

DICKEY-john Soil Compaction Tester

Soil compaction is becoming a serious problem in all parts of the country; a problem that is very expensive in several ways.

Firstly, research has demonstrated that over 90% more power is required to plow severely compacted soil.

Secondly, compacted soil results in poor root and plant development. Compacted soil is dense; roots cannot grow in it. This can reduce yields by 20, 30, even up to 50%.

Thirdly, compaction severely restricts the manner in which soil naturally manages water; both by holding water near the surface of the field, and by limiting the ability of plants to take up water and nutrients from below.

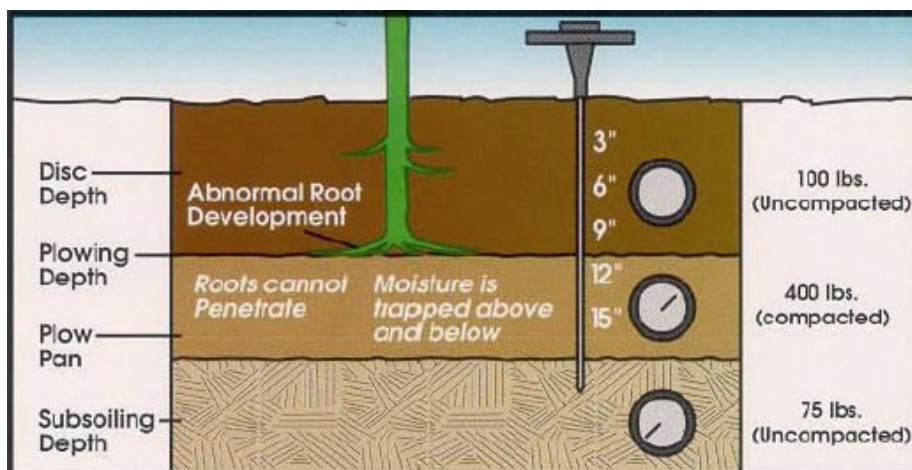
The DICKEY-john Soil Compaction Tester will help you determine:

- Is your soil compacted ?
- How severely and at what level ?
- How deep have you actually been tilling ?
- How deep do you need to till ?



Compaction and Root Development
0-200 lbs. *Good*
200-300 lbs. *Fair*
300-500 lbs. *Poor*

Soil compaction can occur in any type of soil. Typically, after years of traffic, a 'plow pan' forms below the tillage zone. Traffic and tillage cause soil particles to become clustered together, filling up all available spaces, compacting into a hard layer that cannot be penetrated by moisture or roots.



Once you know exactly how compacted your soil is, and at what depth, it's relatively easy to decide upon a solution to the problem. However, you can't begin to think about a solution until you have identified the problem.

The DICKEY-john Soil Compaction Tester makes this a quick and easy task.