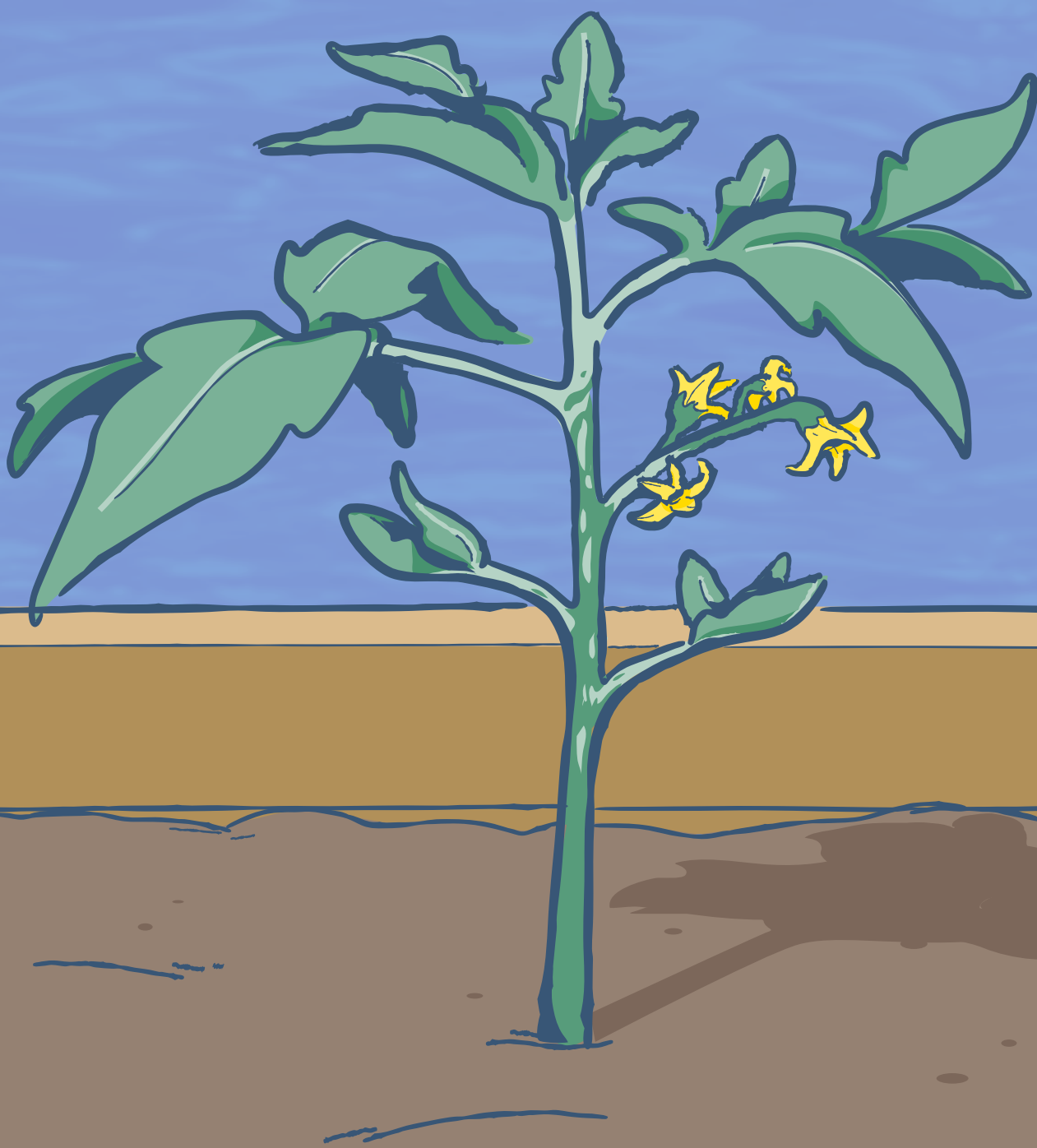
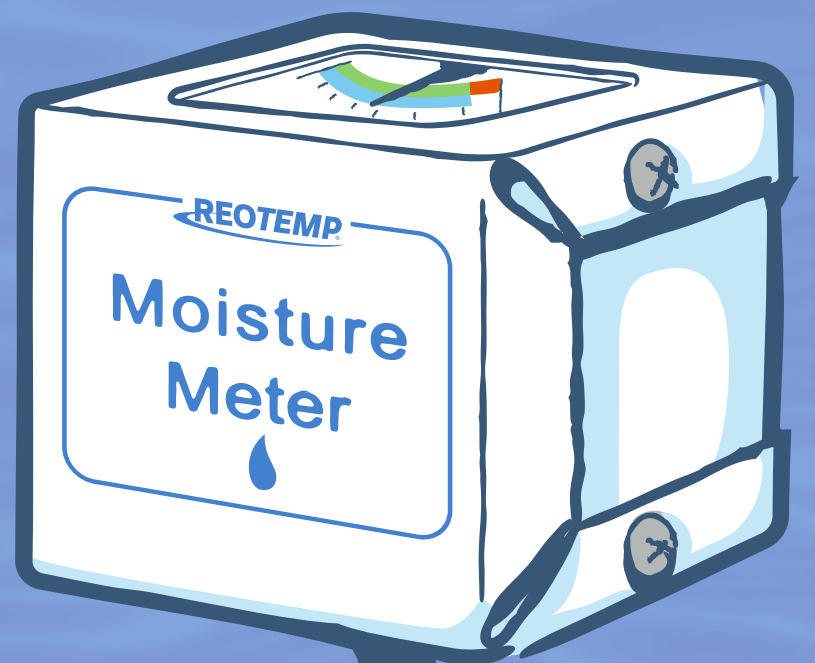


