



SOIL TESTING

Know your Soil, Grow with Purpose!

DuPage County Farm Bureau Member Advantage

Why Soil Test?

Soil should be analyzed to determine nutrient levels and fertilizer recommendations. Soil nutrient analysis will give precise information on your soil's ability to supply nutrients to plants. This knowledge will allow growers to develop a tailored plan to maximize potential plant growth and minimize input costs.

When to Sample

You can sample the soil anytime as long as it is not too wet to spade, frozen, or extremely dry.

It is recommended to sample in early spring or late fall to assure that you will have the test results before you need to amend your soil. It is important to avoid sampling soon after applying fertilizer, as this would only tell you how much you just added and not what your soil really needs! Soil nutrient levels do not vary wildly so checking every two to four years is sufficient.

What type of testing is offered?

Lawn & Garden testing measures Soil Fertility, Macronutrients, and Micronutrients.

These include: pH, Buffer pH, Phosphorus, Potassium, Color Match Organic Matter, Calcium, Magnesium, CEC, % Base Saturations, Sulfur, Zinc, Iron, Manganese, Copper, and Boron.

Standard Pricing \$70.00

Farm Bureau Member Pricing \$45.00

Not a Farm Bureau member yet? Sign up when you drop off your sample and start saving!

Annual memberships are \$20.00 for Associates and \$45.00 for Professionals (individuals who have agricultural interest)

Where to Sample

Take samples of soil that are representative of the specific area of interest. This will depend on the overall size of the area.

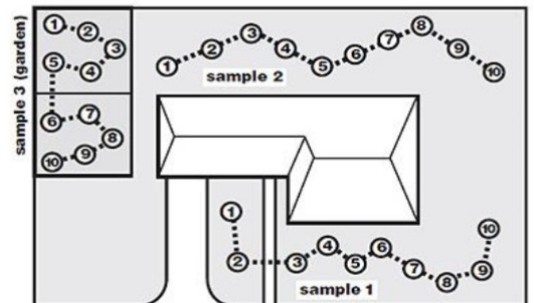
See reverse for order form and collection instructions.

When do I get the results?

Test results and complimentary recommendations will be emailed to you within 7-14 business days.

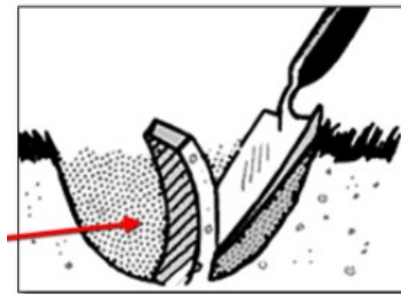
Need additional assistance with your lawn or garden questions?

Contact the DuPage County Master Gardeners by phone (630) 955-1123 or email uiemg-dupage@illinois.edu



How to Collect a Sample

1. From each of the six sample points, remove any overlying mulch, compost or residual plant material. Using a clean soil probe, trowel or shovel collect samples from the top 6 to 7" inches of soil.
2. Place the collected samples from the six sampling points into a clean plastic container and mix those samples together thoroughly. *Note: Samples from different areas should not be mixed together.*
3. Scoop out two (2) cups of soil and place in a sealable plastic bag for analysis.
4. Label the bag with the field name and name. Repeat this procedure for each plot sample area / zone.
5. Fill out the order form below and drop off your sample to the DuPage County Farm Bureau:



If using a trowel or spade, cut a 1" slice and use the center slice as the representative sample.

245 S. Gary Ave. Carol Stream, IL 60188

Monday - Friday 9:00AM to 4:00PM

Cash or check are acceptable forms of payment. If using a credit card, please visit our store page at www.dcfb.org

Name: _____ Date: _____ Farm Bureau ID: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please answer each question to the best of your ability. (Circle your answers)

Approximate size/dimension : _____ sq. ft.

Crops Grown: Vegetables Fruit Flowers Lawn

Drainage: Good Fair Poor

Soil Type: Sandy Loam Clay

Topography: Flat Slope Steep

Light Exposure: Full Sun Part Shade Shade Heavy Shade

Shade due to: Buildings Large Trees

Have you applied any manure, composts, or organic matter? Yes No

Have you applied any fertilizer? If so, what type, how much and when?

Type: _____ Amount: _____

Season: Spring Fall