



Water Infiltration Test

How long does it take for 1 inch of water to infiltrate your farm fields?

Materials: 6 inch diameter PVC pipe cut to 6 inch length. 3 inch mark.

Several 500 ml water bottles. Rubber mallet, wood block & stopwatch/timer.

Methods:

- Select an area of cropland, fencerow or pasture. (Avoid extreme wet or dry soils.) Clear the area of residue and trim the vegetation as close to the soil as possible without disturbing the soil.¹
- Push (or using a rubber mallet and block of wood) pound the PVC ring into the soil to the 3 inch mark.
- Gently firm the soil inside the edge of the ring with your finger to prevent preferential flow of water from gaps around the ring.
- Start timing as you dump 500ml water bottle inside ring. Stop timer when water is absorbed and surface glistens.
- Record your results below:

Date	Site description	Tillage method/Cover crop?	Time (Minutes:Seconds)

This is how long it will take for your soils to infiltrate 1 inch



Share your water infiltration rates with Dodge County Farmers for Healthy Soil-Healthy Water by calling:

Tony Peirick- Chair (920) 390-0583

Marty Weiss- Co-Chair (920) 296-4764

Kevin Voigt- Treasurer (920) 210-1646

Brendon Blank- Secretary (920) 285-4640

Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing - UW-Extension Advisor (920) 296-5293

More Info: www.Dodgecountyfarmers.com

¹ Testing for Soil Health, October 2017, NRCS.