GARDEN & COMPOST MOISTURE METER

Product Guide

REOTEMP
COMPOST

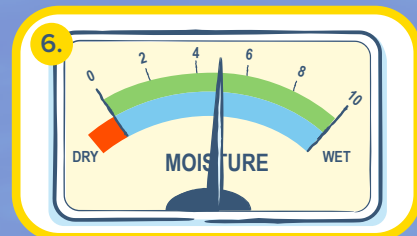
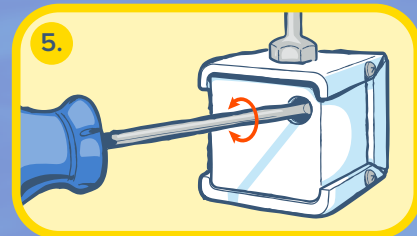
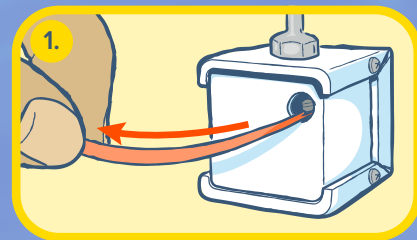


The REOTEMP Garden and Compost Moisture Meter is a heavy-duty moisture meter used by gardeners, composters, farmers, and nurseries to get a relative moisture level reading. The moisture meter's unique calibration feature allows it to be used in a variety of applications including compost, gardening and soil moisture testing. Calibration allows for adjustment of the meter to the specific moisture needs of different plants and applications when compared to a non-adjustable meter.

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SETUP

1. Pull and remove the red strip from back of head to activate the battery.
2. Find a sample of soil or compost that is similar to what you plan to test regularly.
3. Add water to your sample until it is at your ideal moisture level. Your ideal level will vary depending on your plant type, compost or goal.
4. Insert the meter stem into your sample (at least 1 inch).
5. Once the meter is inserted, use a small flat head screw driver to turn the calibration screw located on the back of the head to "5" on the 0 to 10 scale. Your meter is now calibrated.
6. Complete set up by placing the black plug that comes taped to the underside of the meter head into the calibration port on the back of the head. This is optional and is just to prevent dirt or debris from entering the meter.



SAMPLING PROCEDURE

Insert your meter into your soil or compost. Never force the stem into compacted or extremely hard soil or through dense mediums such as wood chips as this could damage the probe.

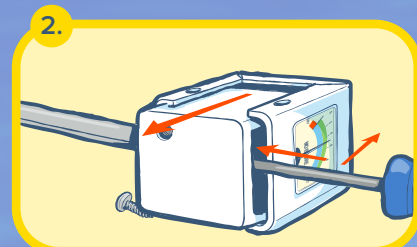
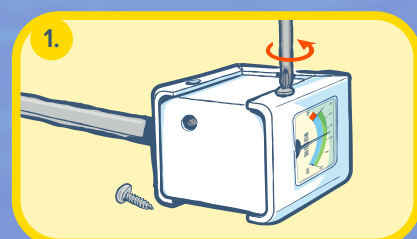
INTERPRETING YOUR RESULTS

In general, the meter will give you a relative wetter or dryer reading based on your calibration. A reading under 5 is too dry. A reading over 5 is too wet. The calibration feature allows for use on a great variety of moisture levels, plants and mediums.

