1 and pulse-press Button 2 until the desired number of bangs is displayed. Once the number of bangs reaches 4, it will cycle back to zero and continue counting upwards again with each press of Button 2.