## Soil and Plant Nutrient Management

Fall Gardening Workshop October 31, 2018



## Mark S. Reiter, Ph.D. Soils and Nutrient Management Specialist

## Outline

# Environment and pH Soil Testing Fertilizer



## **Increase Fertilizer Efficiency**

- The best way to get "more bang for your buck"
- You have to use fertilizer
- Focus on proper nutrient



## WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN VIRGINIA PHOSPHORUS LOADS



(Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, 2018)

## **Phosphorus Mining**



7.5

## 30 to 50 year supply left in Florida.

The "good stuff" is gone.
 300 years worldwide?



## WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN VIRGINIA NITROGEN LOADS

Model v5.3.2



(Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, 2018)

## **Crop Uptake and Removal**

		P <sub>2</sub>	0 <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O				
Сгор	Yield	Uptake	Removal	Uptake	Removal			
Wheat	80 bu	54	40	184	28			
Corn	180 bu	102	79	240	52			
Soybeans	40 bu	38	32	144	56			
Sweet Potatoes	400 bu	68	52	295	224			
Tomatoes	40 tons	87	68	463	288			

**pH** value defines relative acidity or basicity



## **Efficient Fertilizer Use**



## How does a soil become acidic?

> Will happen in Virginia naturally.

- >Rain = pH of 5.6
- Natural breakdown of minerals releases aluminum
  - ✓Acidic in the soil system
- Soil microbe activity
- Many fertilizers (depending on type)
  Nitrogen
  - ✓Sulfur

## Outline

# Environment and pH Soil Testing Fertilizer

## Soil Test

Determine soil pH > Determine nutrient levels Soil test every 3 years > Soil test consistently (spring or fall) ✓ Watch values over time > Wide range of soils



## Varying Soils and Systems



## **Cation Exchange Capacity**

A schematic look at cation exchange



## The greatest potential for error in soil testing is in taking the sample

## Accuracy is Key!

Test is only as good as your sample.

- ✓ Only about 3 oz. (10 g) of soil represents 20 acres or more
- > Depth
  - $\checkmark$  6 inches (or plow depth)
  - ✓ 4 inches in no-till/yards/pasture
- > 20 cores from field or area



Each core represents 2,000,000 pounds of soil











Soil Testing Lab, Virginia Tech

## Nutrient Stratification – grass or no-till





Garbage In ► Garbage Out

## Painter, VA: Potassium Levels



#### Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech Soil Testing Laboratory PUBLICATION 452-124

#### Soil Sample Information Sheet for Commercial Crop Production

#### Please Print (Form expires July 2013)

Invent the Future

INSTRUCTIONS: Follow sampling instructions on box. For a recommendation, be sure to fill in the crop code number. Place check marks ( $\sqrt{}$ ) where appropriate. Use another form for home lawns, gardens, etc. Send samples, forms, and any payment to Virginia Tech Soil Testing Lab, 145 Smyth Hall (0465), Blacksburg, VA 24061, in a sturdy shipping carton. Processing will be delayed if soil is not received in an official sample box. See www.soiltect.vt.edu for more information.

