

PLANT MOISTURE

PMS and short petioles

It is difficult to seal a short petiole in the standard rubber stem seals supplied by Skye as these are 14 mm thick. It may be possible, with experimentation on your own specimens, to cut down the rubber seals so they are thinner, but this may cause further difficulties, for example, the rubber seal will be difficult to insert and remove from the chamber head, also the rubber may deform under pressure much easier and 'bulge' through the top aperture causing leakage.

Our suggestion is to seal on the next longest stem, further up the plant. This may mean introducing several leaves into the vessel, as shown below. Although you are now not strictly measuring the leaf potential, many users have found this the only reliable way to measure leaves with short petioles.

