

TABLE 1: INTERPRETATION CHART FOR SOIL MOISTURE

Soil Moisture Remaining	Very Light Texture	Light Texture	Medium Texture	Heavy and Very Texture
0%	Dry, loose, single-grained, flows through fingers.	Dry, loose, flows through fingers	Powdery, dry, sometimes slightly crusted but easily breaks down into powdery condition.	Hard baked, cracked, sometimes has loose crumbs on surface.
50 % or less	Still appears to be dry; will not form a ball with pressure.*	Still appears to be dry; will not form a ball.	Somewhat crumbly, but will hold together under pressure.	Somewhat pliable, from will form a ball under pressure.
50 to 75 %	Same as very light texture with 50 percent or less moisture.	Tends to form a ball under pressure but seldom will hold together	Forms a ball "somewhat plastic; will sometimes slick slightly with pressure."	Forms ball; will ribbon out between thumb and forefinger.
75% to field capacity	Tends to stick to together slightly, sometimes forms a very weak ball under pressure	Forms weak ball, breaks easily, will not slick.	Forms a ball and is very pliable; slicks readily if relatively high in clay content.	Easily ribbons out between fingers; has a slick feeling
At field capacity (100%)	Upon squeezing, no free water appears on soil but wet outline of ball is left on hand.	Same as very light texture.	Same as very light texture.	Same as very light texture.
Above field capacity	Free water appears when soil is bounced in hand.	Free water will be released with kneading.	Can squeeze out free water.	Puddles and free water form on surface.

* Ball is formed by squeezing a handful of soil very firmly with fingers.