

Get Your Soil Tested

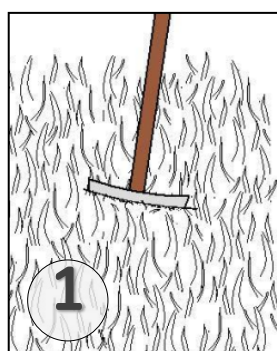
by the University of Missouri Extension



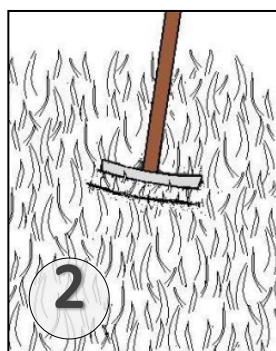
Why should you have your soil tested?

- Soil conditions have a big effect on plant health
- pH and nutrient levels can change over time
- You may be over-fertilizing your lawn or garden
- Testing is the only way to tell which nutrients might be missing

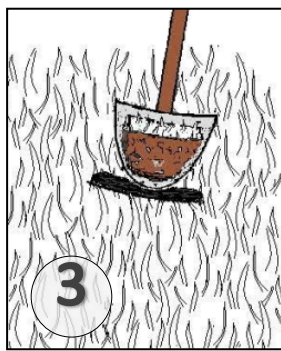
How to collect a sample*



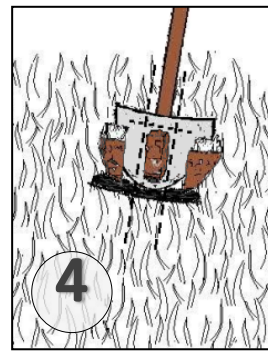
1
Make one cut into the ground as deep as the shovel will go.



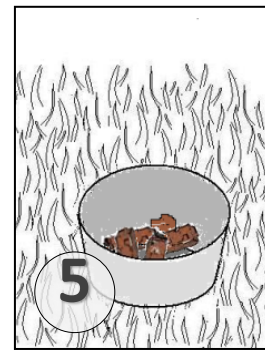
2
Make another cut 1 inch behind the first



3
Tilt the shovel back and lift out the soil slice



4
Keep the middle of the slice. Cut any grass or other plants off the top.



5
Repeat 8 to 10 times in the area. Mix the samples together in a plastic bucket.

- * For lawns, sample to a 3-4 inch depth.
- * Take other samples at a 6 -inch depth.
- * Break up any clods.
- * Samples must be **air-dried** and thoroughly mixed.
- * Make sure all insects, worms, ants, have been removed from sample.
- * Bring **1 pint (2 cups)** in a plastic bag (a regular sandwich bag is sufficient).
- * Results will be returned 10-14 days after the sample is submitted.

What does it cost?

\$25 per sample
includes shipping

What does it tell you?

Your test results will tell you the status of the nutrients below. You will get specific recommendations to improve plant health.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| ➔ pH | ➔ Magnesium (Mg) |
| ➔ Phosphorus (P) | ➔ % Organic Matter |
| ➔ Potassium (K) | ➔ CEC |
| ➔ Calcium (Ca) | ➔ N.A. |

Where to bring your sample

MU Extension – St Louis County
132 E. Monroe
Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-400-2115
M-F 9:00 AM-4:00 PM