

# HOBO® MX Soil Moisture (MX2306) and MX Soil Moisture and Temperature (MX2307) Data Logger Manual



MX2307 Model Shown

The HOBO MX Soil Moisture (MX2306) and HOBO MX Soil Moisture and Temperature (MX2307) data loggers measure soil moisture and temperature in numerous soil types, including high salinity and sandy soil. These Bluetooth®-enabled loggers are designed for wireless communication with a phone, tablet, or computer. Using the HOBObconnect® app, the user can easily configure the logger and then download logged data to view or export for further analysis. The loggers can calculate minimum, maximum, average, and standard deviation statistics and be configured to indicate alarms at user-specified thresholds. The loggers also support burst logging, in which data is logged at a faster interval when sensor readings are above or below certain limits.

## HOBO MX2306 and MX2307 Data Loggers

### Models:

- Soil Moisture (MX2306)
- Soil Moisture and Temperature (MX2307)

### Included Items:

- Screws
- Cable ties

### Required Items:

- HOBObconnect app
- Mobile device with Bluetooth and iOS, iPadOS®, or Android™, or a Windows computer with a native BLE adapter or supported BLE dongle

### Accessories (sold separately):

- Solar radiation shield (RS3-B for use with MX2307)
- Soil moisture verification clip (TEROS-CLIP)
- Replacement battery (HRB-2/3AA)

## Specifications

<b>Measurement Range (select one at configuration)</b>	0.00 to 0.64 m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> VWC in mineral soils 0.00 to 0.70 m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> VWC in soilless media Apparent Dielectric Permittivity: 1 (air) to 80 (water)
<b>Accuracy *</b>	±0.031 m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> typical in mineral soils that have solution EC <8 dS/m ±0.051 m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> typical in soilless media Apparent Dielectric Permittivity: +/- 1 Εa for the range 1 to 40 (soil range); +/-15% for over 40
<b>Resolution</b>	0.001 m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> Apparent Dielectric Permittivity: 0.1 Εa
<b>Dielectric Measurement Frequency</b>	70 MHz
<b>Volume of Influence</b>	430 ml
<b>Percent of Field Capacity (for VWC measurements only)</b>	Range: 0 to 200% Resolution: 0.1%
<b>Temperature Sensor (MX2307)</b>	
<b>Range</b>	-40 to 100°C (-40 to 212°F), with tip and cable immersion in fresh water up to 50°C (122°F) for one year
<b>Accuracy</b>	±0.25°C from -40 to 0°C (±0.45 from -40 to 32°F) ±0.2°C from 0 to 70°C (±0.36 from 32 to 158°F) ±0.25°C from 70 to 100°C (±0.45 from 158 to 212°F)
<b>Resolution</b>	0.04°C (0.072°F)
<b>Drift</b>	<0.01°C (0.018°F) per year
<b>Response Time</b>	3 minutes in air moving 1 m/s; 20 seconds in stirred water 4 minutes in air moving 1 m/s with RS3-B Solar Radiation Shield
<b>Logger</b>	
<b>Operating Range</b>	-25° to 60°C (-13° to 140°F)
<b>Radio Power</b>	1 mW (0 dBm)
<b>Transmission Range</b>	Approximately 30.5 m (100 ft) line-of-sight
<b>Wireless Data Standard</b>	Bluetooth Low Energy (Bluetooth Smart)
<b>Logging Rate</b>	1 second to 18 hours
<b>Logging Modes</b>	Fixed interval (normal, statistics) or burst
<b>Memory Modes</b>	Wrap when full or stop when full
<b>Start Modes</b>	Immediate, push button, date & time, or next interval
<b>Stop Modes</b>	When memory full, push button, date & time, or after a set logging period

