Maine Soil Health/Soil Quality Test Package
Sample Information Form

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

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: [ ]

Penetrometer Readings

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<th>0-6 in. psi reading</th>
<th>6-12 in. psi reading</th>
<th>Depth to 300 psi (in.)</th>
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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.

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.