

TABLE 686-3 INTERPRETATION OF READINGS ON THE ELECTRICAL RESISTANCE METERS

	Ohms	Readings		Interpretation
		New Scale	Old Scale	
Nearly Saturated	Less than 200	10.0 to 9.0	200 to 180	Near saturated soil often occurs for a few hours following irrigation. Danger of water-logged soils, a high water table, poor soil aeration if reading persists for several days.
Field Capacity	300 to 500	9.0 to 8.5	180 to 170	Field capacity. Irrigations discontinued in this range to prevent waste by deep percolation and leaching of nutrients below the root zone.
Irrigation Range	3200 to 7000	6.0 to 4.0	120 to 80	Usual range for starting irrigations. Soil aeration is assured in this range. Starting irrigations in this range insures maintaining readily available soil moisture at all times.
Dry	Above 7000	Less than 4.0	Less than 80	This is the stress range. However, crop not necessarily damaged or yield reduced. Some soil moisture is available to the plant but is getting dangerously low for maximum production.

*Indicative of soil conditions where the electrical resistance block is located. Judgment should be used to correlate these readings to general crop conditions in the field.

Caution: D.C. ohm meters will not give accurate readings. The meter must be equipped with a modified wheatstone bridge A.C. current output.

- (2) Make a number of measurements at different resistivity readings.
- (3) Plot the data on graph paper.