				Date sampled:				
E-mail: Phone:								
Mailing Address:				MM/DD/YY				
				Office Use only				
City:		ZIP Code (required):		Extension Unit Code:				
Connty Where Soil is Lo	cated (required)							
county where sou is to	cateu (requireu).							
Copy Report To (Consults	nt, etc.):							
Their E-mail:								
Your Sample Box ID		Sample Track & Field ID use letters or numbers						
CROP INFORMA	TION			n an de la company de la co La company de la company de				
Crop to b	e Grown	La	ast Crop (if a legu	une)				
Crop Code # (from list on back)	Name	Crop Code #	Crop Code # Name					
(areas are on once)	100000010400	(a cas are on once)	2010/2010/2011					
SOIL INFORMAT	ION							
SOIL INFORMAT	ION Check 🗹 if	Prominent Soils in Field	l (see back)	Your Yield Estimate				
SOIL INFORMAT Last Lime Application Months Rate	ION Check I if	Prominent Soils in Field	l (see back) Percent (%)	Your Yield Estimate (For crop				
SOIL INFORMAT Last Line Application Months Rate Previous Ton/Acre	ION Check [] if Field has artificial drainage	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:*	l (see back) Percent (%) of Field <i>Or</i>	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units				
SOIL INFORMAT Last Line Application Months Rate Previous Ton/Acre Q - Q 0	ION Check [] if Field has artificial drainage	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest area	I (see back) Percent (%) of Field <i>or</i>	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units				
SOIL INFORMAT Last Lime Application Months Previous Ton/Acre O - O 0.1-1.0 0 7.12	ION Check () if Field has artificial draimage Soil is a Histosol	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest area 2 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area	I (see back) Percent (%) of Field or or	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units Tons/Acre Bushels/Acre				
SOIL INFORMAT Last Line Application Months Previous Ton/Acre 0 - 0 0 - 0 0 - 0 0 - 0 0 - 1.1-2.0 0 - 1.1-2.0	ION Check 🗹 if Field has artificial drainage Historol be applied	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest area 2 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area 3 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area	I (see back) Percent (%) of Field or	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units Tons/Acre Bushels/Acre Acres/AU*				
Months         Rate           Previous         Ton/Acree           0         -6         0.1-1.0           0         7-12         1.1-2.0           0         13-18         2.1-3.0           0         19+         0.1+	ION Check 1 if Field has artificial drainage Soil is a Historol be applied	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest area 2 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area 3 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area <sup>*Soil</sup> Map Unit Symbol may be obtained <sup>*Soil</sup> Survey Reput or a NRCS Conserve behavior and the survey Reput or a NRCS Conserve behavior and the survey Reput or a NRCS Conserve behavior and the survey Reput or a NRCS Conserve behavior and the survey Reput or a NRCS Conserve behavior and the survey Reput or a NRCS Conserve behavior and the survey Reput or a NRCS Conserve behavior and the survey Reput of a NRCS Conserve behavior and the survey Reput or a NRCS Conserve behavior and the survey Reput of a NRCS Conserve b	I (see back) Percent (%) of Field Or from a County strom Plan Or Or	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units Bushels/Acre Bushels/ACre Acres/AU* *Animal Unit = one 1,000 lb overs, or feasement suffactor				
Months         Rate           Previous         Ton/Acre           0         0           0.6         0.1-1.0           0.7-12         1.1-2.0           13-18         2.1-3.0           0         19+           SOIL TEST DESI	ION Check 1 if Field has drainage Soil is a Historol Manure will be applied RED AND FE	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest area 2 <sup>rd</sup> Largest Area 3 <sup>rd</sup> Largest Area <sup>st</sup> oil Survey Report or a NRCS Conserv Include only areas that make up at least ES	l (see back) Percent (%) of Field or from a County ation Plan. Or CO	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units Tons/Acre Bushels/Acre Acres/AU* *Animal Unit= one 1,000 lb cow wikaff or two 500 lb stees, or free eves wilamba. BST PER SAMPLE				
