



SOIL and PLANT ANALYSIS SAMPLE INFORMATION SHEET



DISTRIBUTOR	
COMPANY:	
ADDRESS:	
CITY, STATE, ZIP	
CONTACT:	
PHONE NO.	

GROWER	
COMPANY or NAME:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:	

Please fill out completely and legibly.

Note:
ALL HIGHLIGHTED FIELDS MUST BE COMPLETED. The tests in this program can only be ordered through an authorized distributor.

IF FERTILITY RECOMMENDATIONS OR INTERPRETATIONS ARE DESIRED PLEASE CHECK HERE ALSO CHECK MAINTENANCE OR PREPLANT FOR EACH SAMPLE

Limit sample ID. to 5 letters and/or numbers maximum.

SAMPLE ID.	SOIL TEST PACKAGES					NURSERY		SALINITY	
	S1BN	S2N	S3C	S8	S9	S11	S20	S7A	S10C

PREPLANT	MAINT.	For accurate recommendations, insert the turf type or crop below.
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP
		TURF TYPE OR CROP

Soil Analysis
 Complete package is S3C.

Nursery and Greenhouse
 Complete package is S7A.

Salinity
 S10C includes S10 and S3C.

Distributor: Please tell us how you would like the results sent to you. Regular Mail (Will be sent to the distributor address above)
 Distributor Email Address (Please PRINT legibly) _____
 Email Email Address of Area Sales Manager _____

PO Number _____
 Remarks _____

SAMPLER NAME (Please print) _____ DATE SAMPLES SHIPPED _____

Soil, Water and Plant Analyses Processed by A & L WESTERN AGRICULTURAL LABORATORIES
 SEND SAMPLES TO: A & L Labs, 1311 Woodland Ave., Modesto, CA 95351 (209)529-4080 FAX (209)529-4736





PROCEDURES FOR TAKING GOOD SAMPLES



Soil Samples

1. Take separate samples of areas that vary in soil type, color, slope, planting or fertilizer history. Consider comparing "good" with "bad" area.
2. Take at least 10 cores or slices from each selected area, removing surface litter and thatch. Mix subsamples thoroughly in a clean plastic or paper container, then extract about a pint of soil to fill sample bag.
3. Sample the main root zone of the plants in question; generally the top 6 inches of soil. Consider the top 12 inches for trees and shrubs.
4. Do not use galvanized, soft steel, or brass equipment if trace metal analyses are desired.
5. Several different tools such as a soil sampling tube, soil auger, or spade may be used in taking soil samples.
6. Fill a separate bag if nematode testing is also required.
7. Label each soil sample bag with your name and sample identification to correspond to sample identification listed on the sample information sheet.

Water Samples

1. Irrigation water should be collected in *clean* plastic bottles. Avoid using soda bottles or containers previously used for other purposes.
2. *Well* water should be collected only after pumping for at least 30 minutes. It should be taken directly from the well source before any injection equip.
3. *Surface* water should not be taken from the sides of the holding area.
4. A pint of water is generally enough for an Irrigation Suitability test (W2).
5. If samples are held over for any length of time before delivery, a degree of precipitation and change in pH may take place. Keep samples cool and tightly sealed, and ship as soon as possible.

Plant Tissue Samples

1. Collect about a pint of loosely packed tissue per sample. A cupful may be sufficient if gathering petioles. Submit in plant tissue bags or plain paper bags if possible. Do not use plastic bags.
2. The plant sample collected should be representative of a particular selected area. Stage of growth and plant part is critical in interpretation.
3. If samples are very wet, they should be air-dried to a workable condition before packaging. Otherwise molding will occur.
4. Turf clippings are particularly susceptible to deterioration if not received soon after sampling. Avoid collecting sand and dirt when gathering sample.
5. If possible, allow clippings and other plant tissue to dry down before packaging. This will help maintain integrity.
6. Generally, gather the most recently matured leaves from ornamentals, not newly emerged or old leaves. Definitely, do not gather whole branches! The lab. processes samples as received.
7. When trouble-shooting, consider comparing a "good" with a "bad" area.

Nematode Samples

1. Refer to the Soil Samples section. Ensure that roots are included in the sample.
2. Do not sample dry soil. Samples should be kept cool and moist during shipping.

How to Fill Out the Information Sheet

1. Fill in Distributor's and Grower's areas. Please **PRINT ALL INFORMATION!**
2. List sample identification (5 letters and/or numbers maximum) and check analysis desired.
3. If fertility recommendations or interpretations are desired, check box and state plant type and whether dealing with a pre-plant or maintenance situation.
4. The accuracy of fertility recommendations and interpretations will depend on the method of sampling and the detail of the information supplied.

Packaging and Shipping Instructions

1. If samples are wet, we suggest they be air dried to a workable condition before packaging. Nematode samples are an exception. They must be kept cool and moist.
2. Place sample bags in a sturdy, spill proof container and pack tightly to prevent opening and spillage in shipment.
3. Place completed information sheet in an envelope and include with package.
Do not send instructions separately, as this delays processing and mistakes may be made.
4. Samples may be shipped by parcel post, UPS, FEDEX, bus, or air freight.
5. Send all samples to:

A & L Western Laboratories
1311 Woodland Ave, Suite 1
Modesto CA 95351
Phone (209)529-4080 Fax (209)529-473⁶

Remember:

1. **Sample amount is important.** One pint is generally enough to run most tests. Too much may result in broken bags or cross-contamination. Also excess quantities have to be discarded. Separate samples are required for nematology or other specific tests. Too small a sample can often lead to errors. Analysis procedures may be jeopardized or results may be incomplete.
2. **Condition of Sample is important.** Soil samples must be properly mixed. Tissue samples are affected by soil, dust, foliar nutrients and pesticides. If desired, gently wash samples before they are dried. Washing dry samples may remove some of the soluble elements such as potassium and boron.
3. **Sample identification is important.** Enter all of your sample ID's on your paperwork as well as on the bags.
4. **Client information is important.** We want to spell our clients' names correctly and at times it is difficult to discern this information due to unclear handwriting or insufficient information.