

Get Your Soil Tested

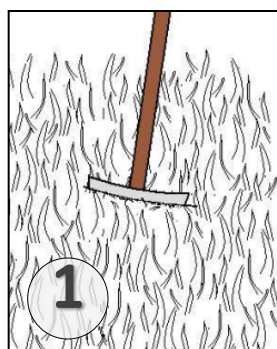
by the University of Missouri Extension



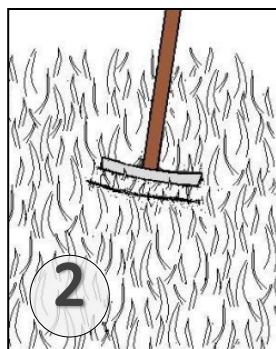
Why should you have your soil tested?

- 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

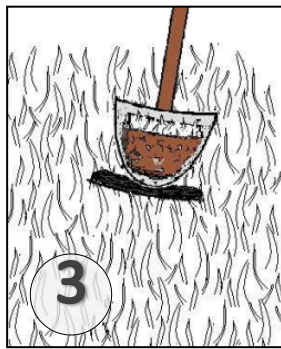
How to collect a sample*



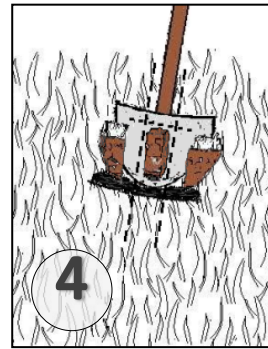
1
Make one cut into the ground as deep as the shovel will go.



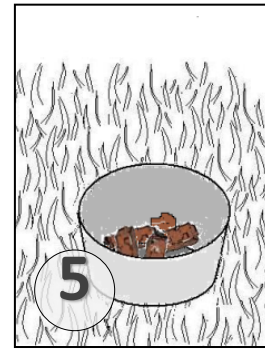
2
Make another cut 1 inch behind the first



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 tell you?

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

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| →pH | →Manganese (Mn) |
| →Phosphorus (P) | →Iron (Fe) |
| →Potassium (K) | →Copper (Cu) |
| →Calcium (Ca) | →Boron (B) |
| →Magnesium (Mg) | →Aluminum (Al) |
| →Sulfur (S) | →% Organic Matter |
| →Sodium (Na) | →CEC |
| →Zinc (Zn) | →N.A. |

Where to bring your sample

St. Louis County Office
9667 Page Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63132
314-400-2115

Metro Area Office
8225 Florissant Rd
St. Louis, MO 63121
314-200-2705

M-F 9:00 AM-4:00 PM