SOIL INFORMAT           Last Line Application           Months         Rate           Previous         Ton/Acre           0         -         0           0.6         0.1-1.0         0.1-1.0           0.7-12         1.1-2.0         1.1-2.0           13-18         2.1-3.0         0.1+           0.19+         3.1+         SOIL TEST DESI           Routine (soil pH, P, K,         Routine (soil pH, P, K,	ION Check [] if Field has arrificial drainage Soil is a Historol be applied RED AND FE Ca, Mg, Zn, Mn, Cu	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest area 2 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area 3 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area "Soil Map Unit Symbol may be obtained Soil Survey Report or a NRCS Conserv Include only areas that make up at least ES .Fe. B. and estimated CEC()	I (see back) Percent (%) of Field or ifom a County ation Plin. Or IN-STATE No-Charge	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units Tons/Acre Bushels/Acre Acres/AU* *Animal Unit = one 1,000 lb cow wikaff or two 500 lb steers, or free eves wilamba. IST PER SAMPLE OUT-0F-STATE \$16.00				
SOIL INFORMAT           Last Line Application           Months         Rate           Previous         Ton/Acre           0         -         0           0.6         0.1-1.0         0.1-1.0           0.7-12         1.1-2.0         1.1-2.0           13-18         2.1-3.0         0.1+           0.19+         3.1+         SOIL TEST DESI           Routine (soil pH, P, K, Organic Matter         Organic Matter	ION Check [] if Field has arrificial drainage Soil is a Historol be applied RED AND FE Ca, Mg, Zn, Mn, Cu	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest area 2 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area 3 <sup>rd</sup> Largest Area "Soil Map Unit Symbol may be obtained Soil Survey Report or a NRCS Conserve Include only areas that make up at least ES , Fe, B, and estimated CEC)	I (see back) Percent (%) of Field or from a County ation Plin. 20% of field IN-STATE No-Charge \$4.00	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units Tons/Acre Bushels/Acre Bushels/Acre Acres/AU* *Animal Unit = one 1,000 lb cow wikaff or two 500 lb steers, or free eves wilamba. IST PER SAMPLE OUTOF-STATE \$16.00 \$6.00				
SOIL INFORMAT Last Line Application Months Rate Ton/Acre 0 - 0 0.6 0.1-1.0 7-12 1.1-2.0 0 13-18 2.1-3.0 0 19+ 3.1+ SOIL TEST DEST Routine (soil pH, P, K, Organic Matter Soluble Salts Fax Results: FAX # (w	TON Check [] if Field has arrificial drainage Soil is a Histosol Manure will be applied RED AND FE Ca, Mg, Zn, Mn, Cu (area code)	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest area 2* Largest Area 3* Largest Area *Soil Map Unit Symbol may be obtained Soil Survey Report or a NRCS Conserv Include only area that make up at least ES , Fe, B, and estimated CEC()	I (see back) Percent (%) of Field or from a County ation Plan. 20% of field No-Charge \$4.00 \$2.00 \$1.00	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units Tons/Acre Bushels/Acre Bushels/Acre Acres/AU* *Animal Unit = one 1,000 lb cow wikaif or two 500 lb steers, or free eves wilamba. INT PER SAMPLE OUTOF/STATE \$16.00 \$6.00 \$3.00 \$2.00				
SOIL INFORMAT           Last Lime Application           Months           Previous           Ton/Acre           O           P+           Solit           TEST           Routine (soil pH, P, K, Organic Matter           Soluble Salts           Fax Results: FAX # (w           Method of Payment:	ION Check 🖄 if Field has artificial dramage Historel Manure will be applied RED AND FE Ca, Mg, Zn, Mn, Cu /area code) Check Enclosed or	Prominent Soils in Field Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest Area 2 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area 3 <sup>st</sup> Largest Area *Soil Map Unit Symbol may be obtained Soil Survey Report or a NRCS ConservineInde only areas that make up at least ES , Fe, B, and estimated CEC) Bill my Business Tax ID # 3	I (see back) Percent (%) of Field Of from a County Thom Plan Units of Field Of No-Charge \$4.00 \$2.00 \$1.00 required for billing	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units Tons/Acre Bushels/Acre Bushels/Acre Acres/AU* *Armail Unit = one 1,000 B core weight or too 500 B deers, or five eves winambs. BST PER SAMPLE OUT-OF-STATE \$16.00 \$3.00 \$2.00				
SOIL INFORMAT Last Line Application Months Previous Ton/Acre O - O O .1-1.0 O - O O O O .1-1.0 O - O O O O O .1-1.0 O - O O O O O O O .1-1.0 O - O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	ION Check 🖞 if Field has artificial drainage Soil is a Hitosol Manure will be applied RED AND FE Ca, Mg, Zn, Mn, Cu /area code) Check Enclosed or soil sample and form	Prominent Soils in Field  Prominent Soils in Field  Soil Map Unit Symbol for:* Largest area 2* Largest Area *Soil Map Unit Symbol may be obtained Soil Survey Report or a NRCS Conserv Include only areas that make up at least SES FFe, B, and estimated CEC) Bill my Business Tax ID # 3 m make check or money order paya	I (see back) Percent (%) of Field Or from a County from a County and Plan 20% of field Or No-Charge \$4.00 \$2.00 \$1.00 required for billing ble to "Treesurer Field	Your Yield Estimate (For crop to be grown) Select Units Tons/Acre Bushels/Acre Bushels/Acre Acres/AU* *Armad Unit - one 1,000 B cow weight or two 500 B steen, or free eves withinks. IST FER SAMPLE OUTOF-STATE \$16.00 \$6.00 \$3.00 \$2.00 Training Tech "				

