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How to Submit Soil Sample(s):

Select an Area to Sample
The area needs to be uniform in color, texture, depth, and drainage with the same fertilizing program and type of use. Lawns, trees, flowerbeds, cut and fill areas should be tested individually. An area containing multiple trees and shrubs can be grouped into one area if the plant appearance is the same. Plants with unusual symptoms need to be tested separately. Very large areas should have multiple analyses.

Multiple samplings should be taken from any one area, combined and then sub sampled for a submittal. Avoid sampling unusual areas such as burned spots or extra lush growth unless they are being sampled to determine the cause of their differences. Surface litter is normally removed. If one plant is being sampled, sample at least two or three spots. If multiple plants are being sampled, sampling one spot per plant is sufficient. For lawns, flowerbeds, vegetable gardens sample at least five sites, ten sites will be more representative, however.

Depth of Soil Sampling
For new planting, sample from the surface extending as deep as the soil will be amended, generally 6 inches for groundcover, 24 inches for small boxed trees and 3 to 4 feet for large boxed trees.

For existing turf, sample 2 to 6 inches or the depth of the rooting zone, whichever is shallower.

For flower beds and vegetable gardens, sample generally from surface to 6 or 8 inches.

For trees and shrubs, sample from the surface to the active rooting depth which may extend to 12 or 18 inches. For best data, sample distinctive soil profiles individually.

How to Sample
Use a soil probe or soil auger to remove a core sample. Otherwise, use a shovel to dig a hole to the desired depth. Sample the soil from the side of the hole by scraping it with a trowel. The tools need to be clean and not rusty. Avoid sampling when the soil is too wet.

How to Combine Samples from Multiple Holes
Place the soil from the various holes taken from each sampled area into a clean plastic bucket. Mix the soil together homogeneously. Place two to three cups of the composite subsample (gravely, rocky soils need several cups more) into a zip lock plastic bag (about half full).

How to Ship
Remove the excess air from the bag, zip lock it, fold it a few times, secure it with a rubber band and place it in a suitable mailer. Send the sample by mail, UPS or overnight carrier along with a brief description of the sample and future use of the area. For more than one sample, assign it a number and label the bag. Record the details in your files. Provide your name, phone number, address, email address and fax number if you wish to have the data faxed back.

Use this form to submit soil sample(s) ▪ online users, please fill in the info below by clicking in the different sections then print the form to send in with sample.

Contact Name: _____ **Company:** _____

Day time number: _____ Cell/Evening number: _____

Fax number: _____ eMail address: _____

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

Test(s) to be completed:

total # description cost

____ 1) **Standard Agricultural Soil Suitability Analysis:** ..... **$80.00 for one sample / $75.00 each for 2 or more samples**
Soil analysis includes pH, salinity, concentrations of soluble salts, fertility (all 15 essential nutrients), sodium, and concentrations of 15 non-essential trace metals including aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, lead; SAR, moisture and more.
The soil report includes a narrative report of the major soil properties and recommendations.
++ **Describe whether the testing is for new landscape installation, site maintenance, gardening, new farm land, current farming, etc.**

____ 2) **Comprehensive written soil report with more extensive evaluations and recommendations** - Use form found on page 2 **Must be done in addition to Option 1** **$50.00**

____ 3) **Soil Organic matter quality evaluation: total organic carbon and total nitrogen:** ..... **$50.00 per sample**

____ 4) **Total Analysis of Heavy Metals (epa 3050)** ..... **$100.00 per sample**

____ 5) **Complete Compost Test:** ..... **$235.00 per sample**
Including acidity, salinity, soluble salts, nutrient content both available and total concentrations, bulk density, organic matter, carbon:nitrogen ratio, bulk density, moisture, and more.

____ 6) **Growth Study for toxicity:** requires 2 pounds of soil ..... **$100.00 per sample**
Percent germination and relative growth is measured with and without activated charcoal. Activated charcoal sequesters herbicides, pesticides and organic toxins.

____ 7) **Soil Management Report:** ..... **$160.00 for one sample / $155.00 per sample for 2 or more samples**
(Required by State of California AB 1881 for building permits)
Includes Standard Agricultural Soil Suitability, soil texture, soil organic matter and calculated rate of water percolation

____ 8) **Other (Please check the appropriate test(s))**
☐ texture ($30.00) ☐ water percolation rate ($30.00) ☐ CEC (cation exchange capacity), base saturation and percentages of exchangeable cations ($40.00)

Payment | Payable by Money Order or Checks Only (please call in first to ensure you are getting the services needed)

Amount of money order or check: _____ **check number:** _____

Standard Agricultural Soil Suitability Form:

Job Site / Client Name: _____ Sample Number: _____ of _____

++Description of what soil will be tested for: _____

Location on site: _____ Depth of sample: _____

additional information: _____

please use if submitting more then one sample:

Job Site / Client Name: _____ Sample Number: _____ of _____

++Description of what soil will be tested for: _____

Location on site: _____ Depth of sample: _____

additional information: _____

Job Site / Client Name: _____ Sample Number: _____ of _____

++Description of what soil will be tested for: _____

Location on site: _____ Depth of sample: _____

additional information: _____

Job Site / Client Name: _____ Sample Number: _____ of _____

++Description of what soil will be tested for: _____

Location on site: _____ Depth of sample: _____

additional information: _____

Comprehensive Soil Report Form

_____ **New installations*** _____ **For site maintenance****

*Provide a plant palette list, type of irrigation, describe former use of the site and current use of the site, amount of mass grading, degree of soil compaction, subsurface conditions, type of irrigation water and any other pertinent information. If soil organic matter and soil texture are measures, the estimated rate of water percolation based on the USDA model will be provided at no additional fee. ***(please use space below for answer)***

**Include the information listed above and provide what information is available for the following considerations.

_____

_____

_____

_____

for site maintenance**

Plant Diagnosis _____

plant species _____

Mechanical damage _____

degree of soil compaction _____

Is the soil crusted? _____

depth of soil amending _____

depth of topsoil _____

type of topsoil _____

type of subsoil _____

depth of soil moisture _____

water logging or water deficit _____

Plant Characteristics _____

proliferation, suckering, non flowering _____

Chlorosis, necrosis or discoloration _____

Wilting or malformation _____

Stunted or lodging _____

Discoloration of internal tissue _____

Leaf Characteristics _____

Leaf appearance and recent changes _____

Leaf spots, holes or shredding _____

Root proliferation _____

Are roots limited to rootball? _____

Amount of new root growth in backfill soil _____

root damage _____

coloration of roots _____

Nutrient deficiencies or excesses _____

Irrigation type _____

irregular pattern _____

Irrigation coverage and frequency _____

length and frequency _____

weather extremes _____

seasonal (frost/high temp) _____

insect injury _____

chemical damage _____

Presence of Diseases _____