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## Measuring snow density with RIP 2 250 cc Sampler

- 1. Place the empty wedge cutter on the digital top loading scale with no sample and tare the scale. Insert the cutter carefully into the snowpit sampling wall making sure that it is oriented squarely with the pit wall (A).
- 2. Carefully push in until the back of the cutter just touches the snow surface, without compressing the snow.
- 3. While holding the cutter in place with slight pressure with one hand, align the cutter lid with the back of the cutter on the pit wall (B).
- 4. Insert the cutter lid being careful to maintain the proper angle with the cutter to isolate a clean sample. 5
- 5. With both hands remove the cutter and lid and turn the sample so that floor of the sampler is horizontal (C).
- 6. Being careful not to lose any of the sampled snow, remove the cutter lid and place the cutter and snow sample on the digital scale (D).
- 7. Dump the sample and clean the sampler, before taking the next sample.

Using a 250 cc sampler, the gram weight on the scale is multiplied by four to get kg m<sup>-3</sup> density. For example, in Figure D, the 52 g reading on the scale represents a density of 4 x 52 g = 208 kg m-3, or 20.8%.

If you are using a spring scale, rather than a digital top loader, place the sample in a plastic bag and weigh.

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