<b>Time Accuracy</b>	±1 minute per month 0° to 50°C (32° to 122°F)
<b>Battery Type</b>	2/3 AA 3.6 Volt lithium, user replaceable
<b>Battery Life</b>	2 years, typical with logging interval of 1 minute and Bluetooth Always On enabled; 5 years, typical with logging interval of 1 minute and Bluetooth Always On disabled. Faster logging intervals and statistics sampling intervals, burst logging, remaining connected with the app, excessive downloads, and paging may impact battery life.
<b>Memory</b>	110,000 measurements, maximum (472 KB)
<b>Full Memory Download Time</b>	Approximately 60 seconds; may take longer the further the device is from the logger
<b>Dimensions</b>	Logger housing: 10.8 x 5.08 x 2.24 cm (4.25 x 2.0 x 0.88 in.) Soil moisture sensor: 7.5 x 5.1 x 2.4 cm (2.95 x 2.02 x 0.95 inches) Soil moisture sensor needle length: 5.4 cm (2.13 inches) Soil moisture sensor needle diameter: 0.32 cm (0.13 inches) Temperature sensor (MX2307) diameter: 0.53 cm (0.21 in.) Sensor cable length: 2 m (6.56 ft)
<b>Weight</b>	MX2306: 229 g (80 oz) MX2307: 267 g (94 oz)
<b>Materials</b>	Logger: Acetal, silicone gasket, stainless-steel screws Soil Moisture Sensor: ASA plastic body with polyurethane epoxy filling and stainless-steel pins Temperature Sensor (MX2307): Stainless-steel waterproof tip Cable: PVC, UV resistant and rodent repellent (soil moisture sensor cable)
<b>Environmental Rating</b>	Logger: -25 to 60°C (-13 to 140°F); weatherproof; NEMA 6 and IP67 Soil Moisture sensor and cable: -40 to 60°C (-40 to 140°F) Temperature sensor and cable (MX2307): Immersion in water up to 50°C (122°F) for 1 year
<b>CE</b>	The CE Marking identifies this product as complying with all relevant directives in the European Union (EU).
<b>UK CA</b>	The UKCA marking identifies this product as complying with all relevant directives in the UK Declaration of Conformity.
<b>FC</b>	See last page

\*For additional accuracy, the sensor data can be post-calibrated for a particular soil by applying a calibration equation to the data exported from the app.

## Logger Components and Operation



MX2307 model shown

**Mounting Holes:** Use the holes at the top and bottom of the logger to mount it (see *Deploying and Mounting the Logger*).

**Alarm LED:** This LED blinks red every 4 seconds when an alarm is tripped (unless Show LED is disabled as described in *Configuring the Logger*).

**Status LED:** This LED blinks blue every 4 seconds when the logger is logging (unless Show LED is disabled as described in *Configuring the Logger*). If the logger is waiting to start logging because it was configured to start “On Button Push” or with a delayed start, it will blink every 8 seconds.

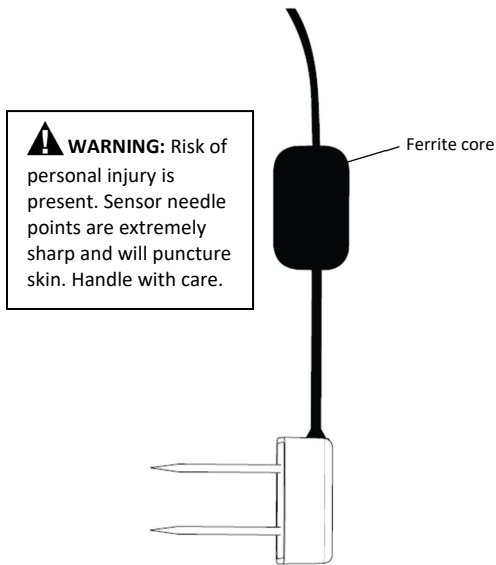
**Start Button:** Press this button to wake up the logger; both the alarm and status LEDs will blink. Once the logger is awake, press this button to move it to the top of the devices list in the app. Press this button for 3 seconds to start or stop the logger when it is configured to start or stop “On Button Push” (see *Configuring the Logger*). Both LEDs will blink four times when you press the button to start or stop logging. Press this button for 10 seconds to reset a password (see *Setting a Password*).

**External Sensor:** This is the soil moisture (and temperature sensor in MX2307 model) attached to the bottom of the logger.

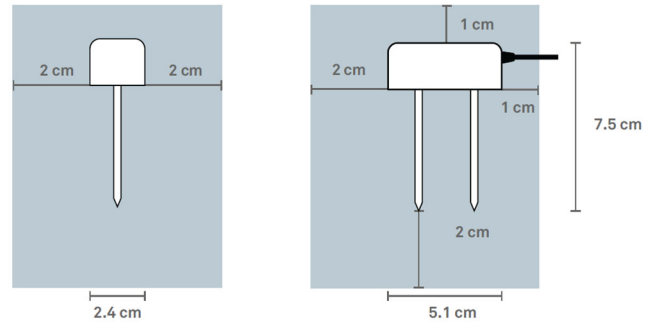
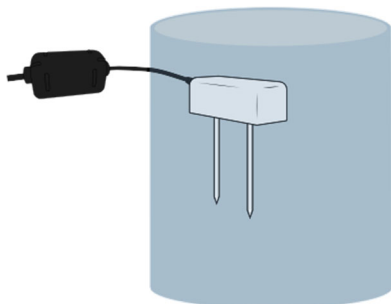
## Soil Moisture Sensor Components and Operation

The soil moisture sensor measures the volumetric water content (VWC) of soil using stainless-steel needles. A ferrite core positioned on the sensor cable 7.6 cm (3 inches) away from the sensor head is used to isolate the sensor from any interferences in the system. This mitigates any potential noise from the system on the measured sensor data.

