Solar Feeders Portable Automatic Livestock Feeders

Troubleshooting Guide

If your Solar Feeder is not working properly most likely it is a bad battery. If the battery is determined to be good then it may be a bad timer, bare/broken wires (rodent damage or goats!), and finally but rarely the motor itself.

Troubleshoot in the following order and replace bad components as needed. All components are available direct from our suppliers. Solar Feeders does not stock these components for resale or replacement.

1. Check battery (normal lifespan is 2 years) If it's bad then replace with a 12v 8ah w/F1 connectors such as this one - https://www.amazon.com/UB1280I-Sealed-Lead-Acid-Batteries/dp/B0009GIKNE
   Even if the timer or charger indicates a full charge it could STILL BE THE BATTERY. Try another 12v just to be safe before you move to the next step.

2. Check the voltage coming from the solar panel to make sure it's working. A 12V solar panel typically outputs 14-20V depending on the sunlight conditions.

3. Check THE TIMER
   Slide open the battery/fuse compartment located on the side of the timer and check/replace AA batteries and fuse (15 amp 125 v - ¼" x 1 ¼"). Then press RESET TIMER and TEST.

   If the timer is bad or questionable you can order a replacement at the following locations -
   https://westtexasfeedersupply.com/product/the-timer/
   https://www.amazon.com/Timer-Digital-Deer-Feeder/dp/B0046H28YY/ref=sr_1_5?dc

   The TIMER comes with wire connectors that connect to the motor and to the battery.

   (NOTE) to change the "Test" seconds from the 5 second default press the "Set Clock" button and then quickly press the "Run Time" button to adjust the seconds from 1-20 and that will set the new "Test" seconds default. Setting higher "Test" seconds gives a more accurate measure of feed.

4. Check the TIMER wiring connectors for good contact and any oxidation.

5. Check wiring between battery and motor for bare/broken spots which may be causing an electrical short. Even though we secure the wiring in flex conduit little goats and various critters can still crawl under the unit and wreck havoc!

6. Check the spinner motor
   Remove the sheet metal screws that hold the cover from underneath
   Check & clean the motor connectors for corrosion or electrical short
   Examine motor for evidence of burn out

   To remove motor:
   Locate three (3) bolts holding the motor in place
   Loosen those bolts then loosen the spinner and spin it off the shaft
   Then remove bolts and the motor should drop out

   If the motor is bad you can order a new one from the following website –
   https://www.surpluscenter.com/Brands/Stature-Electric/100-RPM-12-Volt-DC-Gearmotor-5-1649.axd