

DOUBLE-RING INFILTROMETER TEST

Many elements of civil engineering design today require a value of the rate of water infiltration into soil. The double-ring infiltrometer test, which is recognized by the U.S. EPA, provides an opportunity to obtain this value for designers.



The double-ring infiltrometer test (ASTM D3385) is a field method to determine the infiltration rate of a fluid (wastewater or storm water) into soil on a planar surface. It is relatively simple and inexpensive and provides a direct infiltration rate, as opposed to the percolation test or the laboratory permeability test.

The two nested steel rings (hence “double ring”) are set into the soil layer to be tested. They can even be driven into a sod or weed surface to measure the infiltration rate through vegetation.



This test can be used for infiltration basins, on-land disposal of secondarily treated effluent or ponded storm water. The test can be run at various elevations in stratified soils by excavating shallow test pits.

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