**Important:** Do not attach anything to the section of the cable between the sensor head and the ferrite core as this may influence the measurements.



The VWC measurement sensitivity is contained within a 430 mL volume roughly depicted in the following figures. Note that the sensor is most sensitive to the moisture in the area closest to the needles, so it is critical that there are no air gaps around the needles.



## Downloading the App and Connecting to a Logger

Install the app to connect to and work with the logger.








1. Download HOBObconnect to a phone or tablet from the App Store® or Google Play™.  
Download the app to a Windows computer from [www.onsetcomp.com/products/software/hobobconnect](http://www.onsetcomp.com/products/software/hobobconnect).
2. Open the app and enable Bluetooth in the device settings if prompted.
3. Press the button on the logger to wake it up.
4. Tap Devices and then tap the logger in the app to connect to it.

If the logger does not appear or if it is having trouble connecting, follow these tips:


- Make sure the logger is “awake” by pressing the start button. The alarm and status LEDs will blink once when the logger wakes up. You can also press the button a second time to bring the logger to the top of the list if working with multiple loggers.
- Make sure the logger is within range of the mobile device or computer. The range for successful wireless communication is approximately 30.5 m (100 ft) with full line-of-sight.
- If there are several loggers in the area, move the logger to a location with fewer loggers. Interference can sometimes occur when numerous loggers are in one location.
- If your device can connect to the logger intermittently or loses its connection, move closer to the logger, within sight if possible.
- If the logger appears in the app, but cannot be connected, close the app and then power down the device to force the previous Bluetooth connection to close.

Once the logger is connected, you can:

Tap this:	To do this:
	Select logger settings and save them onto the logger to start logging. See <i>Configuring the Logger</i> .
	Read out (offload) logger data. See <i>Reading Out the Logger</i> .


Tap this:	To do this:
	Start logging if the logger was configured to start with a button push. See <i>Configuring the Logger</i> .
	Stop the logger from recording data (this overrides any Stop Logging settings described in <i>Configuring the Logger</i> ).
	Illuminate the logger LEDs for 4 seconds.
	Set a logger password that will be required if another mobile device attempts to connect to it. To reset a password, press the button on the logger for 10 seconds or tap  and tap Reset.
	Mark the logger as a favorite. You can then filter the list of devices to only show loggers marked as favorites.
	Update the firmware on the logger. A logger readout will be completed automatically at the beginning of the firmware update process

**Important:** Before updating the firmware on the logger, check the remaining battery level and make sure it is no less than 30%. Make sure you have the time to complete the entire update process, which requires that the logger remains connected to the device during the upgrade.

**Note:** Tapping this icon  is only required when using the app on an iPhone®, iPad®, or Android device.

## Configuring the Logger

Use the app to set up the logger, including selecting the logging options, configuring alarms, and other settings. These steps provide an overview of setting up the logger. For complete details, see the app user’s guide.

1. Press the button on the logger to wake it up.
2. In the app, tap Devices and tap the logger in the app to connect to it. If you are working with multiple loggers, you can press the button on the logger a second time to bring it to the top of the list.
3. Tap  to configure the logger.
4. Tap Name and type a name for the logger (optional). If no name is selected, the logger serial number is used as the name.
5. Tap Group to add the logger to a group (optional). Tap Save.
6. Tap Logging Interval and choose how frequently the logger will record data unless operating in burst logging mode (see *Burst Logging*). **Note:** If an alarm is configured, the logger will use the logging interval that was selected as the rate to check for alarm conditions (alarms are not available if burst logging is configured). See *Setting up Alarms* for more details.
7. Tap Start Logging and select when logging will begin:

- **Now.** Logging will begin immediately after configuration settings are loaded on the logger. The data will start with this indetermined time and at the selected logging interval from there.
- **On Next Logging Interval.** This is the most common start option. Logging will begin at the next even interval as determined by the selected logging interval. For example, if a 10-minute interval is selected, the data will start at the next even 10-minute time.
- **On Button Push.** Logging will begin once the button on the logger is pressed for 3 seconds.
- **On Date/Time.** Logging will begin on a date and time you specify. Select the date and time.

