UConn Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory
6 Sherman Place, Union Cottage, Unit 5102
Storrs, CT 06269-5102
860-486-4274
soiltesting.cahnr.uconn.edu

UCONN
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES
EXTENSION & PLANT SCIENCE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Counties in several states have invasive pest QUARANTINES! If you live in these areas, there is an additional disposal fee of $20 per sample. The USDA APHIS website has information regarding which US counties are quarantined.

Form For: Home Gardens, Landscapers* and Lawns*

See soil sampling instructions. Fill out this sheet and place in mailing envelop or small box along with your sample and a check made payable to UConn for the appropriate amount. Send to the above address.

How would you like to receive results?

Mail ☐

Email ☐

Name: _____ **Business:** _____

Address: _____

Town, State, Zip: _____ **County:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

	Sample ID/Name *(Choose a name you will remember)*	Crop code (scroll down for list) *Can choose multiple, limit 3 per sample*	Standard Nutrient Analysis *Includes pH (Enter $15)*	Fee for extra tests *(Enter total cost if requested)*	Total Cost per sample	*For Lab Use Only* LAB #	pH	Buffer pH
1.					$ 0.00			
2.					$ 0.00			
3.					$ 0.00			
4.					$ 0.00			
5.					$ 0.00			

Total Enclosed (check payable to UConn): $ 0.00

If you have specific problems that you want addresses by the horticulturists at the UConn Home & Garden Education Center, describe them here or on a separate sheet:

If submitting more than 5 samples, fill out and print **ADDITIONAL SOIL SAMPLES FORM.**

If requesting additional tests, like organic matter or soluble salts, fill out **ADDITIONAL TEST FORM.**

***Discount Policy for Commercial** landscapers/lawn care companies submitting samples in bulk.

Office use only

$ Received _____

check # _____

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SOIL SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS

FOR HOME GARDENS, LANDSCAPERS & LAWNS

Note: Soil tests aid in diagnosing only those problems resulting from a lack or excess of certain plant nutrients and/or incorrect soil pH (level of acidity or alkalinity). Other factors that may adversely affect plant growth include soil drainage, rainfall, amount of sunlight, insects, plant diseases, weeds, winter injury and misuse of pesticides or other chemicals. None of these is identified by a soil test. For questions on these types of problems, contact the UConn Home & Garden Education Center at (877) 486-6271 or the UConn Plant Diagnostic Lab.

You typically will receive soil test results and fertilizer recommendations within **7 to 10 business days** from receipt of your sample except during our busy months of **April and May when it may take 14 business days or more**. Do not apply more than the recommended amount of fertilizer. Too much nitrogen and/or phosphorus can pollute ground and surface waters.

Limestone and fertilizer recommendations based on improperly taken soil samples may be inaccurate and, possibly, harmful to plants. Follow the instructions below to obtain a representative sample. Submit one cup of soil for the standard nutrient analysis and two cups if additional tests, like organic matter or soil texture, are also requested.

PLEASE NOTE: This test is not suitable for **SOILLESS MEDIA** (such as potting mixes for containers) or **COMPOSTS.**
PLEASE NOTE: If you requested your results via email, please check your SPAM folder. The email with your results would be coming from **CAHNR – Soil Nutrient Lab.**

Filling out the soil sample submission form:

1. Please fill out the home gardens, landscapers & lawns submission form to accompany your sample(s) and print it. It is especially important to list the crop codes for which recommendations are wanted. We cannot make recommendations without knowing the crop being grown.
2. Areas differing in appearance, slope, drainage, limestone or fertilizer treatments or intended plant usage should be sampled and tested separately. Examples:
    a. The lawn should be sampled separately from the vegetable garden.
    b. The blueberry patch should be sampled separately from the perennial garden.
    c. Areas under shade trees should be sampled separately from the lawn surrounding them.
    d. That portion of the vegetable garden recently limed or fertilized should be sampled separately from the portion not limed or fertilized.
    e. Wait one month after compost or manure is added to garden beds before testing the soil.
    f. The upslope, dry part of the lawn should be sampled separately from the downslope, wet part of the lawn.
    g. Areas around shrubs should be sampled separately from the lawn.
3. Where poor growth exists, take samples from both the good and bad areas, if possible, and submit them separately.
4. If there is a question you would like the horticulturists at the UConn Home & Garden Education Center to address, please list it on the bottom of the form or on a separate sheet of paper.
5. Commercial lawn care professionals or landscapers submitting 10 or more soil samples at one time may be interested in our multi-sample discount policy.

When and how to sample:

1. Samples may be collected any time of year the ground is not frozen. The waiting period for results is longest in April and May. Testing the soil in the fall is highly recommended.
2. Using a spade, trowel or bulb planter, collect cores or thin slices of soil from 10 or more random, evenly distributed spots in your sample area, to the appropriate depth indicated.
    a. Grass - 3 to 4 inches
    b. Flowers, vegetables, small fruits - 6 to 8 inches
    c. Trees and shrubs - 8 to 10 inches
3. Put the slices or cores of soil into a clean container and thoroughly mix them. Transfer at least ONE CUP of the soil mixture to a plastic zippered bag and seal.
4. Label each plastic bag on the outside (using a permanent marker) with the name of the sample area (create a sample ID).
5. Place the plastic bag in a mailing envelop or small box along with the sample submission form and a check made payable to University of Connecticut ($15/sample for standard nutrient analysis) and mail it to:

UCONN Soil Nutrient
Analysis Lab 6 Sherman
Place, U5102
Storrs, CT 06269-5102

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Crops

NOTE: Recommendations are typically made on a 100 or 1000 SQUARE FOOT basis

Crop Codes

Home Landscapes/Lawns

New Lawn Construction	HL1
Established Lawn	HL2
Home Vegetable, Mixed (includes rhubarb and asparagus)	HV1
Home Vegetable Cucurbits	HV2
Home Vegetable Sweet Corn	HV3
Home Vegetable Peppers & Herbs	HV4
Home Vegetables Potatoes	HV5
Flowers - Annuals, Perennials, Bulbs & Grasses	HFL1
Roses	HFL2
Wildflowers/Ferns	HFL3
Deciduous Trees & Shrubs	HW1
Needleleaf Trees & Shrubs	HW2
Broadleaf & Acid-Loving Trees & Shrubs	HW3
Groundcovers	HW4
Vines	HW5
Home Fruit - Blueberries To Be Planted	HFR1E
Home Fruit - Blueberries Maintain	HFR1M
Home Fruit - Brambles, Currants & Gooseberries To Be Planted	HFR2E
Home Fruit - Brambles, Currants & Gooseberries Maintain	HFR2M
Home Fruit - Strawberries To Be Planted	HFR3E
Home Fruit - Strawberries Maintain	HFR3M
Home Fruit - Grapes, American To Be Planted	HFR4E
Home Fruit - Grapes, American Maintain	HFR4M
Home Fruit -Grapes, European To Be Planted	HFR5E
Home Fruit - Grapes, European Maintain	HFR5M
Home Fruit - Tree Fruits To Be Planted	HFR6E
Home Fruit - Tree Fruits Maintain	HFR6M