



FROST PROBE INSTRUCTION MANUAL

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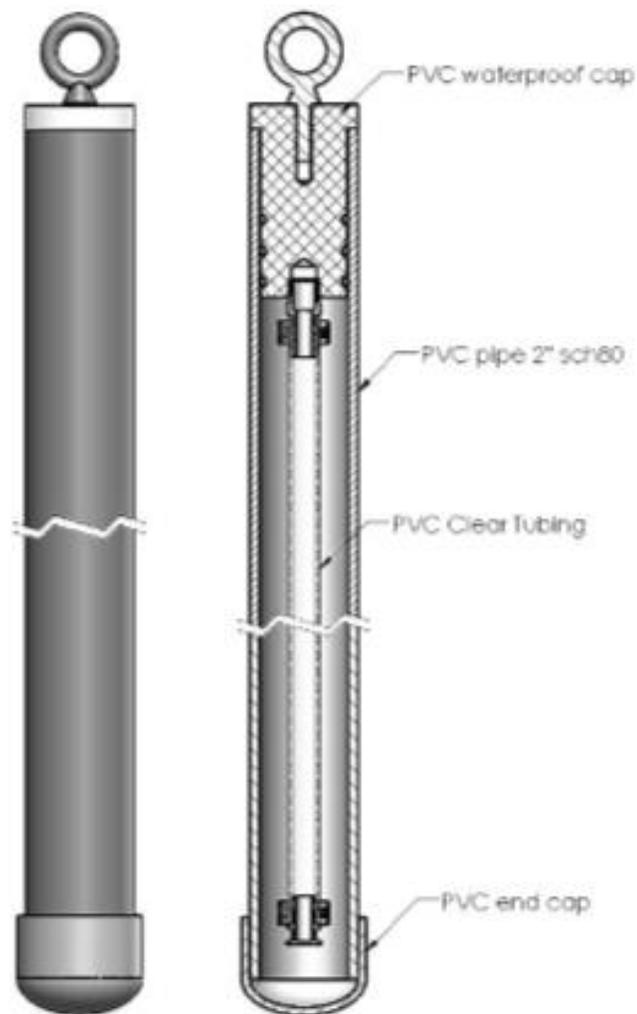
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1 EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION

The frost probe is a simple instrument used to measure frost and thaw depth in the soil. It gives data that is comparable to the data collected with other more sophisticated and expensive methods. However, the reading of the RocTest frost probe is easier and less expensive.

The frost probe is made of two concentric pipes installed in the ground vertically. The pipe envelope is closed at the bottom end and has a removable top cap. The inside tubing, or frost pipe, is made of clear PVC filled with a water and blue methylene solution.

When frost penetrates the ground, a separation occurs between the water solution, which becomes colorless when frozen, and blue methylene. Because of its low density, blue methylene tends to remain in the unfrozen section of the tube, where the concentrated solution is. This phenomenon is reversible as well, which means that it is possible to follow the frost and thaw evolution over time.



2 INSTALLATION

Installation should be done as follows:

1. Install the frost probe outer pvc pipe in the ground – typically in a borehole.
2. Fill up the annulus space between the pipe and the ground with grout or filling material
3. Make sure the PVC pipe is dry
4. Fill up the inner clear tube with the methylene blue mixture
5. Screw this tube to the water tight top plug
6. Put some o-ring grease on the o-rings located on the plug
7. Put the eyebolt on the plug
8. Lower the inner tube/plug assembly in the PVC pipe
9. The eyebolt can be removed

