

COMPARISON OF METHODS AVAILABLE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
SOIL ORGANIC MATTER

BY

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to compare methods available for the determination of soil organic matter. Three methods namely Walkley-Black, Tinsley and Loss on ignition were compared. The soil organic matter contents of four soils viz: forest soil, pasture land soil, bare land soil and soil obtained from the animal unit were determined. The accuracy of the methods was also tested by the recovery of the added glucose.

Statistical analysis of the results showed that Tinsley's method is superior to the other two methods. Loss on ignition gave higher values and is only suitable for non calcareous sandy soils. Walkley-Black method gave lower values, than Tinsley's method. It could be concluded that Tinsley's method is most suitable for the determination of soil organic matter for soils in the Eastern region.

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