**WATER-HOLDING CAPACITY of SOIL**

**PURPOSE:** To determine how much water will be retained by a soil sample.

**MATERIALS:** Soil sample, drying oven, watch glass or crucible, electronic balance, Filter paper, funnel, and beaker

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Place filter paper in the funnel and place funnel in the beaker.
2. Place approximately 2 tablespoons of soil into the filter paper
3. Saturate the soil sample with water until it starts dripping out of the funnel.
4. Allow the dripping to stop and place the soil on a clean, **weighed**, watch glass or weighing paper.
5. Weigh the sample on a electronic balance.
6. Dry the samples in a drying oven or overnight in the green house until **completely dry**.
7. Weigh each sample again. Subtract the mass of the watch glass.

8) The water-holding capacity of a soil is calculated by:

WET MASS - DRY MASS X (100) = water-holding capacity