Tap Save.

8. Tap Stop Logging and select the options for when logging will end.
  - a. Choose one of two memory options:
    - **When Memory Fills.** The logger will continue recording data until the memory is full.
    - **Never (Wrap When Full).** The logger will continue recording data indefinitely, with newest data overwriting the oldest. This option is not available if the Logging Mode is set to Burst (see *Burst Logging*).
  - b. Select On Button Push to be able to stop logging by pushing the button on the logger for 3 seconds.
  - c. Select one of the following time options for when to stop logging:
    - **Never.** Select this if you do not want to stop the logger at any predetermined time frame.
    - **On Date/Time.** Select this if you want the logger to stop logging on a specific date and time. Select the date and time.
    - **After.** Select this to control how long the logger should continue logging once it starts. Choose the amount of time the logger will log data. For example, select 30 days if you want the logger to log data for 30 days after logging begins.
  - d. Tap Save.
9. Tap Logging Mode. Select either fixed or burst logging. With fixed logging, the logger records data for all enabled sensors and/or selected statistics at the logging interval selected (see *Statistics Logging* for details on choosing statistics options). In burst mode, logging occurs at a different interval when a specified condition is met. See *Burst Logging* for more information. Tap Save.
10. Enable or disable Show LED. If Show LED is disabled, the alarm and status LEDs on the logger will not be illuminated while logging (the alarm LED will not blink if an alarm trips). You can temporarily turn on LEDs when Show LED is disabled by pressing the button on the logger for 1 second.
11. Enable or disable Bluetooth Always On. If Bluetooth Always On is enabled, the logger will “advertise” or regularly send out a Bluetooth signal for the phone, tablet, or computer to find via the app while it is logging, which uses battery power. When Bluetooth Always On is disabled, the logger will only advertise during logging when the button on the

logger is pressed to wake it up, thereby preserving as much battery power as possible.


#### 12. Select Soil Type:

- Mineral – for common soils, with EC values up to 8 dS/m.
- Soilless – for potting soils, perlite, and peat moss with EC values up to 8 dS/m.
- Apparent Dielectric Permittivity – raw measurements that can be used in published equations such as the Topp equation to derive soil moisture data.

13. Enable or disable Percent of Field Capacity – To see soil moisture as the percent of field capacity, enable this and enter the field capacity for the soil at the site in Volumetric Water Content on a scale of 0.01 to 1.00. Note that the Percent of Field Capacity values reported will be limited to the range of 0% to 200%. If you selected Apparent Dielectric Permittivity as your soil type, the option for Percent of Field Capacity is disabled.

14. Select whether to upload data via the HOBOnnect app or the MX Gateway. Using the MX Gateway requires a HOBOLink account.


15. Enable/Disable the sensors that will be logged (MX2307 model) and set up any alarms to trip when a sensor reading rises above or falls below a specified value. See *Setting up Alarms* for details on enabling sensor alarms. Note that for the MX2307, temperature is shown as channel 3. This is because channel 2 is reserved for Apparent Dielectric Permittivity, if that is selected.

16.  Tap to save the configuration settings, and start logging based on the settings you selected. Press the start button on the logger if it was set up to start logging with a button push. See *Deploying and Mounting the Logger* for details on mounting and see *Reading Out the Logger* for details on downloading.

## Setting up Alarms

You can set up alarms for the logger so that if a sensor reading rises above or falls below a specified value, the logger alarm LED will blink and an alarm icon will appear in the app. This can alert you to problems so you can take corrective action.

To set an alarm:

1. Tap Devices. Press the button on the logger to wake it up (if necessary).
2. Tap the logger in the app to connect to it and tap .
3. Tap a sensor (tap the Enable Logging toggle if necessary).
4. Select High if you want an alarm to trip when the sensor reading rises above the high alarm value. Drag the slider or type a value to set the high alarm value.
5. Select Low if you want an alarm to trip when the sensor reading falls below the low alarm value. Drag the slider or type a value to set the low alarm value.
6. For the Duration, select how much time should elapse before the alarm trips, and select one of the following:
  - Cumulative. The alarm will trip once the sensor reading is out of the acceptable range for the selected duration any time during logging. For example, if the low alarm is set

to 0.05 m<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>3</sup> for a soil moisture alarm and the duration is set to 30 minutes, the alarm will trip once the sensor readings have been below 0.05 m<sup>3</sup>/m for a total of 30 minutes since the logger was started.

