



Soil Testing Laboratory

Please print clearly and press firmly so all copies will be readable.

Name _____ MS County (where soil was collected) _____

Email _____
(Please provide an email address to receive results faster)

Mailing address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Date _____ Banner account no. (if known) _____

Paying with a credit card?
Skip filling out this form and enter all information online!
Go to:
<https://register.extension.msstate.edu/soil-testing-laboratory>

Cost per sample
Payment must accompany samples. A service charge of \$30 will be applied to all returned checks.

Soil test* \$8 Soil test + organic matter + % nitrogen** \$10 Organic matter + % nitrogen only*** \$4

Number of samples _____ Total charges _____ Check no. _____ Money order no. _____

Grower sample ID (5 spaces max)									
Crop to be grown (use codes on last page)									

Mail this form with payment for total charges to:

MSU Extension Service
Soil Testing Laboratory
Box 9610
Mississippi State, MS 39762

*Standard soil tests on samples include: pH, lime requirement, CEC, phosphorous, potassium, calcium, magnesium, zinc, and sodium. Horticulture samples include Total Soluble Salts (TSS).

**Organic matter calculated based on % carbon (OM = %C * 1.72).

***Nitrogen determination does not factor in fertilizer recommendation.

Mail the top two pages to the lab with your sample. The final page (pink) is the customer receipt.



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Grower sample ID (5 spaces max)									
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Lab Number									
pH Value									
Lime requirement									
Phosphorous									
Potassium									
Ca									
Mg									
Zn									
Na									
%OM									
TSS									
%Nitrogen									



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**Please keep this page as your receipt.
Refer to the AAA number above when contacting
your MSU Extension county office with
questions about your report.**

Cost per sample			
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Find crop code numbers on the back of this page.

Q. When should you add lime to the soil? How long does it take to react?

A. For best results, apply lime and mix in the soil 3-4 months before fertilization and seeding. The size of lime particles and how thoroughly the lime is mixed with the soil determine how fast the applied lime will neutralize the soil acidity.

Q. The soil test calls for a specific amount of "actual N." Does this mean I use this much ammonium nitrate?

A. No. When the soil test calls for "actual N," this means a recommendation using a mixed fertilizer alone will not achieve the desired fertility level. The source of N is up to you. Common N sources include anhydrous ammonium (82% N) and urea (45% N). You can figure the per-acre rate needed of an N fertilizer by dividing the pounds per acre rate of "actual N" called for in the recommendation by the guaranteed percent N, after dividing by 100. This gives the total N fertilizer in pounds per acre needed to achieve the soil test requirement.

Q. What do the numbers mean in fertilizer recommendations?

A. The numbers in a fertilizer recommendation refer to the pounds of elemental nitrogen (N), plant available phosphate (P₂O₅), and water soluble potash (K₂O). Thus, 100 pounds of 13-13-13 would contain 13 pounds of nitrogen, 13 pounds of phosphate, and 13 pounds of potash. 5-10-30 would contain 5 pounds of nitrogen, 15 pounds of phosphate, and 30 pounds of potash. 0-20-20 would contain no nitrogen, 20 pounds of phosphate, and 20 pounds of potash.

Q. What does organic matter indicate?

A. When organisms die, their tissues are broken down into organic matter. Soil organic matter is essential for a productive soil. Many farmers use the organic matter content to help determine herbicide rates. Generally, organic matter ranges from 0.5 to 3.5%. Overall, sandier soils have less organic matter.

