



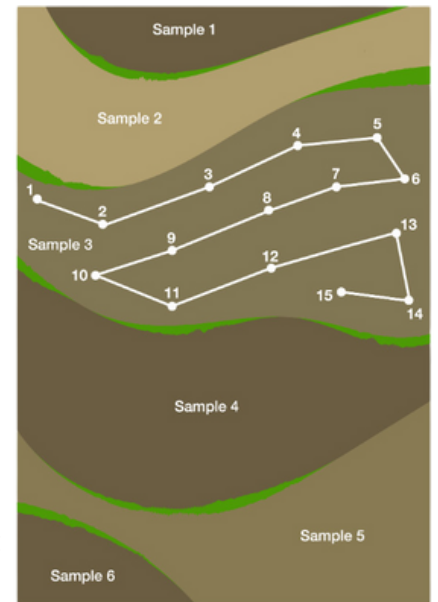
WHY SHOULD YOU SOIL TEST?

Monitoring soil fertility levels helps save money, as the greatest return on investment comes from basing fertilizer and lime rates on soil test results. At ServiTech, our goal is to help you grow crops efficiently and profitably. Our laboratories provide recommendations that supply essential nutrients for plant growth while supporting soil fertility maintenance and buildup over time.

Separate Fields into Sampling Zones

Define “management zones” within a field based on differences of cropping management, fertilization, liming or soil characteristics. Take a separate sample from each management zone or soil area. Management zones usually range from 5 to 40 acres but may be up to 80 acres if management has been the same and the soil type is uniform.

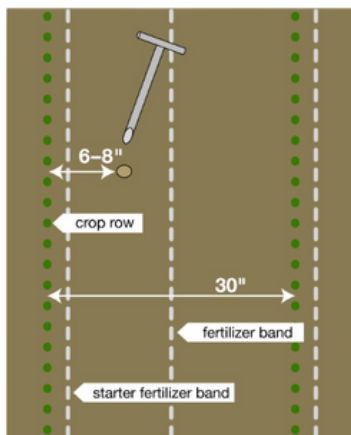
If soil areas within a field differ (e.g., slope, drainage, color or texture), sample each soil area separately to identify the degree of field variability. Collect soil samples separately from problem areas to trouble-shoot or diagnose growth problems. The sample results can be used to help make decisions about treating or fertilizing management zones differently. These decisions depend on other factors like yield differences, treatment costs and practicality of treatment.



Accurate Sampling for Effective Fertilizer Use

For effective and profitable fertilizer recommendations, accurate soil sampling is key. The sample must truly represent the field to ensure proper nutrient application. Factors like previous crop history, past lime and fertilizer use, and soil characteristics can affect results if not considered during sampling.

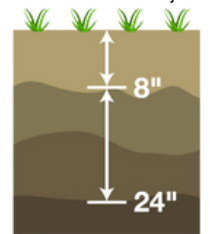
At ServiTech, we emphasize the importance of accurate sampling to provide precise, cost-effective recommendations that support healthy crops and maximize yield.



Soil Sampling Tools

A good sampling tool should collect uniform soil slices to the desired depth and volume. A soil probe is ideal for collecting 8-inch cores; gather at least 15 cores and mix them in a clean bucket for a representative sample. If a probe isn’t available, use a shovel to dig to 8 inches, smooth the hole, and take a ½-inch thick slice.

Cut a ½ core lengthwise with a trowel and add it to the bucket. A manual or power-driven drill-auger can be used, but it may mix soil from different depths and generate loose soil, especially in dry or sandy conditions. For wet soils, spray a lubricant like WD-40™ or vegetable oil to prevent clogging, but avoid using it for hydrocarbon tests.



Bagging and Shipping

Sample bags are available at our labs in Hastings, NE; Dodge City, KS; and Amarillo, TX. For details, call 1-800-557-7509.



[SAMPLE SUBMISSION FORMS](#)



[HOW TO UNDERSTAND YOUR SOIL REPORTS](#)