

# Murray's Best Chicken Coop Door Controller

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Murray's Best Chicken Coop Controller will open the coop door a few minutes before sunrise and close the door a few minutes after sunset with the use of an electronic light sensor.

### ITEMS INCLUDED

- 1 – Controller
- 1 – 12' Sensor
- 1 – 110 / 12-volt Power Supply
- 2 – C-channel Rails
- 1 – Door Panel
- 1 – Hardware Package
- 4 – 1 ½" Screws
- 6 – ¾" Screws
- 1 – Instruction Manual

### INSTALLATION

**A. OPENING IN COOP WALL** — You will need to have an opening in your coop wall that is approximately 11" X 11" and 4" above the floor. *NOTE: If your coop was built with standard 16-inch stud spacing and it is not lined, you could mount the door directly on the inside of the sheeting or siding. If your coop is lined and insulated, you will need to cut a hole in both the sheeting or siding and the liner. The opening will need to be framed out so that the birds do not have access to the void between the sheeting/siding and the liner.*

#### B. MOUNT RAILS AND DOOR

1. The coop door comes with two aluminum channels. The channels are both the same. Use a level to draw a vertical line ½ inch outside of the door opening.
2. Measure 12" to the other side of the door opening and using a level, draw another vertical line.
3. Draw a horizontal line ½ inch below the door opening that intersects both of the vertical lines.
4. Drill a starter hole on each side of the door where the lines intersect.
5. Line up the bottom hole of the channel with the starter hole – make sure the open side of the channel is facing the door opening. Attach channel to the wall with the bottom 1-½" screw only. The screw should be snug but not so tight that it bends the channel.
6. Repeat on the other side of the door.
7. Slide the door panel into the two channels from the top.

You can now line up the upper holes in the channels with the vertical lines.

8. Drill a starter hole and attach the upper end of the channel with a 1-½" screw. Make sure the door panel can move freely up and down. Adjust channels if necessary.

#### C. MOUNT CONTROLLER BOX

1. Using your level, draw a vertical line in line with the hole in the door panel. This line should extend above the channels.
2. Three inches above the top of the channels, draw a horizontal line as a guide for mounting the controller box. The string from the control box should line up with the center of the door.
3. Drill starter holes and mount the controller box on the wall with ¾" screws.

#### D. ATTACHING CORD TO DOOR PANEL

1. You will now need to lower the cord.
2. Plug the power supply into a 110-volt wall outlet.
3. Apply slight downward pressure to the cord. The motor will operate only when there is tension on the cord and power to the motor. If the cord goes slack, the motor will stop. If there is no power, the cord will not go down. Continue to apply downward pressure until the cord is out enough to reach the door. Release cord and the motor will stop.
4. You can now attach the ball chain to the connector at the end of the cord.
5. Set door travel height. On the cord is a small bead. The bead stops the door at the desired height. Inside the control box, the bottom lever is what stops the door from going up. Tie a knot under the bead so it stops the door before the door reaches the top of the channels.

#### E. INSTALLING THE LIGHT SENSOR

1. Drill a 5/8" hole inside of the coop.
2. From the outside of the coop, pass the plug end of the wire through the coop wall.
3. Mount the sensor box with ¾" screws to the outside wall. The round sensor should be pointing down.
4. Plug the sensor cable into the circuit board and replace the cover.



## OPERATION

The operation of the controller has been designed to be very easy and trouble-free. Once the sensor and power have been applied to the control box, it is ready to go. The door should go up when it is light out, and down when it becomes dark.

A green LED is located on the board inside the coop controller. When this LED is on, power is supplied to the unit. An amber LED on the board located inside the coop controller indicates night mode.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

If the door does not open or close properly, check to make sure the cord is routed properly. It should roll off the front of the spool, go behind the upper lever, and pass through the lower lever.

If the unit appears dead, make sure the outlet you are plugged into is okay. If there is power to the unit, the green light should be on. Make sure to use the power supply that was included with your unit. Other power supplies will not work with the controller.

If the door will not go all the way up or down, check if the door panel is getting caught in the channels or something is restricting its movement. Make sure the channels are plumb and equally spaced from each other. Check to see if you can move the panel by hand and it moves freely. Make sure that none of the wires/cables inside the controller interfere with the movement of the white levers. If they are in contact with the levers, simply move them away.

Coop door will not open in the morning — Is the yellow LED light on? If the yellow light is on, the unit is still in night mode and the door will remain down. Check the sensor and make sure it is correctly connected to the unit and it is mounted outside where it can see daylight. Make sure there are no cuts in the sensor cable. If sensor is bad or not connected to the unit, it will default to night mode. If the yellow LED light is off, indicating day, try to move the door up by hand. Does it move freely? No obstructions? If not, adjust the rails until the door moves freely. Make sure the cord is wound properly as indicated previously.

Coop door will not close at night — Make sure that the light sensor is not picking up any ambient light from a yard light or other light source. Is the yellow LED on the unit on or off? The yellow LED must be on to indicate night before the door will close. If the yellow light is on, and the door still won't close, unhook the door from the cord and see if it moves freely in the rails. If it does not move freely, adjust the rails. Make sure the cord is wound correctly as described previously. It may be a bad sensor and needs to be replaced.

