

Maine Soil Health/Soil Quality Test Package

Sample Information Form

revised 2018

Customer Name:
Mailing Address:
City, State, Zip:
clearly print email address:

ship to:
Maine Soil Testing Service
5722 Deering Hall
University of Maine
Orono ME 04469-5722
Soil Health/Quality Analysis: \$60/Sample
List payment enclosed:

Field name:
Sample date:
List Next crop (see page 2):
Please list rotation sequence (including cover crops):
If currently in cover crop, when was it seeded:
Manure(M) or Compost(C) last applied:

Soil factors evaluated:

Chemical - pH, Available nutrients (Standard Soil Test + Nitrogen)
 Biological - Organic matter, Microbial Biomass/Active C, Potential Nitrogen supply
 Physical - Texture, Aggregate stability, Plant-available water, Hardness (in-field)
 For additional information, call (207) 581-2945.

Penetrometer Readings

0-6 in. psi reading	6-12 in. psi reading	Depth to 300 psi (in.)
1)		
2)		
3)		
4)		
5)		
6)		
7)		
8)		
9)		
10)		
11)		
12)		

Instructions:

- 1) Sampling for Soil Quality is done only during the growing season (May-Sept).
- 2) Soil must have workable moisture content. if it is too wet for equipment, it is too wet to sample!
- 3) It is highly recommended you take penetrometer readings when soil sampling .
 Compaction is a very important physical property that must be measured in the field.
 Check with your county Extension, NRCS, or SWCD office for availability of a penetrometer.
- 4) Sample the top 6 inches of soil into a clean plastic bucket, using a trowel, bucket auger or shovel.
 To minimize disruption to aggregates, avoid using small diameter soil probes or augers.
- 5) Combine a dozen evenly-distributed locations in the field for an overall composite.
- 6) Take penetrometer readings at each location and record on this form. Repeat if you hit a rock.
- 7) Tumble mix the composite soil sample by rolling the bucket on its bottom rim. Remove rocks.
- 8) Fill and label 2 regular soil boxes with the mixed sample. Do not pack the soil in the boxes.
 Do not dry the soil before shipping. You may also use a gallon plastic bag, filled 1/2 full.
- 9) Send the mixed sample with this form to the address at the top. No special handling is needed.

Please allow 4-6 weeks for return of test results and report.