http:// pubs.ext.vt.edu/ 452/452-124/452-12 4\_pdf.pdf

Contact information Crop to be grown Last crop Residual nitrogen Lime history Residual > Soil series Productivity Tost dosirod

Blackaburg; Jewel E. Halmion, Administrator, 1090 Extension Program, Voginia State, Peteraburg VTI/1012/web/CSE5-20NP

Vignita Cooperative Distancian programs and employment are open to all ingentities of mon, solor, national dogh, saw, insight, ang, disability, political below, annual ordenation, or mental or handy attained. An equal reporting Mitmatte and on employe laware to utrhermos of Cooperative Extension work, Works Polytochnic Instatus and East University. Works & Bate University at the U.S. Department of Aprixities cooperating. Edited J. Jones, France, Works Cooperative Extension, Works To

#### Virginia Cooperative Extension

PUBLICATION 452-125

#### Virginia Tech Soil Testing Laboratory

#### Soil Sample Information Sheet for Home Lawns, Gardens, Fruits, and Ornamentals

#### Please Print

INSTRUCTIONS: See other side for sampling instructions. For a recommendation, be sure to fill in the plant code number. Place check marks ( $\sqrt{}$ ) where appropriate. Use another form for commercial 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. Processing will be delayed if soil is not received in an official sample box. See www.soiltest.vt.edu for more information.

Your Name	Date sampled:
Ciry ZIP (required) Telephone No. County	Office Use only Extension Unit Code:
Extra Copy For (Dealer, etc.): Street, Route City ZIP (required)	



#### SOIL INFORMATION

Last Lime Application						
Months Previous	Pounds per 1,000 sq ft.					
	0 10-50 51-100 101-150 151+					

#### PLANT CODE LIST

Lawn: Kentucky Bluegrass, Fescue, or Ryegrass	Non-Acid-Loving Shrubs and Trees					
201 Establishing New Lawn 202 Maintaining Lawn, Repair of Bare Spots	<ul> <li>245 Shrubs - Lilac, Forsythia, Box- wood, etc.</li> <li>246 Trees - Pine, Maple, Oak, etc.</li> </ul>					
Lawn: Bermudagrass.	Fruits					
Zoysiagrass, or St. Agustine	220 Apples					
203 Establishing New Lawn 204 Maintaining Lawn, Repair of Bare Spots Garden 210 Vegetable Garden 211 Flower Garden 211 Flower Garden 212 Roses	221 Blackberries 222 Blueberries 223 Currants 224 Gooseberries 225 Grapes 226 Nectarines 227 Peaches 228 Pears 229 Plums 230 Quince					
Acid-Loving Suruos	231 Raspoernes 232 Sour Cherry					
240 Azaleas	233 Strawberries					
241 Andromedas 242 Campilias	234 Sweet Cherries					
242 Camenias 243 Laurel	House Plants					
244 Rhododendron	250 Potted House Plants					

SOIL TESTS DESIRED AND FEES	COST PER SAMPLE								
SOIL TESTS DESIRED AND TEES	IN-STATE	OUT-OF-STATE							
Routine (soil pH, P, K, Ca, Mg, Zn, Mn, Cu, Fe, B, and estimated CEC)	\$ 10.00	\$16.00							
Organic Matter – Determines percentage in soil – no recommendation given	\$ 4.00	\$ 6.00							
Soluble Salts – Determines if fertilizer salts are too high	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.00							
Fax Results: FAX # ()	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00							
Send in payment along with soil sample and form; make check or money order payable to "Treasurer, Virginia Tech."									

### http:// pubs.ext.vt.edu/ 452/452-125/452-12 5\_pdf.pdf

Contact information Plant to be grown Lime history ✓ Residual Test desired

## Soil Testing – Nutrient Extraction





()<u>(</u>))

## **Sample Analysis**

## Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometer (ICP)



Soil Testing Lab, Virginia Tech

## Soil Test Report

	SAMPLE HISTORY														
Sample	Field		LAST CROP			, LAST LIME APPLICATION			SOIL INFORMATION						
ID	ID		Name		Yield		Months Prev.	Tons/Acre		e	SMU-1 %	SMU-2 %	SMU- %	3 Yield Estimat	Productivity e Group
TMN03	TARECMN3							0			BKA 100				II
				I	LAB TEST	r res	ULTS (se	e Note 1	)						
Analysi	s P (lb/A)	K (lb/A)	Ca (lb/A)	Mg	g (lb/A) Zn		(ppm)	Mn (p	(ppm) C		(ppm)	Fe (ppr	Fe (ppm)		S.Salts (ppm)
Result	136	134	1084		197	1	1.3 3		6	0.2		43.2	2	0.3	
Rating	VH	м	М		H+ \$		SUFF		SUFF S		SUFF SUFF		7	SUFF	
Analysi	Soil s pH	Buffer Index	EstCE/ (meq/100	C g)	Acidi (%)	ity )	Base (%	Sat. 6)	Ca	a Sat. (%)	]	Mg Sat. (%)	]	K Sat. (%)	Organic Matter (%)
Result	5.3	6.23	4.7		21.	5	78	.5 57.		7.6		17.3		3.7	

