

# PLANT MOISTURE

## Use with grass and irregular stems

The Plant Moisture Vessel can be supplied a slit specimen holding adapter for the low pressure chamber head, to enable use of the instrument with small grasses. The blank rubber stem seals should have a slit cut in them for use with these.

The Blank rubber stem seals may also be specially shaped to suit irregularly shaped stems that may be dealt with frequently in one particular investigation. It may be found easiest to freeze the rubber with liquid nitrogen or solid CO<sub>2</sub> to make it possible to file it. Half round stems and those with flats on their circumference are best dealt with by this technique.

### High Pressure Chamber Head Suitable for Woody Samples

The slit must obviously go through the depth of the washer but should also be a part of a diameter, extending to within about 5mm of the edges. A sharp scalpel and a little detergent as a lubricant will help. Remove all traces of the lubricant before use under pressure.

If the rubber stem seal is squeezed so that the slit opens up, then the grass or flat stem may be inserted centrally in the slit. The lid may then be assembled and screwed onto the vessel base.

### Low Pressure Chamber Head Suitable for Fleshy Samples

Cut a slit right through the depth of the rubber stem seal, across the central diameter but not right to the edge. The seal should not be cut into 2 pieces, but still be joined at one side so that it can be gently opened like a 'mouth' to accept the grass. A sharp scalpel and a little detergent as a lubricant will help. Remove all traces of the lubricant before use under pressure.