BATTERY REPLACEMENT

The battery is included and is already installed. With normal usage it will typically last one season. When replacement becomes necessary, (unable to obtain a meter reading of "8-10" in a cup of tap water even with Calibration Screw in maximum clockwise position) replace with a standard AAA battery.

1. Using a phillips head screwdriver, unscrew the 4 screws on the sides of the meter head.
2. Remove the back plate. You may need to pry the nested back section off using your screw driver.
3. Once the back panel is removed, you will be able to access and replace the battery. Care must be taken to maintain correct polarity of the battery. The plus (+) side is marked on the holder.
4. Once the new battery is installed, replace the back cover and screws lining the calibration hole up with the calibration screw.



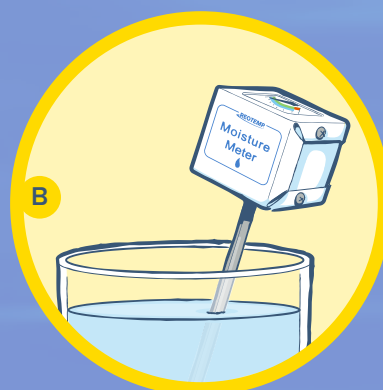
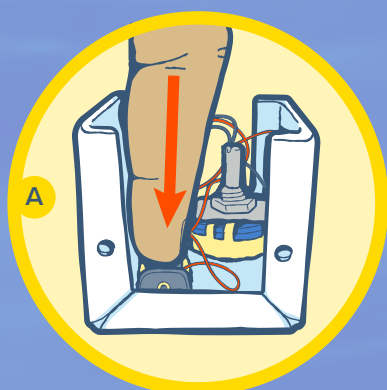
TROUBLESHOOTING

A. *I just received my moisture meter and removed the red battery tab but the meter is not reading anything no matter what I do.*

Sometimes when pulling the battery tab during setup, the battery can become unseated from the holder inside the unit. Open your moisture meter and push down on the battery to make sure it is properly seated in the battery holder.

B. *The meter was working fine but now it always reads 0 when inserted into the soil.*

The battery could need replacement. Test the meter in a cup of tap water. Be sure to use tap water and not distilled or filtered water. If the meter does not go to about "8-10" when the calibration screw is turned all the way to the right, battery replacement is needed.



Frequently Asked Questions



What is my ideal moisture level as mentioned in the calibration instructions? How do I know what “ideal” is?

You can think of your ideal moisture level as your target moisture. This can vary from person to person because you may be using the moisture meter to test potted cactus (relatively dry) while another person may use it to test tomatoes (high water requirement). Whatever your use, get a sample ready that is at your target moisture level and set the meter to 5 on the readout to calibrate.



I am getting inconsistent results. Is that because of salt in the soil?

We would recommend double checking the calibration first and the battery. The sensor works by reading the electrical current passed through the water in soil. Inconsistent readings could be the result of different salt levels in the soil as salt affects conductivity. The more salt in the soil, the more conductive the soil will be and the higher (wetter) it will read. So if you have two soil samples that have the same moisture, if one has salt added to it, it will read higher.



Can the moisture meter be left outdoors in soil or compost?

You should take your readings then remove it from the media you are testing for storage. We recommend against leaving the moisture meter outdoors. Store the meter in a cool dry place.



Does this meter give a percent moisture reading?

No. This moisture meter only gives a relative “wetter than” or “drier than” reading.



Will this meter work in my specific type of soil?

Yes, this meter should work in many different soil types as well as in compost. We recommend against using it in extremely compacted or hard soil as it could damage the moisture meter.



Frequently Asked Questions



If I calibrate the meter to a 0 in dry soil will the meter be able to show me accurate results?

No, we recommend calibrating the meter to about a 5 in a sample of soil or compost that is the moisture level you are trying to target.



I have multiple types of plants and moisture levels I am trying to test, will one meter work for this situation?

If you have a situation where you are trying to routinely target vastly different moisture levels the best solution may be to have a separate moisture meter calibrated for each plant. For example if you have tomatoes (high moisture target) and cactus (low moisture target), you may want a meter for each target for convenience. You would calibrate one meter for the tomatoes and label it the tomato meter and one meter for the cactus. Because each meter is calibrated for different levels you would get better results than if you used the same meter for both.



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