Soil infiltration (soil water absorbing capacity)

- The soil should be dry (do not perform the test immediately after precipitation)
- Place the PVC tube over a free area of the closed topsoil (if necessary, remove superficial organic residues, such as plants or plant remains, WITHOUT destroying the soil cover)
- Slide the auger or the soil probe through the two holes on the PVC tube, so that it serves as a "turning lever"
- One person carefully steps up onto the PVC tube with one foot, while a second person carefully executes turning movements (left - right) on the "turning lever"
- As soon as the PVC tube has penetrated 10 cm into the soil and thus "seals" the soil, line the inside of the tube with the plastic bag
- Pour tap water into the PVC tube lined with the plastic bag, until a fill height of 10 cm is reached (this corresponds to precipitation of 100 l/m²)
- As soon as the stopwatch function on the smartphone or wristwatch has been activated, pull out the plastic bag COMPLETELY, so that the water can flow in
- Time the interval from commencement to complete infiltration
- As soon as all the water has infiltrated the soil, read the time on the stopwatch

With this test, a precipitation of 100 litres (i.e. 100 mm) per square meter is simulated. Conclusions can be drawn concerning the water absorbing capacity of the soil, depending on the duration of the infiltration.

Duration from commencement until complete infiltration:

< 10 minutes => sensational ☺, excellent water absorbing capacity

< 60 minutes => good water absorbing capacity

Over 1 hour => poor or weak water absorbing capacity

SOIL INFILTRATION