- Consecutive. The alarm will trip once the sensor reading is out of the acceptable range continuously for the selected duration. For example, if the low alarm is set to 0.05 m<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>3</sup> for a soil moisture alarm and the duration is set to 30 minutes, the alarm will only trip if all sensor readings have been below 0.05 m<sup>3</sup>/m for a continuous 30-minute period.

7. Tap Save. For MX2307 models, repeat steps 3–7 for the other sensor if desired.

8. In the configuration settings, select one of the following options to determine how the alarm indications are cleared:

- **Logger Reconfigured.** The alarm icon indication will display until the next time the logger is reconfigured.
- **Sensor in Limits.** The alarm icon indication will display until the sensor reading returns to the normal range between any configured high and low alarm limits.

When an alarm trips, the logger alarm LED blinks every 4 seconds (unless Show LED is disabled), an alarm icon appears in the app, and an Alarm Tripped event is logged. The alarm state will clear when the readings return to normal if Sensor in Limits was selected in step 8. Otherwise, the alarm state will remain in place until the logger is reconfigured.


#### Notes:

- Alarm limits are checked at every logging interval. For example, if the logging interval is set to 5 minutes, the logger will check the sensor readings against the configured high and low alarm setting every 5 minutes.
- The actual values for the high and low alarm limits are set to the closest value supported by the logger. In addition, alarms can trip or clear when the sensor reading is within the resolution specifications.
- When reading out the logger, alarm events can be displayed on the plot or in the data file. See *Logger Events*.

## Burst Logging

Burst logging is a logging mode that allows you to set up more frequent logging when a specified condition is met. For example, an MX2307 logger is recording data at a 5-minute logging interval and burst logging is configured to log every 30 seconds when the temperature rises above 85°F (the high limit) or falls below 32°F (the low limit). This means the logger will record data every 5 minutes as long as the temperature remains between 85°F and 32°F. Once the temperature rises above 85°F, the logger will switch to the faster logging rate and record data every 30 seconds until the temperature falls back to 85°F. At that time, logging resumes every 5 minutes at the normal logging interval. Similarly, if the temperature falls below 32°F, the logger would switch to burst logging mode again and record data every 30 seconds. Once the temperature rises back to 32°F, the logger will return to normal mode, logging every 5 minutes. **Note:** Sensor alarms, statistics, and the Stop Logging option “Wrap When Full” are not available in burst logging mode.

To set up burst logging:

1. Tap Devices. Press the button on the logger to wake it up (if necessary).
2. Tap the logger in the app to connect to it and tap .
3. Tap Logging Mode and then tap Burst Logging.
4. Select Low and/or High and either type or drag the slider to set the low and/or high values.
5. Repeat step 4 for the other sensor if desired.
6. Set the burst logging interval, which must be faster than the logging interval. Keep in mind that the faster the burst logging rate, the greater the impact on battery life and the shorter the logging duration. Because measurements are being taken at the burst logging interval throughout the deployment, the battery usage is similar to what it would be if you had selected this rate for the normal logging interval.
7. Tap Save.

#### Notes:

- The high and low burst limits are checked at the burst logging interval rate whether the logger is in normal or burst condition. For example, if the logging interval is set to 1 hour and the burst logging interval is set to 10 minutes, the logger will always check for burst limits every 10 minutes.
- If high and/or low limits have been configured for more than one sensor, burst logging will begin when any high or low condition goes out of range. Burst logging will not end until all conditions on all sensors are back within normal range.
- The actual values for the burst logging limits are set to the closest value supported by the logger.
- Burst logging can begin or end when the sensor reading is within the resolution specifications. This means the value that triggers burst logging may differ slightly than the value entered.
- Once the high or low condition clears, the logging interval time will be calculated using the last recorded data point in burst logging mode, not the last data point recorded at the normal logging rate. For example, the logger has a 10-minute logging interval and logged a data point at 9:05. Then, the high limit was surpassed and burst logging began at 9:06. Burst logging then continued until 9:12 when the sensor reading fell back below the high limit. Now back in normal mode, the next logging interval will be 10 minutes from the last burst logging point, or 9:22 in this case. If burst logging had not occurred, the next data point would have been at 9:15.
- A New Interval event is created each time the logger enters or exits burst logging mode. See *Logger Events* for details on plotting and viewing the event. In addition, if the logger is stopped with a button push while in burst logging mode, a New Interval event is automatically logged and the burst condition is cleared, even if the actual high or low condition has not cleared.

