

LinkGM is a simple program to download data from the GrassMaster.

Print directly from **LinkGM** and create a comma delimited text file for loading into spreadsheets or farm management programs.

Installation

Hardware requirements



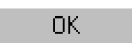
- Personal computer with Microsoft Windows 95 or later operating system.
- One spare serial COM port on the PC.


This requirement excludes PCs that have two serial ports that are already dedicated to an internal modem and a serial mouse. In this case, change the PC configuration either to a bus mouse or to an external modem to free up a serial port.

This restriction is due to PC architecture, not **LinkGM** software.

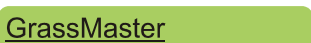
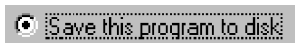
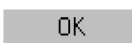
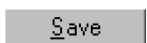




If an external modem is connected to COM1 or COM2, disconnect it and use this port for connection to the indicator.


From Disk

1. Start your computer in the usual way.
2. Insert the **LinkGM** disk in drive A.
3. Click , , and in the command line type: **A:\SETUP**.
4. Click .
5. The setup program loads and displays instructions on screen.
6. Follow these instructions to install **LinkGM**.
7. When the setup program finishes, remove the **LinkGM** disk and keep in a safe place.

Once installed, the **LinkGM** icon will appear in the  menu.

From Tru-Test internet site

1. Start the internet browser and enter www.tru-test.com.
2. Click  to enter the GrassMaster page.
3. Click **Download LinkGM**.
4. Select  and click .
5. Select a folder in which to store the program on your computer and click .
6. Click , , and then  to locate the saved file.
7. Select the file and click .
8. The setup program loads and displays instructions on screen.
9. Follow these instructions to install **LinkGM**.






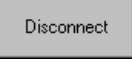
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Downloading paddock data

'Paddock data' includes paddock number, dry matter in kilograms per hectare (or pounds per acre) and the relative capacitance (C_R) value. This information can be useful when using C_R data to derive your own calibration equations.

The GrassMaster will step through each paddock as it downloads the data. A long beep indicates that this process is complete.

How to

1. Connect the GrassMaster to the selected serial port on the computer via the GrassMaster power box.
2. Start the GrassMaster **LinkGM** on the computer.
Click  or press F1 at any time for help with this program.
3. Click  to change the serial port setting if the GrassMaster is not connected to COM1.
4. Press and hold  until the second beep to turn the GrassMaster on.
5. Click  to enable the computer to receive data. The Connected message in the status bar confirms that the selected serial port is a valid one on the computer.
6. Press  to start downloading data.
7. Data will scroll through the memo box. When the scrolling stops, the download is complete.
8. Click  to save the data to a text file. The file name is GMYMMDD.CSV where YY is the last 2 digits of the year, MM is the month and DD is the day. The status bar will show the file name and location for the downloaded file.

Using

You are now able to open the .csv file in a spreadsheet or farm management program.

Open the .csv file with a spreadsheet (in **File** | **O**pen window, set the Files of type pull down menu to All Files (*.*) in order to view the .csv files), and if requested, enter a comma as the delimiter. If .csv is associated in Windows with your spreadsheet you should be able to open the file and spreadsheet program automatically by double-clicking on the filename in Windows Explorer.

To load the data into a farm management program, follow instructions on importing data for that program.

Printing

To print the downloaded paddock data from **LinkGM** to the current system printer, click **Print** on the main GrassMaster **LinkGM** screen.

To use a different printer, change the default printer under Windows control panel.