

PENETROMETER

Soil Compaction Meter

This simple tool allows you to observe the degree of soil compaction at depths from 0-18 inches (0-45 centimeters).



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Soil Compaction Meter

The Imants Penetrometer is a compaction meter. Its purpose is to locate compaction in soil/turf so the correct measurements can be taken to eliminate the compaction. As a rule of thumb, compaction greater than 20 bar (285psi) needs to be avoided as roots will have great difficulty to penetrate the soil. In addition, lack of air is also a great problem as roots need oxygen to get nutrients available to the plant. The Penetrometer helps to monitor the rootzone.



The penetrometer consists of removal tapered-tip cone, a rod with depth marks at 3" (7.5cm) intervals, a machined precision-bore pressure chamber, and a 0-1000 Psi (0-60 bar) pressure gauge. The diameter of the bore / piston and tip cone base are essentially equal. This means that the pressure reading of the meter is approximately the same as the pressure required at the tip to force the rod through the soil.

REMINDER: Soil must be moist in order to obtain meaningful readings.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

The 0 – 1000 psi / 0 – 60 bar gauge allows you to monitor highly compacted soils and then measure the improvements as you modify farming practices. Tillage techniques and timing may be altered to see if relative improvement occurs. Soil wetting agents may also be evaluated for their effectiveness.

The depth marks along the rod allow you to determine the penetration resistance at various depths. By watching the gauge as you pass each mark, you can see the relative compaction at each depth.

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