How to Balance your Saffron

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November 15, 2018
https://www.uvm.edu/~saffron/

Saffron, sometimes referred to as “red gold” is the most expensive spice of the world, reported to sell for more than $5,000 per pound. Many growers around North America have started to grow saffron and this year was the first time they produced sufficient quantities that they are considering selling it. Because of the high value of this lucrative crop, precise measurement (up to 0.01 grams or 0.001 grams in readability) is extremely important. Growers have asked us which scales (or balance) should they purchase for their saffron business. Like everything, it all depends… In general, the more expensive scales measure more precisely. Growers will have to consider how much they wish to invest in their business. We have reviewed various products on the web, read the reviews and considered the ratings. Below is a summary of our findings, including a range of prices from around $14 to $150 (US$). This is not an endorsement of any one product, but serves as a place to start when making a purchase.

1-KitchenTour Digital Kitchen Scale.

This highly ranked scale has a 4.4/5 satisfaction rating on the retailer website. It can measure samples from 0.05 - 500 grams, with a resolution of 0.01 grams. This is a good value for $13.99 (US) from Amazon.


2-Horizon ACCT-500 Digital Precision Jewelry Scale.

This digital scale can weigh up to 500 grams and is precise to 0.01 grams. It lists for $25-28 (US) on Amazon.

Fig 2. Horizon ACCT-500 Digital Precision Jewelry Scale. http://a.co/d/dFkohpu
3-Adam Equipment LBK 6a Compact Bench Scale.
This has a high measuring capacity of 3000 grams and a precise readability of 0.5 g. This scale lists at $149.31 (US) and has a 4.8/5 customer satisfaction rating on the retailer website.

4-Ohaus TAJ602 Gold Balance.
This highly advanced scale has options, such as USB connectivity and a capacity of 600 grams with an accuracy of 0.01 grams. It costs at $260 (US) on the retailer website.

5-Startorious ENTRIS822-1S Entris series precision balance.
This high-tech scale has preinstalled applications along with a capacity of 820 g and accuracy to 0.01 grams. The price is $554.45 (US) on the retailer website.

Acknowledgements. Support for the UVM Saffron Research Project has been provided by the Univ. of VT College of Agric. & Life Sci.; VT Dept. of Agric. Specialty Crops Block Grant. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.