

Virginia Tech Soil Testing Laboratory  
**Soil Sample Information Sheet for  
Commercial Greenhouse and  
Nursery Production**

**Please Print**

INSTRUCTIONS: See the other side for sampling instructions. For a recommendation, be sure to fill in the plant code number. Place check marks (✓) where appropriate. Use other forms for home lawns, gardens, and commercial field crop production. Send samples, forms, and payment to Virginia Tech Soil Testing Lab, 145 Smyth Hall (0465), Blacksburg, VA 24061, in a sturdy shipping carton. For large shipments, total box weight must be less than 70 pounds.

Your Name _____ Mailing Address _____ _____ City _____ ZIP (required) _____ Telephone No. _____ County _____
Extra Copy For (Dealer, etc.): _____ Mailing Address _____ _____ City _____ ZIP (required) _____

Date sampled: _____
Office Use only
Extension Unit Code:
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>

**SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION**

<b>Your Sample Number or Name</b> (Up to 5 digits)					
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> </table>					

**PLANT TO BE GROWN**

Insert Plant Code # from list at right			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"></td> <td style="width: 33%;"></td> <td style="width: 33%;"></td> </tr> </table>			

**OTHER INFORMATION**

Last Lime Application (For field-grown nursery stock only)					
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Months Previous</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Rate, Tons/Acre</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> N/A  <input type="checkbox"/> 0 – 6  <input type="checkbox"/> 7 – 12  <input type="checkbox"/> 13 – 18  <input type="checkbox"/> 19+                 </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 0  <input type="checkbox"/> 0.1 – 1.0  <input type="checkbox"/> 1.1 – 2.0  <input type="checkbox"/> 2.1 – 3.0  <input type="checkbox"/> 3.1+                 </td> </tr> </table>	Months Previous	Rate, Tons/Acre	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 0 – 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 7 – 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 – 18 <input type="checkbox"/> 19+	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 0.1 – 1.0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1.1 – 2.0 <input type="checkbox"/> 2.1 – 3.0 <input type="checkbox"/> 3.1+	
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**PLANT CODE LIST**

**GREENHOUSE PRODUCTION**

**Cut Flowers**

- 301. Carnations
- 302. Chrysanthemums
- 303. Snapdragons

**Pot Plants**

- 310. Azaleas
- 311. Chrysanthemums
- 312. Lilies
- 313. Poinsettias

**Other Plants**

- 320. Bedding Plants
- 321. Foliage Plants
- 322. Hanging Baskets
- 323. Vegetable Transplants

**NURSERY PRODUCTION**

- 351. Field Grown – Acid-Loving Plants
- 352. Field Grown – Non Acid-Loving Plants
- 353. Container Grown – Acid-Loving Plants
- 354. Container Grown – Non Acid-Loving Plants

**SOIL TEST DESIRED**

Routine (soil pH, P, K, Ca, Mg, Zn, Mn, Cu, Fe, B, and soluble salts)  
 Organic Matter  
 Fax Results: FAX # (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**COST PER SAMPLE**

IN-STATE	OUT-OF-STATE
No-Charge	\$10.50
\$ 3.00	\$ 4.50
\$ 1.00	\$ 1.50

Method of Payment:  Check Enclosed *or*  Bill my Business FIN or SS# required for billing \_\_\_\_\_

Send in payment along with soil sample and form; make check or money order payable to **"Treasurer, Virginia Tech."**

## **SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS - BENCH, POT SOILS**

### **Important:**

For test results to be meaningful, use extreme care when you take samples. Test results cannot be any more accurate than the sample submitted to the laboratory. Sample before watering benches or pots. Do not sample when the soil is extremely wet.

### **Sampling Benches:**

Scrape away the mulch and top 1/4" of soil before sampling. Using a clean trowel or sampling tube, take 8 to 10 cores of soil per 100-foot bench in a random fashion. Sample to the full depth of the soil in the bench. Thoroughly mix all cores from one bench to make one composite sample.

### **Sampling Ground Beds, Soil Bins, Potted Plants:**

Sample **ground beds** in the same manner as bench soils to a depth of 6" to 7". For **soil bins**, take 8 to 10 cores per bin for the composite sample. For **potted plants**, remove one core of soil from 8 to 10 pots and mix to make one composite sample.

### **Preparing the Sample for Shipping:**

After thoroughly mixing the composite sample, fill the sample box to the top with the mixture. Fill in the information requested on the side of the sample box, including sample number. Complete the other side of this sheet, and send sample, sheet, and payment to the Soil Testing Laboratory.

## **SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS - FIELD SOILS**

See instructions on side of soil-sample box.