

# NTS Water Stress Meter

**Infrared monitoring tool to identify plant water stress.**

Varying irrigation techniques are required in different soil types. Weather conditions also influence water requirements – for example, hot, dry conditions, increase leaf transpiration and therefore increase water demands. It is essential to monitor plant moisture levels to determine if modifications to the watering program are required. The NTS Water Stress Meter is an invaluable, convenient tool to quickly determine if a crop is water stressed.

## **BENEFITS**

- Quick, convenient in-field tool to accurately measure leaf surface temperature.
- A practical monitoring tool to adjust crop water supply for optimum production.

## **PACKAGING:**

185 mm x 127 mm x  
40 mm Blister Pack

**Weight:** 150 g

Product Code:  
METWS



**MONITORING  
METERS AND  
EQUIPMENT**



# NTS Water Stress Meter

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Press the trigger to turn on the meter. Point the NTS Water Stress Meter directly at a white sheet of paper (from around 30 cm distance) and press the trigger to record the “ambient” temperature.
- Repeat process to take the temperature of the plant leaf surface. Beam can be aimed at individual plants, or into a full canopy. See **Important** section for required testing conditions.
- Take multiple readings and then use these to calculate the average crop temperature.
- Calculate the temperature differential between the ambient temperature and the crop temperature.
- If a crop is water stressed, its temperature will be the same or higher than the ambient temperature.
- If a crop has sufficient water, it should be cooler than the ambient temperature (due to evaporative cooling via transpiration).

## IMPORTANT

- Plant leaf surface should be dry.
- Take readings during peak sunlight hours, in low wind conditions.
- If air temperature is much cooler than normal, water stress may not be reliably detected.
- Keep the sun behind you when taking readings.
- Avoid the beam measuring surrounding objects, e.g., soil, sky.
- Do not test immediately after watering, as an inaccurate water stress level may be identified.

## STORAGE & HANDLING

- Do not point the laser directly at eye or indirectly off reflective surfaces.
- Do not use near explosive gas, steam or dust.
- Store out of sunlight. Do not store on or near hot objects.

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