



Plastic Limit Device

Introduction

Easily repeatable mechanical technique produces consistent test results and saves time. Includes integral top plate/handle, one pad of 50 sheets of special adhesive backed paper to cover contact surfaces (paper will not introduce fibers into soil samples), and instructions. Rigid acrylic 8 x 4-1/2 x 1-1/4" (203 x 114 x 32mm). Meets ASTM D4318; AASHTO T90, TX DOT 105-E.

Preparation of the Plastic limit Device for Testing

Place one sheet of adhesive-backed Plastic Limit paper on the bottom plate and one on the top plate of the Plastic Limit Device.

Procedure

1. Reduce the water content of the soil to approximately the Plastic Limit (i.e. where the soil is non-sticky).
2. Select four to five 1.5 to 2g portions of soil.
3. Roll each portion of soil into an ellipsoidal mass.
4. Place each ellipsoidal mass about 1 to 1-1/2" apart on the bottom plate. See Figure 1.
6. When the top plate comes into contact with the 1/8" rail, check to see if the soil is at the Plastic Limit. For an example of the Plastic Limit, see Figure 2. (Be sure to check all Plastic Limit definitions with the procedure.)
Positions of Soil Portions on the Bottom Plate.
7. If the soil is not at the Plastic Limit, collect the threads and knead them together. Repeat Steps 2-6.
8. When the soil is at the Plastic Limit, push the threads to one side of the bottom plate and dump them into a tared container. Weigh immediately.

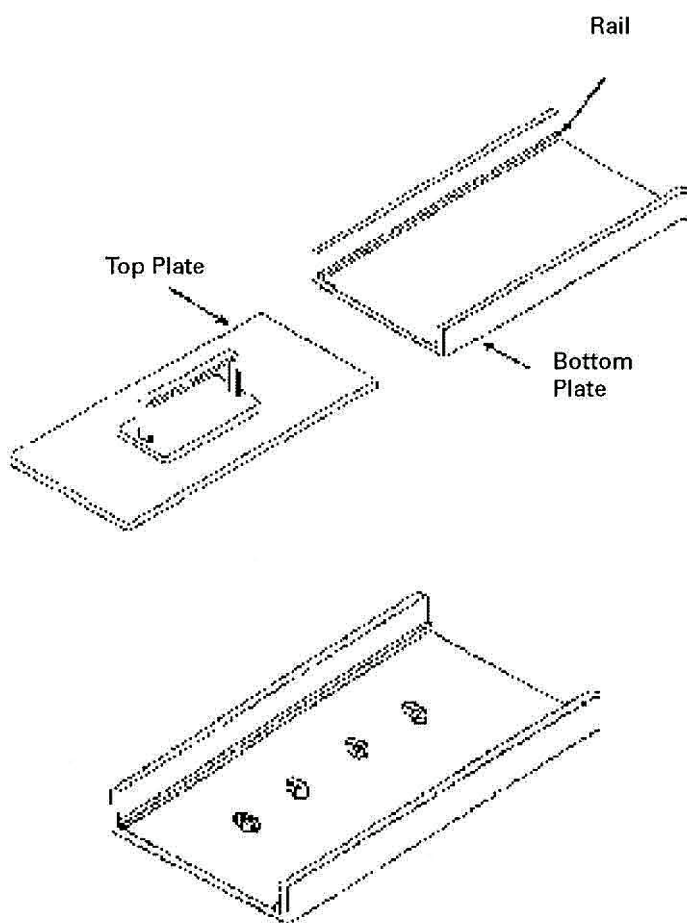


Fig. 1
Positions of Soil Portions on the Bottom Plate.



Fig. 2
A Clay Soil at the Plastic Limit.

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