FERTILIZER AND LIMESTONE RECOMMENDATIONS

Crop: Soybeans (10)

Lime, To	ons/Acre	Fertilizer, lb/A						
Amount	Туре	N	P205	K20				
1.25	AG	0	0	<mark>6</mark> 0				

## Crop response to fertilizer

Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K) Tests, Virginia Tech Soil Testing

Soil Test P	Ib/A	P-ppm
L-	0-3	0-2
Ĺ.	4-8	2-4
L+	9-11	5-6
M-	12-20	6-10
M	21-30	11-15
M+	31-35	16-18
H-	36-55	18-28
Н	56-85	28-43
H+	86-110	43-55
VH	110+	55+
Soil Test K	lb/A	K-ppm
Soil Test K	<b>Ib/A</b> 0-15	K-ppm 0-8
Soil Test K - L	<b>Ib/A</b> 0-15 16-55	K-ppm 0-8 8-28
Soil Test K - L +	<b>Ib/A</b> 0-15 16-55 56-75	K-ppm 0-8 8-28 28-38
Soil Test K - L + M-	<b>Ib/A</b> 0-15 16-55 56-75 76-100	K-ppm 0-8 8-28 28-38 38-50
Soil Test K - L + M- M	<b>Ib/A</b> 0-15 16-55 56-75 76-100 101-150	K-ppm 0-8 8-28 28-38 38-50 51-75
Soil Test K - L + M- M M+	Ib/A 0-15 16-55 56-75 76-100 101-150 151-175	K-ppm 0-8 8-28 28-38 38-50 51-75 76-88
Soil Test K - L + M- M M+ H-	Ib/A 0-15 16-55 56-75 76-100 101-150 151-175 176-210	K-ppm 0-8 8-28 28-38 38-50 51-75 76-88 88-105
Soil Test K - L + M- M M+ H- H- H	Ib/A 0-15 16-55 56-75 76-100 101-150 151-175 176-210 211-280	K-ppm 0-8 8-28 28-38 38-50 51-75 76-88 88-105 106-140
Soil Test K - L + M- M M+ H- H- H H+	Ib/A 0-15 16-55 56-75 76-100 101-150 151-175 176-210 211-280 281-310	K-ppm 0-8 8-28 28-38 38-50 51-75 76-88 88-105 106-140 141-155

Yield or Relative Yield



## **Nutrient Recommendation**

Crop: Tomatoes - Fresh Market

Crop Code: 71, 471

Target pH = 6.5

See Notes: 1, 4

Possible Trace Element Need: B

Qu'il Truct	Fertilizer Recommendations (lb/A)								
Level	Ν	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K2O						
L		200	300						
М	80	150	200						
Н		100	100						
VH		50	50						

For more information see VCE Pub. #456-420, Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations.

## Nutrient Recommendation

Crop: Vegetable Garden, Flower Garden, Roses

**Crop Code**: 210 – 212

Target pH = 6.5

See Notes: 1, 19

Soil Te	st Level		
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O	No.	Fertilizer Recommendations
L-M	L-M	*221	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply 4 lbs (10 cups) of 5-10-10 or 2 lbs of 10-20-20 per 100 sq. ft. For additional information on fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).
L-M	H-VH	*222†	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply 4 lbs (9 cups) of 5-10-5 per 100 sq. ft. For additional information on fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).
Н	L-VH	*223	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply 2 lbs (4 1/2 cups) of 10-10-10 per 100 sq. ft. For additional information on fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).
VH	L	*224	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply 1.5 lbs (3 cups) of potassium nitrate (13-0-44) per 100 sq. ft. If you are unable to find this fertilizer, apply 2 lbs (4 1/2 cups) of 10-10-10 per 100 sq.ft. For additional information on fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).
VH	M-VH	*225‡	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply a nitrogen-only fertilizer, such as one of the following amounts per 100 sq. ft 1.25 lbs (2 cups) of nitrate of soda (16-0-0) or 0.5 lbs (1 cup) of ammonium nitrate (33-0-0) or 0.4 lbs (1 cup) of urea (46-0-0). Do not over fertilize! These products will burn plants at high rates! If you are unable to find either of these fertilizers, apply 2 lbs. (4 1/2 cups) of 10-10-10 per 100 sq. ft. For additional information on fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).

