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# SOIL NUTRITION DIAGNOSTICS. - Post Service Procedure

We can accurately diagnose the current condition of your soil and forward you results and recommendations by POSTING soil samples to the lab. To make things easy for you, send the sample <u>direct</u> to the **Environmental Analysis Laboratory** (EAL) with your test requirements. Our agronomists can review the data, put it in an **easy-to-read** graph form with **recommendations** to consider, and we **always** include **explanations** on why we recommended the procedure. This way you can develop a **strategy** that suits your needs for sustainability year after year. However mineral balancing of soils is only part of an overall program. Please review the following and answer with key points if possible.

1. CALL OR EMAIL US TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS AND TESTING AND WE WILL FORWARD THE NECESSARY INFORMATION, QUESTIONNAIRE, AND INVOICE FOR PRE-PAYMENT.

### **HOW TO TAKE A SOIL SAMPLE**

#### **SELECTING AN AREA TO SAMPLE**

Samples must be collected within the one soil type and slope and have similar paddock history. Avoid recently fertilised areas, manure and urine patches, old fence lines, old animal pens, old building sites, gullies and other areas that are not typical of the field being sampled.

## **SOIL SAMPLING**

Collect sub-samples from 15-20 sites, within 3 hectares or less, to a depth of 10 -15 cm with a soil probe or auger. If these tools are not available, accurate samples can be taken with a spade, as follows: (You can also try cutting a mitre on a piece of 1" PVC pipe and hammer into the soil to take samples)

- Ensure the sampling tool is **rust free**, **cleaned** and **gloves** are worn to remove anything that could contaminate the soil sample.
- Dig a hole to 10-15 cm deep, then, take a slice of soil from top to bottom. Remove a uniform section about 3-4 cm wide from the top to the bottom of the slice. It is very important to sample uniformly down the soil profile. Too much surface soil compared to deeper soil will give inaccurate data and may lead to inappropriate fertiliser advice.

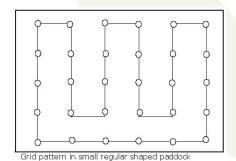


Figure 1. Collect sub-samples from 15-20 sites, within 3 hectares or less

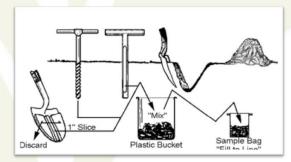


Figure 2. Take sample to a depth of 10-15cms, with auger, probe or spade

# **SAMPLE PACKING**

- Mix the soil sample thoroughly in a clean plastic bucket, then take a representative sub-sample of approximately **500 grams**. (approx. ½ lunch bag)
- If samples are wet air dry the soil before packaging if possible.
- Send the sample in a plastic bag and **Label** with your <u>Name</u>, <u>Sample ID</u> (paddock name) and <u>Crop Details</u> (main crop to be fertilised, species and variety, if applicable, eg Murcott mandarins), <u>Date of Sampling</u>.
- If you write directly on plastic bag. Please use a permanent marker.

• Do not put the label in the bag with the soil, as it may absorb moisture from the sample and become illegible.

#### **HOW TO POST A SAMPLE**

<u>IMPORTANT</u> – TO AVOID DELAYS PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE RECEIVED AND PAID YOUR INVOICE TO HAVE YOUR ANALYSIS PROCESSED. EMAIL <u>admin@soilhealthsolutions.co.au</u> for advice.

1. Send sample to -

## POST SAMPLES IN A BOX OR POST BAG TO:

TO	From
Environmental Analysis Laboratory Southern Cross University	Your Name:
P O Box 157 / Military Road	Address
LISMORE NSW 2480	Phone
<ul> <li>For Soil Health Solutions</li> </ul>	Email
Note: URGENT DELIVERY environmental samples for testing	

- 2. We will forward our analysis request to the lab and follow up the lab.
- 3. **EMAIL** us the following information. (**See Attached Crop Information Questionnaire**) to admin@solihealthsolutions.com.au
  - Crop grown on sample block eg Various species Tropical Native and Exotic, Turf etc
  - Area Eg 1 full size sports field approx 1.8 Ha
  - Soil preparation prior to planting
  - General soil type, slope etc
  - Crop Stage
  - Fertiliser history, what applied and when. Current fertiliser programs (If any)
  - Method/s of application. Eg foliar spray, Broadcast Equipment available for fertiliser application.
  - > Irrigation technique, fertigate, drip, flood, sprinklers, Other.....
  - Any crop symptoms
  - ➤ Has the crop recently been sprayed with Nutrients, Fungicides, Pesticides
  - Any Further information regarding the crop or your personal situation relating to your growing situation. (It is important we know as much about your personal growing situation as possible to help determine a program that works best for you.)
- 4. We will email or post the data and our report on the data to you direct. (Allow approx. 2-3 weeks)

<u>IMPORTANT</u> – TO AVOID DELAYS PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE RECEIVED AND PAID YOUR INVOICE TO HAVE YOUR ANALYSIS PROCESSED. <u>EMAIL admin@soilhealthsolutions.co.au</u> for advice.

ANALYSIS FEES (per sample)

•	Standard Soil Analysis (includes Labe Fees, Soil Analysis Report and Recommendations)	\$350 ex gst \$385 inc gst
	Includes plant available Silicon	9
•	Subsequent samples to be tested at same time. (After initial sample above)	\$250 ex gst \$285 inc gst per sample

Plant tissue testing and microbial count service available. Please contact for further details.



