

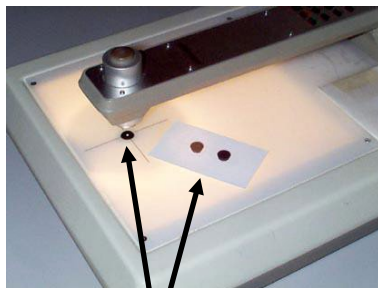
# How do I maintain and calibrate my densitometer?

## Proper Use & Maintenance

- Follow the preventative maintenance schedule provided by the manufacturer.
- The densitometer should be in a well-lit room.
- The densitometer should be turned on at the beginning of the work week (i.e. Monday) and should not be turned off until the end of the work week (i.e. Friday).
- The aperture used should be the appropriate size for the reduction ratio being measured. As a general practice, the largest aperture that can be used for a given image size provides the best average density of a document or density patch.
- The densitometer reading surface should be cleaned daily with a lint free cloth that has been lightly dampened with water.

## Calibrating the Densitometer

- The densitometer should be calibrated at least once a day with a calibration density patch provided by the manufacturer.
- A density strip should be used to correlate the density reading of the densitometer.
- Check the zero of the densitometer before each reading. Variability in readings can result from operating the densitometer too hastily.
- Most densitometers require the densities to be read with the emulsion side up and in the center of the density patch being measured.



Apertures



Calibration Patch



Emulsion Up