<p>FIELD CROP CODE #</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Corn & sorghum for silage 5 Corn & sorghum for grain 62 Corn for grain – high yield 2 Cotton 31 Peanuts (vines and nuts removed) 37 Rice 32 Small grains (oats, wheat, rye, barley) 59 Sorghum & sugarcane for syrup 1 Soybeans 9 Soybeans/small grain rotation 49 Sunflower 66 Tobacco 	<p>FORAGE/PASTURE/HAY CODE #</p> <p>Hay Crops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Alfalfa 35 Hybrid bermudagrasses 55 Johnsongrass 57 Lespedeza (annual) 58 Lespedeza (serecia) 56 Mixed grass hay (dallis, bermuda, bahia) 51 Southern peas <p>Winter/Spring Grazing Crops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 Annual grasses (wheat, oats, barley, ryegrass) 46 Forage legumes (white, red, caley peas, vetch, ball clover) 95 Wildlife food plots (chufa, clovers, oats, wheat, rye, and seed mixtures) 23 Perennial winter grass pasture (fescue or orchardgrass) 53 Perennial winter grass pasture with clover (white, red, subterranean with fescue or orchardgrass) 52 Winter/spring annual legumes with ryegrass <p>Summer Grazing Crops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 54 Perennial grasses (bermuda, dallis, bahia) plus annual legumes (crimson, arrowleaf, ball, subterranean clovers) 18 Perennial grasses (bermuda, dallis, bahia) plus perennial or late-maturing annual legumes (white, red, arrowleaf) 34 Perennial or mixed summer grass pasture (bahia, bermuda, dallis) 25 Summer annual grass pastures (millet, sorghum, sudan, sorghum/sudangrass hybrids, crabgrass, johnsongrass, etc.) 	<p>HOME HORTICULTURE CODE # (for home gardens)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 86 Citrus trees and loquats (Japanese plum) 77 Deciduous, acid-loving 7 Deciduous, non-acid-loving 48 Evergreen, acid-loving 79 Evergreen, non-acid-loving 90 Nut trees (pecans, etc.) 80 Palms, yuccas, ornamental grasses 8 Roses <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Vegetable Gardens/Orchards</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Flowers/Groundcover</td> </tr> <tr> <td>87 Blueberries</td> <td>81 Flowers (perennial)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>88 Cane fruits (berries)</td> <td>82 Flowers, herbs (annuals)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>91 Cole vegetables (cabbage, etc.)</td> <td>83 Groundcovers/ boundaries</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 Home orchard</td> <td>84 Vines</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17 Home vegetable garden</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>89 Muscadines/grapes</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>85 Strawberries</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>92 Tomatoes</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Vegetable Gardens/Orchards	Flowers/Groundcover	87 Blueberries	81 Flowers (perennial)	88 Cane fruits (berries)	82 Flowers, herbs (annuals)	91 Cole vegetables (cabbage, etc.)	83 Groundcovers/ boundaries	20 Home orchard	84 Vines	17 Home vegetable garden		89 Muscadines/grapes		85 Strawberries		92 Tomatoes	
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<p>HOME LAWN CODE #</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 Common bermuda or zoysiagrass 69 Centipede, carpetgrass 72 Creeping red fescue 68 Hybrid bermudagrass 73 Kentucky bluegrass 14 St. Augustinegrass 71 Tall fescue 		<p>COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURAL CROP CODE # (not for home gardens)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 43 Beans, green peas (lima, snap beans, green peas) 33 Blueberries 13 Irish potatoes 11 Okra 19 Pecans 47 Peppers (hot, sweet, pimento) 65 Root crops (radishes, rutabagas, turnips) 44 Southern peas 64 Spinach 26 Strawberries 39 Sweet potatoes 6 Sweet corn 12 Tomatoes, field 41 Watermelon, muskmelon, cantaloupe, pumpkin, cucumber, squash 																		
<p>GOLF/ATHLETIC FIELD CODE #</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 Athletic fields, bermuda 28 Fairways, bermuda 76 Golf greens, bermuda 27 Golf course tees 																				
<p>MISCELLANEOUS CODE #</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 Unspecified – no fertilizer recommendation will be given 36 Christmas trees 50 Farm ponds 38 Pine trees 29 Pine tree seedlings (nurseries) 45 Research 24 Roadside turf 																				