

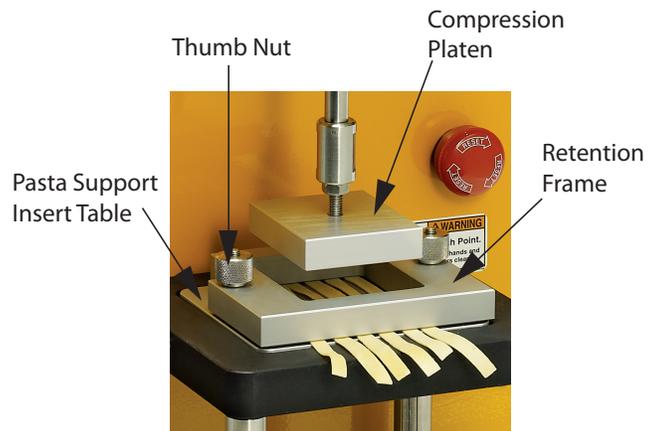
## Installation Instructions for Texture Accessory Parts TA-PFS and TA-PFS-C

The Pasta Firmness and Stickiness Fixtures are used with the CT3 Texture Analyzer to measure the firmness and stickiness of uncooked and cooked pasta. Pasta sheets or strips are placed face down on the Support Table, which allows the appropriate texture probe to travel downward, make contact and measure the pasta firmness. The force detected by the probe is measured in grams or Newtons. The choice of load cell usually depends on the type and thickness of the pasta sheets/strips.

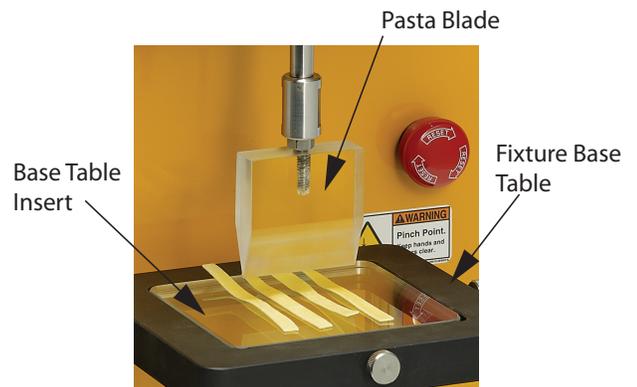
### TA-PFS – Pasta Firmness and Stickiness Fixture

The TA-PFS is used specifically to measure uncooked pasta. The Fixture Base Table is required for test set up; the Base Table Insert is replaced with the Pasta Support Table Insert. After the pasta is placed face down on the Pasta Support Table, the Retention Frame with a square-shaped window clamps the pasta in place by tightening two thumb nuts, which secure the Frame to the Table. The probe is a square-shaped compression plate, which travels downward onto the Frame window, makes contact with the uncooked pasta, and compresses the pasta. The rate of probe travel is typically selected to be a fraction of 1 mm/sec, perhaps as low as 0.1 mm/sec. Care must be taken to minimize the base effect from the Pasta Support Table. Therefore, the objective is to measure the pasta firmness by compressing it to no more than 50% of its thickness.

The Compression Plate measures adhesive force as it reverses direction and pulls away from the pasta. This force measurement is an indicator for the stickiness of the pasta.



TA-PFS Fixture



TA-PFS-C Fixture

### TA-PFS-C – Pasta Firmness and Stickiness Fixture

The TA-PFS-C is used to measure the firmness of cooked pasta according to AACC Test Method 16-50. The Fixture Table Base is required for test set up. The cooked pasta is placed face down on the Base Table Insert. The Pasta Blade is the measurement probe and has a 1.0 mm flat surface, which runs along the knife-edge. The Pasta Blade travels downward at a slow rate of speed; normally a fraction of 1 mm/sec, makes contact with the pasta, and measures the resistance to compression. Precaution needs to be taken to minimize the base effect from the Base Table Insert by compressing the pasta to no more than 50% of its thickness. The peak load is a measurement of pasta firmness.