## **Nutrient Recor**

Crop: Vegetable Garden, Flower Garden, Roses

Sample	Field	LAST CROP					LAST LIME APPLICATION				SOIL INFORMATION				
ID	ID		Name		Yield		Months Prev.	Tons/Acre		e	SMU-1 %	SMU-2 %	SMU-3 %	Yield Estimate	Productivi Group
TMN03	TARECMN3								0		BKA 100				II
				LA	B TEST	RESU	JLTS (se	e Note 1	)						
Analysi	s P (lb/A)	K (lb/A)	Ca (lb/A)	Mg (	lb/A)	Zn (	ppm)	Mn (p	opm)	Cu	(ppm)	Fe (pp	<b>n</b> ) 1	В (ррт)	S.Salts (ppn
Result	136	134	1084	19	97	1	1.3 3		3.6 0.2		0.2 43.2		2	0.3	
Rating	VH	м	м	Н	H+ S		UFF SU		SUFF SUI		UFF	SUF	7	SUFF	
Analysi	s pH	Buffer Index	EstCE (meq/100	C Og)	Acidity (%)	r -	Base (%	Sat.	C	a Sat. (%)		Mg Sat. (%)	К (	Sat. %)	Organic Matter (%)
Result	5.3	6.23	4.7		21.5		78	.5	5 57.6			17.3	3	.7	

SAMPLE HISTORY

LAST LIME

K20 60

Target pH = 6.5

FERTILIZER AND LIMESTONE RECOMMENDATIONS

Soil Test Level		G	Crop: Soybeans (10)	Lime, Tons/Acre Amount Type	N N	Fertilizer, lb/2 P205
<b>P</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>O</b> <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O	No.	Fertilizer Recommendations	AG		
L-M	L-M	*221	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply 41 cups) of 5-10-10 or 2 lbs of 10-20-20 per 100 sq. ft additional information on fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).	lbs (10 For		
L-M	H-VH	*222†	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply 4 1 cups) of 5-10-5 per 100 sq. ft. For additional inform on fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).	lbs (9 mation		
Н	L-VH	*223	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply 21 1/2 cups) of 10-10-10 per 100 sq. ft. For additiona information on fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).	lbs (4 1		
VH	L	*224	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply 1.3 cups) of potassium nitrate (13-0-44) per 100 sq. ft. are unable to find this fertilizer, apply 2 lbs (4 1/2 of 10-10-10 per 100 sq.ft. For additional information fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).	5 lbs (3 If you cups) of on		
VH	M-VH	*225 <b>‡</b>	FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS: Apply a nitrogen-only fertilizer, such as one of the following amounts per 100 sq. ft 1.25 lbs (2 cups) of ni soda (16-0-0) or 0.5 lbs (1 cup) of ammonium nitra 0-0) or 0.4 lbs (1 cup) of urea (46-0-0). Do not ove fertilize! These products will burn plants at high rat you are unable to find either of these fertilizers, applbs. (4 1/2 cups) of 10-10-10 per 100 sq. ft. For ad information on fertilization, see Note 19 (enclosed).	g trate of te (33- er tes! If oly 2 Iditional		

## Southern Coastal Plain: Soil Test Summary

			(	min o	pH R: n top,	ange max l	elow)																	
	Cron	Noof	0.0-	5.0-	5.5-	6.0-	65-	7.0-		P Rat	ing		1	K Rat	ing			a Rat	ting		N	lg Rat	ing	
Crop Name	Code	Samples	4.9	5.4	5.9	6.4	6.9	+	L	м	Н	VH	L	М	Н	VH	L	M	Н	VH	L	M	н	VH
					%	,		1717		9	6			%				%	,			%		
SUMMARY			_					_	-															
GREENHOUSE	301-399	45	2	7	24	47	13	7	2	9	62	27	2	7	51	40	0	29	58	13	0	2	7	91
COMMERCIAL	1-199	38238	1	6	27	45	18	3	2	28	59	11	18	67	13	2	61	33	4	1	23	52	17	9
HOMEOWNER	201-299	3312	7	13	18	20	20	22	5	18	33	43	23	50	20	7	10	22	20	48	4	15	20	61
RESEARCH	599	36	8	25	14	33	17	3	0	6	58	36	25	47	11	17	61	39	0	0	36	36	11	17
TOTALS		41631							-		·				•			·					-	

