

Latest upgrades for Minelab Detectors SD-GP 2015

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Depending on the level of upgrade, either addition of variable input gain or conversion to fully variable pulse width, your detector will exhibit exceptional extra performance on all Gold and ground types. The Manual Tuning is now Variable Pulse Frequency, noise cancellation still works, you only need to move the frequency a tiny amount to tune away from noise.

Set the new input variable gain, (blue pot shaft or multi turn dial to half) .

If the detector has variable frequency set it to half, try testing on a small bit of gold and increase the frequency towards the higher numbers, the small gold will become easier to hear.

The test target should show a huge increase in detection distance.

Now try the same adjustment of the frequency towards the lower numbers, test with a big metal object, maximum distance from the coil should be low numbers. This allows the detector to generate a larger pulse and excite the bigger gold at depth.

Some large targets still are very conductive and are able to be detected better using higher numbers, gold comes in many shapes and sizes and it is impossible to have one setting that suits all gold.

The real test is to bury a target in the ground of a size that you intend to detect, and adjust the new variable gain with the variable frequency on the back display to get the best signal with the least ground noise. Reduce the gain and set the frequency for best signal then increase the variable gain until the detector starts to get noisy then just back it off so the noise just disappears or reduces enough to your liking.

Sensitivity on small gold should be equal or very close to the best small gold detectors that are P.I and there should be a substantial depth increase on larger gold depending how you set up the detector..

The Variable frequency and Variable gain operate in all modes, Keep a log

book for your settings when you do your testing. Start testing with the frequency tuning set to 6 or half way to start with.

You can use the variable frequency to null out some hot rocks, first find one while detecting and then GB the detector on the ground and put the detector into FIXED GB then adjust the Variable frequency while detecting over the hot rock, you should find a null. Leave the variable frequency on this number and continue detecting, you can put the detector back into tracking and continue on your way. This technique may also be used to reduce lead shot, just be careful as it may knock out small gold that is close to the same size. Some hot rocks are impossible to knock out due to their conductive characteristics.

Interaction between Variable gain, Variable frequency, ground type and coils.

There will be situations that certain settings will to be adjusted to compensate for red hot ground, badly manufactured coils and interaction by using **too high a frequency and too much gain**. If the ground is hot and the detector is set to get very small gold it may not be possible to run a lot of gain as the ground noise will get into the the detector electronics and cause loss of performance. Using the lower numbers on the variable frequency will allow you to use more gain. You can also test how good your coils are, run a high number on the variable frequency and see how much gain you can use before the detector goes deaf, this is the residual transmit energy not decaying fast enough and will desensitise the detector. There are hundreds of variables with coils and ground type. Now you have every available combination of the most important detector functions that you can fully adjust to get the maximum sensitivity or depth. As we all know Enhance and Fine Gold have depth loss on big gold due to their short pulse length, now you can adjust the frequency to get more punch down deep while preserving the operational characteristics of these modes.

Test the detector in the actual ground you are going to work, test your settings.

Always bury targets in the ground you are going to work, if you are looking for small gold then bury a small target and try to get the clearest signal with minimum ground noise, once achieved you cannot get any better performance.

When you find a patch make sure to work it in both high frequencies and low frequencies as different nuggets have properties that need to be detected with different settings to be found. As an example in red hot ground, and using a high frequency a 10oz nugget can not be detected at 6 inches in some circumstances, but changing to a low frequency the same nugget will blow your ears off.

These upgrades allow you to get every last drop of performance from your detector.

Get to know the detector and be confident in its improved gold detecting abilities.

If you take the time and effort to test the detector you will become as expert as any other operator, you only need to carry out experiments and see the results. Then apply what you have learned to your prospecting.