## Statistics Logging


During fixed logging, the logger records data for enabled sensors and/or selected statistics at the logging interval

selected. Statistics are calculated at a sampling rate you specify with the results for the sampling period recorded at each logging interval. The following statistics can be logged for each sensor:

- The maximum, or highest, sampled value
- The minimum, or lowest, sampled value
- An average of all sampled values
- The standard deviation from the average for all sampled values.

For example, an MX2307 logger is configured with both the soil moisture and temperature sensors enabled, and the logging interval is set to 5 minutes. The logging mode is set to fixed logging with Normal and all four statistics enabled and with a statistics sampling interval of 30 seconds. Once logging begins, the logger will measure and record the actual soil moisture and temperature sensor values every 5 minutes. In addition, the logger will take a soil moisture and temperature sample every 30 seconds and temporarily store them in memory. The logger will then calculate the maximum, minimum, average, and standard deviation using the samples gathered over the previous 5-minute period and log the resulting values. When reading out the logger, this would result in 10 data series: two sensor series (with soil moisture and temperature logged every 5 minutes) plus eight maximum, minimum, average, and standard deviation series (four for soil moisture and four for temperature with values calculated and logged every 5 minutes based on the 30-second sampling).

To log statistics:



1. Tap Devices. Press the button on the logger to wake it up (if necessary).
2. Tap the logger in the app to connect to it and tap .
3. Tap Logging Mode and then select Fixed Logging.
4. Select Normal to record the current reading for each enabled sensor at the logging interval shown at the top of the screen. Do not select this if you only want to log statistics.
5. Select the statistics you want the logger to record at each logging interval: Maximum, Minimum, Average, and Standard Deviation (average is automatically enabled when selecting Standard Deviation). Statistics will be logged for all enabled sensors. In addition, the more statistics you record, the shorter the logger duration and the more memory is required.
6. Tap Statistics Sampling Interval and select the rate to use for calculating statistics. The rate must be less than, and a factor of, the logging interval. For example, if the logging interval is 1 minute and 5 seconds was selected for the sampling rate, the logger will take 12 sample readings between each logging interval (one sample every 5 seconds for a minute) and use the 12 samples to record the resulting statistics at each 1-minute logging interval. Note that the faster the sampling rate, the greater the impact on battery life. Because measurements are being taken at the statistics sampling interval throughout the deployment, the battery usage is similar to what it would be if you had selected this rate for the normal logging interval.
7. Tap Save.

## Setting a Password

You can create an encrypted password for the logger that will be required if another device attempts to connect to it. This is recommended to ensure that a deployed logger is not mistakenly stopped or purposely altered by others. This password uses a proprietary encryption algorithm that changes with every connection.



To set a password:

1. Tap Devices. Press the button on the logger to wake it up (if necessary). Tap the logger in the app to connect to it.

2. Tap  (if applicable) and then .




3. Type a password and then tap Set.

Only the device used to set the password can then connect to the logger without entering a password; all other devices will be required to enter the password. For example, if you set the password for the logger with your tablet and then try to connect to the logger later with your phone, you will be required to enter the password on the phone but not with your tablet. Similarly, if others attempt to connect to the logger with different devices, they would also be required to enter the password. To reset a password, press the button on the logger

for 10 seconds or connect to the logger and tap  (if applicable), then , and tap Reset.

## Reading Out the Logger

To offload data from the logger:



1. Tap Devices. Press the button on the logger to wake it up (if necessary).
2. Tap the logger in the app to connect to it and tap . The logger will read out the data to the phone, tablet, or computer.
3. Once the readout is complete, tap HOBOLink and select the file to view it. Tap  (if applicable) and tap  to export the data.

Data can also be uploaded automatically to HOBOLink, Onset's web-based software, via the app or the MX gateway. For details, see the app user's guide and see the HOBOLink help for details on working with data in HOBOLink.

## Logger Events

The logger records the following internal events to track logger operation and status. You can view events in exported files or plot events in the app.

To plot events, tap HOBOLink and select a file to open.

Tap  (if applicable) and then tap . Select the events you want to plot and tap OK.

Internal Event Name	Definition
Host Connected	The logger was connected to the mobile device.
Started	The logger started logging.

