

Digital Soil Thermometer

Current Temperature

Field Guide

Task

Measure the current soil temperatures, at depths of 5 cm and 50 cm.

What You Need

- A properly sited instrument shelter
- A properly calibrated and installed digital multi-day max/min thermometer
- An accurate watch or other device that tells time
- Digital Multi-Day Soil Thermometer Data Sheet*
- Pen or pencil

In the Field

1. Open the instrument shelter and lift the cover flap of the digital max/min thermometer.
2. Record the time and date on your data sheet.
3. Turn the 5 cm temperature display on by pressing the 5 cm sensor ON button (upper left rubber button labeled 'ON') on the front of the instrument casing.
4. The current 5 cm temperature will now be shown in the upper section of the digital display. Record this temperature on your data sheet.
5. For 50 cm measurements, repeat the above steps using the 50 cm display ON button (upper right button labeled 'ON') and read the value from the lower section of the display screen.
6. After all measurements have been taken close the cover flap of the instrument. It will shut off automatically after a short time. Close the instrument shelter.