Hemotek PS6A/230/250 Power Unit

The **PS6A** Power Unit will power up to 6 Feeders simultaneously. Place the Unit near to the insect cages and plug in the prepared feeders. Do not adapt or extend the output sockets. If an extension is required it should be fitted to the input side of the Power Unit (mains cable).

This model of **PS6** Power Unit has been configured to operate on a 230/250v mains power supply at 50-60Hz.

Fuse type 20mm x 5mm anti-surge (T) – 630 mA located on the back panel.

The Power Unit must be earthed.

The wires in the mains lead supplied with this apparatus are coloured in accordance with the following code:
Blue: Neutral, Brown: Live, Green and Yellow: Earth

Disconnect the mains plug from the supply socket when not in use.

To avoid the risk of electric shock do not remove the cover of the apparatus. There are no user serviceable parts inside

To prevent fire or shock hazard do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.

The Power Unit should be stored in a warm, dry place when not in use.

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Hemotek™

Membrane Feeding Technology

for Laboratory Colonies of Blood-sucking Insects

6W1 System

INSTRUCTIONS

http://hemotek.co.uk

Hemotek FU1 Feeders

Instructions:

Setting the Temperature

The operating temperature has been pre-set at the factory to 37°C. A lower meal temperature would prolong the feed time and most species feed well at lower temperatures. The temperature can be adjusted with the aid of a *Hemotek* thermometer. If you do not have a *Hemotek* electronic thermometer, then a thermometer with a bare-tip thermocouple can be used with the tip adhered to the bottom of the feeder (heat transfer plate) using self-adhesive tape and sandwiched in place with a disk of insulating material such as expanded polystyrene.

- Attach the thermometer probe firmly to the bottom of the feeder. The contact surfaces must be perfectly clean.
- Connect the Feeder to the **PS6** Power Unit and switch on. The temperature display on the thermometer should rise and stabilise within a few minutes.
- Remove the plastic sealing plug located on top of the Feeder using the grey *plug extract tool* (screw in and pull).
- Insert the blue *temperature setting tool* into the hole and feel it engage with the slot of the *temperature adjust* screw.
- One complete turn clockwise will raise the temperature by approximately 1.3°C and vice versa. Allow the temperature to stabilise for a few minutes before readjusting. A temperature close to ambient may be difficult to control accurately.
- The Feeders should not be operated at temperatures set higher than 45°C.
- Replace the sealing plug.

Care

- The Feeders should be stored in a warm, dry place when not in use.
- Feeders must not be immersed in water: clean using a soft damp cloth.

Fitting the Membrane to the Meal Reservoir

Synthetic or natural membranes can be used with FU1 Feeders.

- Cut the membrane into 6 cm squares approximately.
- Place the meal reservoir on a clean surface with the feeding aperture uppermost. Place the membrane over the aperture and roll the O ring over membrane onto the meal reservoir so that it locates in the groove around the outside of the reservoir
- Remove the pleats and creases by pulling the corners and edges of the membrane until the membrane is taut and even. Care should be taken to ensure that the pleats are removed from around the edge of the meal reservoir where the seal is made.
- Use sharp scissors to cut off the surplus membrane.
- Synthetic membranes may be improved by warming and stretching.

Filling the Meal Reservoir

- After fitting the membrane to the meal reservoir, the reservoir should be held with the membrane unsupported.
- Using a Pasteur pipette or a 5ml syringe, fill the reservoir with defibrinated blood or substitute meal through one of the two fill/vent holes. Do not overfill the reservoir.
- Plug the two fill/vent holes using plastic plugs.
- Carefully clean any spillage from the top of the reservoir.

Assembling the Feeder

- Attach the prepared reservoir to the feeder by screwing it onto the threaded stud so that the two faces come together without over-tightening. (Spillage at the interface may result in adhesion making removal of the reservoir difficult.)
- Connect the Feeder to the Power Unit.

The Feeder has been designed to stand on top of a mesh cage so that the insects can feed from the reservoir through the mesh of the cage.