

Scope * 1.1 This test method covers the determination of the unconfined compressive strength of cohesive soil in the undisturbed, remolded, or compacted condition, using strain-controlled application of the axial load. NOTE 1--The determination of the unconsolidated, undrained strength of cohesive soils with lateral confinement is covered by Test Method D 2850. 1.3 This test method is applicable only to cohesive materials which will not expel bleed water (water expelled from the soil due to deformation or compaction) during the loading portion of the test and which will retain intrinsic strength after removal of confining pressures, such as clays or cemented soils. Dry and crumbly soils, fissured or varved materials, silts, peats, and sands cannot be tested with this method to obtain valid unconfined compression strength values. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use. NOTE 2--Notwithstanding the statements on precision and bias contained in this standard: The precision of this test method is dependent on the competence of the personnel performing it and the suitability of the equipment and facilities used. 1.2 This test method provides an approximate value of the strength of cohesive soils in terms of total stresses. Users of this test method are cautioned that compliance with Practice D 3740 does not ensure reliable testing. Agencies which meet the criteria of Practice D 3740 are generally considered capable of competent testing. Reliable testing depends on several factors; Practice D 3740 provides a means of evaluating some of those factors. 1.4 This test method is not a substitute for Test Method D 2850. 1.5 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values stated in inch-pound units are approximate. 1.6 This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use.