No soil test calibrations for sulfur or nitrogen.

## **Past Lime Credit**

Last Lime	
Application, Months	

### Allowance For Previous Amount Applied, %

None applied
 1 - 6
 7 - 12
 13 - 18
 > 18
# Lime Materials:

Effectiveness is Determined:
 ✓ Particle Size
 ✓ Neutralizing Power

### Neutralizing Power or Calcium Carbonate Equivalency (CCE)

CaCO<sub>3</sub> set to 100.
 All other materials compared to it.

# Properties of various lime materials

Material	Chemical Formula	CCE	Comments
Calcitic	CaCO <sub>3</sub>	100	Supplies Ca
Dolomitic	CaCO <sub>3</sub> + Ca <sup>·</sup> MgCO <sub>3</sub>	109	Supplies Ca & Mg
Burned	CaO	150-175	Absorbes H <sub>2</sub> O
Hydrated	Ca(OH)₂	120-135	quickly, caustic
Marl	CaCO <sub>3</sub>	70-90	Unconsolidated





# Soil Testing – pH Measurement







## Soil Test Report

					SAN	MPLE	HISTOR	Y							
Sample	Sample Field LAST CROP					L AP	AST LI PLICAT	ME TION		SOIL INFORMATION					
ID	ID		Name		Yield	d	Months Prev.	1	Fons/Acr	e	SMU-1 %	SMU-2 %	SMU- %	3 Yield Estimat	Productivity e Group
TMN03	TARECMN3								0		BKA 100				II
	LAB TEST RESULTS (see Note 1)														
Analysi	s P (lb/A)	K (lb/A)	Ca (lb/A)	Mg	g (lb/A)	Zn	(ppm)	Mn (p	ppm)	Cu	(ppm)	Fe (ppr	n)	B (ppm)	S.Salts (ppm)
Result	136	134	1084		197	1	L.3	3.	6	(	0.2	43.2	2	0.3	
Rating	VH	м	М		H+	ន	UFF	SU	FF	ន	UFF	SUFI	7	SUFF	
Analysi	Soil s pH	Buffer Index	EstCE/ (meq/100	C g)	Acidi (%)	ity )	Base (%	Sat. 6)	Ca	a Sat. (%)	]	Mg Sat. (%)	]	K Sat. (%)	Organic Matter (%)
Result	5.3	6.23	4.7		21.	5	78	.5	5	7.6		17.3		3.7	

FERTILIZER AND LIMESTONE RECOMMENDATIONS

Crop: Soybeans (10)

Lime, To	ons/Acre		Fertilizer, lb/A					
Amount	Туре	N	P205	K20				
1.25	AG	0	0	<mark>6</mark> 0				

### Lime recommendations

### >Water pH = pH "now"

- ✓What the plant currently "sees"
- Not used unless target pH is more than 0.2 points higher

					SAN	IPLE	HISTOR	Y								
Sample	Field		LAST CRO	OP			L AP	AST LI PLICAT	ME TON			SOIL INFORMATION				
ID	ID		Name		Yield		Months Prev.	Months Prev. 7		Tons/Acre		SMU-2 %	SMU-3 %	Yield Estimate	Productivity Group	
TMN03	TARECMN3									0		BKA 100				II
	LAB TEST RESULTS (see Note 1)															
Analysi	is P (lb/A)	K (lb/A)	Ca (lb/A)	Mg	(lb/A)	Zn	(ppm)	Mn (j	opm)	Cu	ı (ppm)	Fe (ppr	n) I	3 (ppm)	S.Salts (ppm)	
Result	136	134	1084	1	97	1	.3	3.	6		0.2	43.2	2	0.3		
Rating	VH	М	М	H	I+	នា	JFF	SU	FF	S	SUFF	SUFI	7	SUFF		
Analysi	is Soil pH	Buffer Index	EstCE (meq/100	C Og)	Acidi (%)	ty	Base (%	Sat. 6)	Ca (	n Sat. (%)	, 1	Mg Sat. (%)	K (	Sat. %)	Organic Matter (%)	
Result	5.3	6.23	4.7		21.5			8.5 57.		7.6	5 17.3		3	.7		
	FERTILIZER AND LIMESTONE RECOMMENDATIONS															
Crop: Soyb	peans (10)						Lime, Tons/Acre				Fertiliz					
							Amo	ount	T	ype		Ν	P	205	K20	

