

Try these settings on your X-Terra 705 For gold prospecting

Gold Prospecting—Clean virgin areas devoid of metal rubbish.
Cleaning up patches. Crumbing, picking up the crumbs.

Areas previously detected successfully with the deeper seeking SD/GP metal detectors. We are looking for the smaller nuggets and specimens missed.

Prospecting mode
Tracking on
Iron Mask on 5 (to indicate ferrous objects)
Sensitivity : as high as ground conditions allow
Coils: 5x10 18.7kHz elliptical coil



6mm section
came in at 10

Checking quartz specimens for the presence of gold (high grading)

This involves manually passing quartz pieces across the coil for a positive metal response.

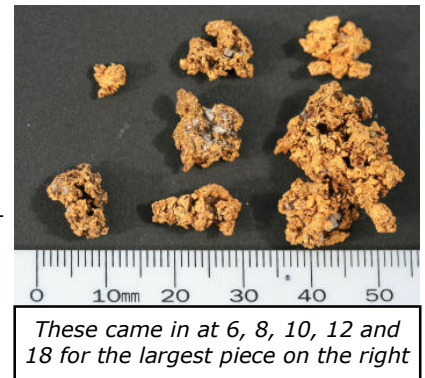
Prospecting mode
Iron Mask off
All metals mode
Sensitivity: 30
Coils: 6" 18.7kHz DD (first choice) or 10" elliptical H, 5x10 DD 18.7kHz
Any pieces sounding off put aside and check again in All metal mode (AM). Any pieces sounding off with a positive number anywhere from 2 to 10 are most certainly containing gold. Pieces sounding off negative should also be investigated but most likely would contain a higher proportion of iron stone.

Detecting old campsites areas full of iron debris

Disc mode
Pattern1 (AM if the area is only mildly rubbishy)
Tracking on
Tones 4
Coils: 5x10 18.7kHz elliptical coil, 6" 18.7kHz coil or standard M coil

While the X-Terra detectors are very advanced discriminating detectors, they are not fool-proof. You the user must decipher the audio and visual information presented by the speaker and the visual display.

Beginners should listen to clean single tone target sounds ignoring the low ferrous tone hits. Larger ferrous objects should be removed to uncover possible good masked objects hiding among the rubbish. If you hear two toned objects it should be investigated. Just in case there is a piece of gold next to a rusted piece of tin.



These came in at 6, 8, 10, 12 and 18 for the largest piece on the right

Remember that heavily infested areas where there are a multitude of targets of various conductivities will present a challenge to the detector and to your ears. Round and ring shaped ferrous objects can give a false signal (high tone) if the ring is broken the signal response can change dramatically. Ferrous objects mask good targets, don't be afraid to clean out areas of large steel objects, roofing, pipes etc.

Thin sheet like iron objects like match boxes and crown seals can also give off a high tone. It is not that the detector is lying it is a case of oxide layers on the metal surface are very conductive. The original object was perhaps tin plated, so giving a high tone. Advanced users should try using 99 tones. This will result in more precise target information giving us more sounds to tell us that we are dealing with a difficult shape or with 2 conductive targets in close proximity.

Response on gold nuggets. Don't expect gold to be highly conductive, it is not. Natural gold nuggets can vary greatly in composition and shape. For this reason it can give a response from low-mid tone to a high tone with corresponding changing numbers. It is not unusual to get numbers as low as 6 8 or 10 on small nuggets.

In highly infested areas try using the smaller 5x10 elliptical coil or even better the 6" round coil for improved target separation. In high conductive soils (highly mineralized) you may get a very noisy detector. This is not unusual, reduce the sensitivity or try using beach mode for a quieter operation. There are times when you have to walk away from these extreme conditions as only a PI detector like a Minelab SD/GP or GPX detector can handle these soils.

I urge you to experiment. Never be afraid of reducing the sensitivity and lifting your coil to gain more stable operation and less jumping numbers. It is up to you to learn your detectors language. The day will come when they will yell out "gold, gold" or "nail, nail". In the meantime, if everything fails, as my grandfather used to say: "If in doubt, dig it out"

Don't forget a rake and a powerful magnet can be your best friend.

For a comprehensive listing of information, tips and tricks on the X-Terra metal detectors try the Finds Treasure Forum <http://www.findmall.com/list.php?55>
FAQFAQ (Frequently asked questions)

Nth Qld Miners Den 65 Anderson St. Cairns Ph 07 4051 4413 www.nqminersden.com