

Digital Multi-Day Max/Min Soil Temperatures

Field Guide

Task

Measure the daily maximum and minimum soil temperatures, at depths of 5 cm and 50 cm, for the past six days.

What You Need

- A properly sited instrument shelter
- A properly calibrated and installed digital multi-day max/min thermometer
- Digital Multi-day Soil Thermometer Data Sheet*
- Pen or pencil
- An accurate watch or other device that tells time

In the Field

1. Maximum and minimum readings should be taken at least five minutes after your *time of reset*.
2. Open the instrument shelter and the cover flap of the digital max/min thermometer.
3. Record the time and date on your data sheet in both local and UT time.
Note: GLOBE data entry should be UT time.
4. Turn on the 5 cm temperature display of the thermometer by pressing the 5 cm display ON button (upper left button labeled 'ON').
5. Press the 5 cm sensor MAX button (middle left button labeled 'MAX') **twice**.
Note: The reading that appears after you press the 'MAX' button once is the highest temp that has occurred since the time of reset, and is not for a full 24-hour period. It should not be recorded.
6. You should see the 'MAX' symbol displayed on the digital display screen to the left of the temperature reading with the symbol 'D.1' displayed above. Record this temperature on your data sheet.
7. Press the 5 cm sensor MAX button again. The symbol 'D.2' should now be displayed in place of 'D.1'. Record the accompanying temperature on your Data sheet. Repeat this procedure to record data for as many of the past six days as needed.
8. To record minimum 5 cm temperatures repeat steps 5-7 pressing the 5 cm sensor MIN button (bottom left button labeled 'MIN') instead of the MAX button.
9. For the 50 cm temperatures, repeat the above steps using the 50 cm buttons on the right side and reading from the lower section of the display screen.
10. After all measurements have been taken, close the cover flap of the instrument. It will shut off automatically after a short time. Shut the instrument shelter.