Depth Profile Soil Moisture Protocol

Field Guide

Task

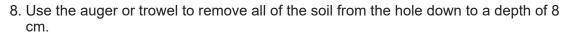
Collect soil moisture samples at depths of 0-5 cm, 10 cm, 30 cm, 60 cm and 90 cm.

What You Need

☐ Compass (to locate sampling point)	or cans) weighed and labeled with their mass and a container number
☐ Trowel	☐ Science Log
☐ Auger	☐ Pen or pencil
☐ Meter stick	

In the Field

- 1. Complete the top portion of the <u>Soil Moisture Data Sheet</u> <u>Depth Profile</u>.
- 2. Locate your sampling point on the star and cut and pull away any grass or groundcover. See *Star Pattern Soil Moisture Field Guide*.
- 3. With the trowel, dig a hole 10-15 cm in diameter down to 5 cm. Leave this soil loose in the hole.
- 4. Remove from the loose soil any rocks larger than a pea (about 5 mm), large roots, worms, and other animals.
- 5. Use your trowel to fill your soil container with at least 100 g of the loose soil.
- 6. Immediately seal the container to hold in the moisture.
- 7. Record the container number and mass on the *Data Sheet* next to Sample Depth 0-5 cm.



- 9. In a clean container, collect a soil sample that contains the soil between 8 and 12 cm deep. Remove rocks, large roots and animals. Seal the container.
- 10. Record the container number and mass on the *Data Sheet* next to Sample Depth 10 cm.
- 11. Continue to auger down to obtain samples centered at 30, 60, and 90 cm. Record the container numbers and mass values on the *Data Sheet*.
- 12. You should have 5 containers of soil taken from 1 hole. Return the remaining soil to the hole last soil out, first in.
- 13. Dry samples according to the Gravimetric Soil Moisture Protocol Lab Guide.