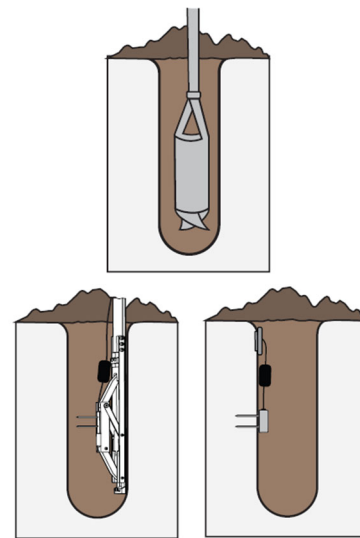
Internal Event Name	Definition
Stopped	The logger stopped logging.
Alarm Tripped/Cleared	An alarm has occurred because the reading was outside the alarm limits or back within range. <b>Note:</b> Although the reading may have returned to a normal range during logging, an alarm cleared event will not be logged if the logger was set up to maintain alarms until reconfigured.
New Interval	The logger has switched to logging at the burst logging rate or back to the normal rate.
Safe Shutdown	The battery level dropped below a safe operating voltage and the logger performed a safe shutdown.

## Installing the Soil Moisture Sensor

There are two installation methods for installing the soil moisture sensor: borehole or trench.

### Borehole Installation Method

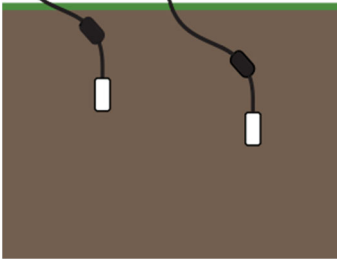
This method allows for a profile of soil moisture sensors to be installed at different depths within a single augered borehole, thereby minimizing soil disturbance at the measurement site. A 10-cm (4-inch) borehole is augered vertically at the measurement location. You can then carefully insert and place the sensor by hand or buy or rent the Borehole Installation Tool from Meter (recommended for depths greater than 50 cm (19.7 inches). Email Meter at [info@metergroup.com](mailto:info@metergroup.com) (North America) or [info.europe@metergroup.com](mailto:info.europe@metergroup.com) (Europe) for details on buying or renting the tool.



If installing the sensor without the Borehole Installation Tool, look down the hole with a flashlight, reach in with the sensor and push it into to the side of the undisturbed soil. Look down the hole again and make sure it is firmly seated. You can also consider attaching the sensor to PVC piping or similar material to aid in placing the sensor. You can then use the PVC as a lever to assist with pushing the sensor into the undisturbed soil.

### Trench Installation Method

This method is best for shallow installations at less than 40 cm (15.7 inches). This requires digging a trench with a shovel, excavator, or other tool to the depth of the deepest installed sensor (if installing more than one in the measurement location). For deep installations, this may require a large trench. The sensor is then installed carefully by hand into the undisturbed soil of the trench sidewall. The trench is carefully backfilled to preserve the bulk density of the soil and avoid dislodging the installed sensor by accidentally snagging the ferrite core.



### Sensor Installation Guidelines

Before installing the sensor, follow these guidelines:

- Test the sensor functionality and accuracy using the TEROS verification clip. With the verification clip attached, the readings should be in the range of 0.35 to 0.42 m<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>3</sup>. Refer to the TEROS verification clip documentation for more information. If you do not have a verification clip, you can perform a rough check of sensor functionality in air and water. The sensor will produce readings of ~0.64 m<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>3</sup> in water (sensor fully submerged in water to 1 cm up cable) and slightly negative in air. Use HOBOnnect to export or view the data for your test.
- When creating the hole to install the sensor, avoid interfering objects. Installation near large metal objects can affect the sensor function and distort readings. Large objects like roots or rocks could potentially bend the needles.
- The sensor may be positioned in any direction. However, there is less restriction to water flow when the sensor body is placed in a vertical position as shown below. A vertical position will also integrate more soil depth into the soil moisture measurement. Installing the sensor with the sensor body in a horizontal position will provide measurements at a more discreet depth.



- Avoid any metal located between the sensor and the ferrite core because it can interfere with VWC measurements.
- When installing sensors in rocky soils, use care to avoid bending sensor needles.
- Minimize air gaps around the sensor. Air gaps around the sensor needles will result in low readings of soil moisture.
- Use conduit to protect the cable against damage from animals, lawn mowers, exposure to chemicals, etc.
- Secure any loose cables with cable ties.

