

# SoilSense

## Soil moisture sensor buying checklist

Ten things to check before you buy a soil moisture sensor. The sensing technology, probe design, calibration, connectivity, installation depth and pricing all decide whether the data is genuinely usable on your farm. Score each system you are comparing against all ten criteria below, then ask every vendor for a written answer.

#	THE QUESTION	WHAT A STRONG ANSWER SOUNDS LIKE	YOUR CURRENT SYSTEM
1	<b>Sensor physics</b>	TDR/TDT class, with a published field-accuracy band — not just "high accuracy".	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<b>Probe geometry</b>	Buried in undisturbed soil, so water can't channel down the device's casing.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<b>Auto-calibration</b>	Field capacity and refill point learned from your field's own history.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<b>Connectivity</b>	Direct cellular — no separate gateway to install, power, and maintain.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	<b>Installation</b>	Push-in, about 10 minutes per site, no auger, drill, or dealer visit.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	<b>Sensor breadth</b>	Moisture, soil temperature, EC, and rainfall on one device.	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	<b>Depth range</b>	Configurable placement, including below 30 cm for trees and vines.	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	<b>App clarity</b>	A plain "should I irrigate today?" answer, not a raw graph to interpret.	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	<b>Pricing</b>	Public and per-device — no "contact sales" quote dance.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	<b>Trial</b>	A genuine money-back trial of at least 30 days.	<input type="checkbox"/>