

Soil Sampling & Testing

If you are not sure what tests to run, we recommend the standard fertility test for \$50.00. That test will provide excellent information on pH, organic matter, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium levels. Make sure you fill out the soil testing form completely.

How to sample: Soil sampling is not difficult, but to ensure an accurate soil test reading, you should take several soil samples (5 to 20) from the area in question. Make sure you take a sampling of the soil from the surface all the way down to a depth of 12 inches. It is important to have a profile of the soil from the top down to 12 inches for an accurate reading of what nutrients are available to plants. Use a shovel or soil probe (hollow metal tube) to take samples. Remove any plant material or mulch on the soil surface before removing samples. If you use a shovel, take a wedge of the soil out and slide the shovel down the side of the hole to obtain a slice of soil from the surface down to 12 inches. Mix all the soil samples together thoroughly in a plastic bucket and then remove a pint of soil, or as much as the soil bag indicates to send for analysis.

How to send the soil: Mail the envelope of soil with the sample form and your check to the lab listed on the soil sample submission form. Soil results may take 2-4 weeks, depending on the time of year.

When you receive your soil report: Call Professor S. Bell at the number listed below to have your soil test results interpreted.

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