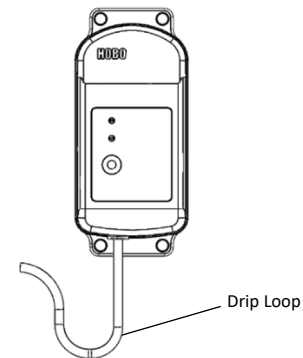
### Sensor Installation Instructions

1. Auger or dig a hole to the desired sensor depth.
2. Carefully insert the sensor in the hole and push the sensor so that the needles are inserted into the undisturbed side of the soil. Check that the sensor is firmly seated.
3. If using the temperature sensor for soil temperature, insert that into the side of the hole, at least 2 cm (1 inch) from the soil moisture sensor and ferrite core.
4. Secure the cable(s) and install conduit before backfilling the hole.
5. Carefully return the soil to the hole, packing it back to its native bulk density. Do not hit the ferrite core as this could pull the sensor from the soil.
6. If using the MX2307 logger for air temperature, a solar radiation shield is required if the temperature sensor will be in sunlight at any time. (See Accessories)

### Deploying and Mounting the Logger

Follow these guidelines when deploying the logger:

- Mount the logger so the sensor cable is not being pulled. Leave about 5 cm (2 inches) of drip loop in the cable where it comes out of the logger to prevent water from entering the logger housing.



- Use the included large screws or cable ties to mount the logger via the mounting holes. Use the screws to attach the logger to a wall or flat surface. Use the cable ties to affix the logger to a PVC pipe or mast.

### Protecting the Logger

**Note: Static electricity may cause the logger to stop logging.** The logger has been tested to 8 KV, but avoid electrostatic discharge by grounding yourself to protect the logger. For more information, search for “static discharge” on onsetcomp.com.



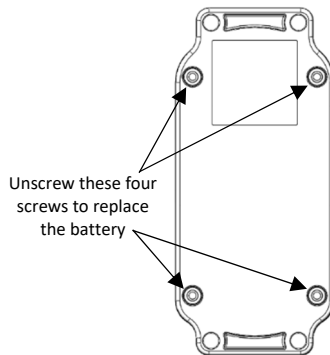
## Maintenance

To clean the soil moisture sensor and needles, use a mild detergent, such as liquid dish soap, and a nonabrasive sponge or cloth. Avoid detergents that contain lotions or moisturizers. Rinse the sensor and needles thoroughly with tap or deionized (DI) water. The logger is designed for outdoor use, but should be inspected periodically. Wipe off any dust or grime with a damp cloth.

## Troubleshooting

If the soil moisture sensor readings are too low or slightly negative, check for air gaps around the sensor needles. These could be produced below the surface of the substrate when the needle contacts a large piece of material and pushes it out of the way, or if the sensor is not inserted perfectly linearly.

If the sensor readings are too high, make sure the media was not packed excessively or insufficiently during sensor



installation. Higher density can cause the sensor readings to be elevated.

## Battery Information

The logger requires one user-replaceable 2/3 AA 3.6 V lithium battery (HRB-2/3AA). Battery life is 2 years, typical with a logging interval of 1 minute, but may be extended to 5 years when the logger is configured with Bluetooth Always On disabled. Expected battery life varies based on the ambient temperature where the logger is deployed, the logging or sampling interval, frequency of offloading and connecting to the mobile device, number of channels that are active, and use of burst mode or statistics logging. Deployments in extremely cold or hot temperatures or logging interval faster than 1 minute can impact battery life. Estimates are not guaranteed due to uncertainties in initial battery conditions and operating environment.

## Battery Replacement

1. Use a Phillips-head screwdriver to unscrew the four screws from the back of the logger.
2. Carefully separate the top and bottom of the logger enclosure.
3. Remove the old battery and insert the new battery observing polarity. It is recommended that you replace the desiccant (DESICCANT2) when replacing the battery.
4. Make sure the rubber seal is clean and free of any debris and then carefully reassemble the logger enclosure and screw in the four screws.

**WARNING:** Do not cut open, incinerate, heat above 85°C (185°F), or recharge the lithium battery. The battery may explode if the logger is exposed to extreme heat or conditions that could damage or destroy the battery case. Do not dispose of the logger or battery in fire. Do not expose the contents of the battery to water. Dispose of the battery according to local regulations for lithium batteries.

### Federal Communication Commission Interference Statement

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

**FCC Caution:** Any changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate this equipment.

### Industry Canada Statements

This device complies with Industry Canada license-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

### Avis de conformité pour l'Industrie Canada

Le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Industrie Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux deux conditions suivantes : (1) l'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage, et (2) l'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement. To comply with FCC and Industry Canada RF radiation exposure limits for general population, the logger must be installed to provide a separation distance of at least 20cm from all persons and must not be co-located or operating in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter.

