# Farmtek Setup

The Farmtek manual shows how to set up the electric eyes, and how to have it learn new eyes in the need of a replacement. This document just tells you how to set up the control unit for use with MJTiming software.

## Farmtek Control Unit

1. Install batteries and turn on unit
2. Press Setup button
3. Press Enter button to select new event
4. Repeatedly press Next Choice button until the display shows “Press ENTER for Autocross”
5. Press Enter button
6. Press Setup button
7. Repeatedly press Next Choice button until the display shows “Press ENTER for Interface Type”
8. Press Enter button
9. Repeatedly press Next Choice button until the display shows “Press ENTER for JAC Chrono”
10. Press Enter button
11. Press Setup button
12. Repeatedly press Next Choice button until the display shows “Press ENTER for Passthru Mode”
13. Press Enter button
14. Plug Farmtek unit into computer, start MJTiming and all is ready to go

## Replacing damaged eye with one of the spares

1. Turn off undamaged eye (both receiver and emitter)
2. Install battery in spare eye and an undamaged IR emitter
3. Turn on IR emitter and spare eye and align them
4. On the Farmtek control unit, press Setup and Next Choice until you reach the selection for “Press ENTER to set Eye #2 ID” (or eye #1 ID, whichever one was damaged)
5. It will now display “Break Eye #2 Beam Now”
6. Walk through the beam to interrupt the signal
7. It should display some info about the eye identifier and then go back to the main display
8. Set up the new eye and emitter, and carry on with the event

## Making Farmtek unit work with laptop if no COM port found

Unfortunately, the USB to serial chip in the Farmtek connector cable is an old one, and the current Windows driver will not work with it. Even worse, Windows tries to update the driver every time you plug it into a new USB port, and then it stops working all over again.

To fix all of this, you need to do a bit of fancy footwork with your computer to prevent Windows from updating the correct driver with a bad one. This is documented on the Farmtek support pages (<http://farmtek.net/win8_driver_fix.html>), but here is a short description of how to fix the problem:

1. Plug Farmtek cable into chosen USB port  
   **If at all possible, remember which USB port was used last time and use that one again.  
   For the SASC laptop, please use the left side USB port for the timing system control units (Farmtek or MJTiming)**
2. Open the device manager by pressing the Window key and the X key simultaneously, and then selecting “Device Manager”
3. Expand the “Ports (COM & LPT) line
4. You should see a line like “Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port (COM ##)”, with a yellow triangle on the left.
5. Right click that line and select “Uninstall”
6. Select the box that says “Delete the driver software for the device”
7. Click OK
8. When the uninstall completes, unplug the USB adapter from your computer and close the Device Manager. Do NOT plug the USB adapter back into the computer.
9. Disable Windows from automatically choosing its own drivers:
   1. From the Desktop, push and hold the Windows key and then press "x" on your keyboard. Choose "Run" from the menu that pops up.
   2. In the "Run" dialog box, type in "control printers" and click "OK".
   3. Right click on your computer's icon under "Devices" and choose "Device Installation Settings"
   4. Change driver installation preference to "No, let me choose what to do" and "Never install driver software from Windows Update" and uncheck the box that says “Automatically get the device app and info provided by your device manufacturer”.
   5. Click "Save Changes."
   6. Reboot your computer
10. In MJTiming\documentation, you will find a zip file named Prolific\_Win8\_x64\_x86.zip
11. Unzip this folder
12. Right click ser2pl.inf and select “Install”
13. Plug the Farmtek interface cable into a USB port. The driver software should be installed and a COM port assigned.
14. Open the device manager (Windows key+x) and plug the Farmtek cable into the other USB ports. If they show up in the device manager with a yellow triangle, or if Windows starts attempting to install a driver, close the device installation window and do the following:
    1. Right click on the device (in device manager) and delete the driver and software.
    2. Right click the device and select “Update driver software"
    3. Select “Browse my computer for driver software”
    4. Point it to the folder where you unzipped the driver software