

UV-A Series 200 Calibration Drift Notice

A quality control audit identified that some Apogee 200 series UV-A sensors (see serial numbers below) were experiencing faster drifts in stability than specified (greater than 2 % per year). It was determined that the drift was caused by some acrylic optical diffusers exhibiting lower UV stability than others, particularly in environments where sensors were deployed long-term with high UV exposure, especially high UV-B (high altitude outdoor environments, continuous UV exposure environments, etc). No issues were found in sensors used in lower UV exposure environments, like greenhouses or spot measurement applications. Apogee now manufactures all UV sensors with sintered quartz diffusers to increase UV stability and prevent this issue from occurring again.

Any sensor, especially those used continuously or in harsh environments, will have an accuracy drift over time. Therefore, Apogee recommends our customers recalibrate their sensors every two years to maintain a 5 % calibration uncertainty. This recent discovery of faster-than-anticipated degradation in some older UV sensors with acrylic diffusers means that they should be recalibrated more frequently.

If you are using Apogee 200 series UV-A sensors in this serial number range, we encourage you to contact Apogee Instruments customer support to discuss options. Apogee can offer a free recalibration and/or retrofit your sensor with a sintered quartz diffuser under warranty. If you are using your sensor in less UV-intensive environments or for period spot measurements, the accuracy of your readings should not be affected, and you may choose to do nothing. However, please reach out to our customer support if you are concerned.

We regret that this quality issue occurred and are committed to making it right for our customers. As always, Apogee believes in transparency when any quality control issues arise, because we know the value of your data integrity.

Units Built with Acrylic Diffuser

Model SU-200-SS	#1001-1199
Model SU-202-SS	#1001-1090
Model SU-205-SS	#1001-1121
Model SU-220	#1001-1012
Model SU-221-SS	#1001-1037
2893 (CARON)	#1001-1153