

Bluelab Soil pH Meter - Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- DO READ THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL supplied with your Meter.
- Do rinse the pH probe after each use.
- Do wait for at least 4 minutes for the probe to take the soil pH measurement. Soil probes are slower to measure than solution pH probes!
- Do clean and calibrate the probe when;
 - a. The reading you were expecting is different
 - b. The probe is replaced with a new one
 - c. It has been a month since the last calibration
 - d. Typically more than 30 readings have taken place
 - e. The meter is reset after an error message
- Do calibrate the probe in fresh calibration solutions. Large bottles of calibration solution can be de-centered into a small container. This stops contamination of the solution.
- Do try and use the Bluelab calibration solutions to calibrate the pH. These come free with your Bluelab pH Meter, and larger bottle sizes are available from your retailer.
- Do calibrate the Meter using the pH7.0 first then the pH4.0 calibration solution.
- Do be gentle with the pH probe as they are glass and easily broken.
- Do replace the wetting cap filled with fresh water or pH 4.0 solution back over the tip of the pH probe when not in use, to stop the probe from drying out. This will prolong its life. **If it dries it dies!**
- Do insert the Dibber/Auger into the soil sample before inserting the pH probe to ensure no damage occurs to the glass probe tip.
- Do remove batteries if the Meter is to be stored for long periods of time.
- Do use alkaline batteries where possible.
- Do store in a clean dry place out of direct sunlight.

Don'ts

- Don't be rough with pH probe– it will break!
- Don't touch the pH probe tip with your fingers or you will contaminate the probe surface.
- Don't use de-ionized or distilled water in the wetting cap for the pH probe.
- Don't rinse the pH probe in de-ionized or distilled water
- Don't use rechargeable batteries.
- Don't submerge or drop the Bluelab pH Meter into any liquid as they are not waterproof – if you do drop it in, immediately remove the batteries and place in a dry warm place for 24 hours.
- Don't throw away your Instruction Manual – keep it in a safe place so you may refer back to it if needed. The cleaning and calibration instructions are in the manual and until you are very familiar with the procedures you should refer back to these to ensure you are carrying them out correctly.
- Don't open the meter as there are no user adjustments inside. This will void the guarantee.