

Soil Sampling

The First Step to Increasing Plant Growth and Yield



Why Do I Need To Sample & When?

Late fall and early winter are the optimum times for soil sampling. Sampling this time of year allows farmers to prepare for upcoming crops. Fall and winter soil sampling programs are utilized by crop consultants, fertilizer dealers, landscape professionals, gardeners and producers. Soil testing is an invaluable tool to any business that deals with soil or plant health. A proper soil test will help to determine the application of fertilizer needed to meet the crops' requirements while also taking advantage of the nutrients already present in the soil, thus being a very cost effective tool for managing a fertilizer program.

How Do I Sample?

With a soil sampling probe, take a thin vertical slice or core of soil from at least 10-20 different places in the area to be tested. Combine in a clean plastic bucket, mix thoroughly, and fill the soil sample bag **half** full. Fold down and fasten metal flaps securely. The bag should be clearly marked with your name, address, and sample identification. Fill out the soil information sheet as completely as possible. Be sure the sample numbers on the information sheet correspond with the numbers on the sampling bag. Your soil tests results accuracy will be dependent on properly taken, mixed and submitted samples so please follow these procedures closely.

Suggested Sampling Depths

Lawns, Turfs & Pastures	4"
Gardens	6"
Pecan Groves	6" to 8"
Orchards	8" to 12"
Row Crops	Plow Depth

Soil Test Packages

Routine Test 1: Available Phosphorus, Exchangeable Potassium, Magnesium, Calcium & Hydrogen, Soil pH, CEC, Base Saturation of Cation Elements, plus any 2 of: Zinc, Manganese, Iron Copper or Boron

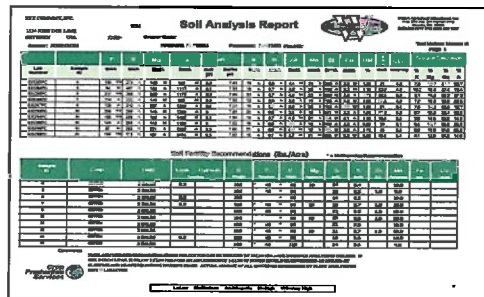
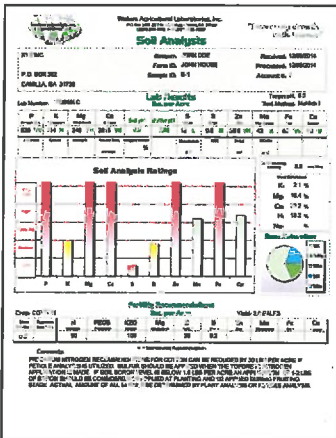
Basic Test 2: Available Phosphorus, Exchangeable Potassium, Magnesium, Calcium & Hydrogen, Soil pH, CEC, Base Saturation of Cation Elements

Basic Test 3: Available Phosphorus, Exchangeable Potassium, Magnesium, Calcium & Hydrogen, Soil pH, CEC, Base Saturation of Cation Elements, plus: Zinc, Manganese, Iron Copper & Boron

Basic Test 4: Available Phosphorus, Exchangeable Potassium, Magnesium, Calcium & Hydrogen, Soil pH, CEC, Base Saturation of Cation Elements, plus: Sulfate Sulfur, Zinc, Manganese, Iron Copper & Boron

NCDA Soil Test: North Carolina Department of Agriculture soil index values with NCDA crop recommendations

Examples Of Our Soil Test Reports



Waters Agricultural Laboratories, Inc. maintains state-of-the-art facilities in Camilla, Georgia, Owensboro, Kentucky and Warsaw, North Carolina.

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