Get Soil Savvy!

THREE GREAT REASONS TO TEST YOUR SOIL

1 **Helps you grow healthier, more productive plants:** Routine soil testing identifies what nutrients are needed or not needed in the soil. Soil pH, salinity levels, and soil texture are also analyzed. If plant nutrients are found to be deficient, the soil test will indicate amounts needed for optimum growth.

2 **Responsibly protects the environment:** Soil testing also reveals what nutrients are present in excess amounts that should NOT be added. Applying nutrients needlessly results in soil chemical imbalance and plant problems. Excessively applied nutrients contaminate water, adversely affecting public health and the environment.

3 **Saves you money:** You make better decisions and save money when you do not apply nutrients that are not needed. Wisely, you only apply what the soil needs.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **Additional information on soil testing and how to improve your soil may be found at:** *soiltest.usu.edu*
- **For instructions on how to get your soil tested:** *usual.usu.edu/home-soil/index*

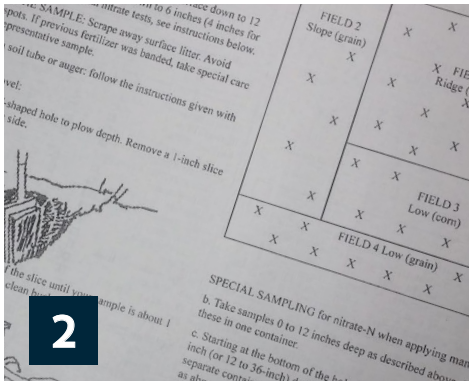
YOUR BEST GARDEN EVER IS JUST A SOIL TEST AWAY!

A soil test may not provide all of the reasons why garden plants are not thriving. Environmental conditions as well as plant pests and diseases play a big role in plant health.

How to get your soil tested: Visit the Utah State University Analytical Laboratory website: **usual.usu.edu/forms/soilform.pdf** for instructions on collecting a soil sample. Include the completed form and payment when you send in your sample.

The routine soil test is most common, but the lab offers several other testing options. If you have questions about additional analyses, call the lab at 435-797-2217 or contact your local county Extension office: **extension.usu.edu/locations**.

Pick up a soil sampling mailer from your local USU Extension Office or print out a form found at: usual.usu.edu/forms/soilform.pdf.

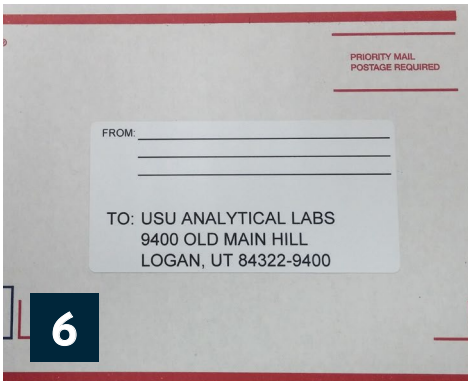


Read through the specific instructions given on the back of the form.

For standard topsoil, dig 12 inches deep. For turf samples, dig 6 inches deep. Samples need to be taken in several places (see form for details).

Mix soil together in a clean bucket.

Take out 2 cups of soil and place in the bag provided, or in a heavy-duty, resealable plastic bag.



Mail your sample to USU Analytical Labs 9400 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-9400

EXTENSION
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