ABSTRACT

A device for performing the falling head permeability test on porous road mixes consists of an inlet cylinder (1), specimen holder (Fig.3), an outlet cylinder (12), made impermeable by a flexible rubber membrane (11). A trap door assembly (Fig.2a) in the closed position will permit the setting up of the falling head test at any desired initial upper head water level at the top end of the test specimen. The activation of the test can be initiated by the sudden release of the trap door as in Fig.2b. This will cause the upper head to fall while the lower head remains constant. The rate of fall of the upper head can be measured accurately by a submersible pressure transducer (7) at the base of the inlet cylinder. From the falling head data, the permeability of the porous road specimen can be calculated from established theory.

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