1.25

AG

0

60

# Lime recommendations Buffer pH = Used for lime recommendations ✓Active and reserve acidity

- What the plant "sees" now and what the plant will see in the future.
- ✓Takes out "salt" effects

Can cause a water pH change of 1 unit or more

					SAN	MPLE	HISTOR	Y							
Sample	Field		LAST CRO	OP			LAST LIME APPLICATION			SOIL INFORMATION					
ID	ID		Name	ıme		Yield		1	Fons/Acr	e	SMU-1 %	SMU-2 %	SMU-3 %	Yield Estimate	Productivity Group
TMN03	TARECMN3								0		BKA 100				II
L	LAB TEST RESULTS (see Note 1)														
Analysi	s P (lb/A)	K (lb/A)	Ca (lb/A)	Mg	(lb/A)	Zn	(ppm)	Mn (p	opm)	Cu	ı (ppm)	Fe (ppr	n)	B (ppm)	S.Salts (ppm)
Result	136	134	1084	1	97	1	3	з.	6		0.2	43.2	2	0.3	
Rating	VH		м	I	H+	S	UFF	SU	FF	2	SUFF	SUFI	7	SUFF	
Analysi	Soil s pH	Buffer Index	EstCE (meq/100	C )g)	Acidi (%)	ity )	Base (%	Sat. 6)	Ca (	n Sat. [%)	, ]	Mg Sat. (%)	ŀ	C Sat. (%)	Organic Matter (%)
Result	5.3	6.23	4.7	21.5		5	5 78		78.5 57.6		6 17.3			3.7	
	FERTILIZER AND LIMESTONE RECOMMENDATIONS														
Crop: Soybeans (10)							l	Lime, Tons/Acre				Fertilizer, lb/A			
							Amo	ount	T	vpe		Ν		P205	K20

1.25

AG

0

0

60

# Soil test report buffer index = 6.23 How much lime?

Lime Recommendations for Virginia Plants in Pounds per 1,000 sq. ft.

Lime Rates in lbs/1.000 sq. ft. of Aq Lime

	(rounded to the nearest 10 pounds)									
			Target pH			Acidity				
Buffer										
Index	5.2	5.8	6.2	6.5	6.8	meq/100g				
6.60	0	0	0	0	0	0.00				
6.50	0	0	0	0	0	0.03				
6.40	0	0	0	0	20	0.06				
6.38	0	0	0	20	30	0.12				
6.36	0	0	20	20	40	0.24				
6.34	0	0	20	20	40	0.36				
6.32	0	0	30	30	50	0.48				
6.30	0	0	30	40	60	0.59				
6.28	0	0	40	40	60	0.71				
6.26	0	20	40	50	70	0.83				
6.24	0	20	50	60	80	0.95				
6.22	0	30	60	60	80	1.07				
6.20	0	30	60	70	90	1.19				
6.18	0	40	70	80	100	1.30				
6.16	0	40	70	80	100	1.42				
6.14	20	50	80	90	110	1.54				
6.12	20	60	90	100	120	1.66				
6.10	20	60	90	100	120	1.78				
6.08	30	70	100	110	130	1.90				
6.06	30	70	100	110	140	2.02				
6.04	40	80	110	120	140	2.13				
6.02	50	80	110	130	150	2.25				
6.00	50	90	120	130	160	2.37				
5.95	60	100	140	150	170	2.67				
5.90	80	120	150	170	190	2.96				

400

5.90

- ---

 Soil test report buffer index = 6.23
 What if I put out 100 lbs./1000 sq. ft.?

2.96

0.00

Lime Recommendations for Virginia Plants in Pounds per 1,000 sq. ft.

 Soil test report buffer index = 6.40
 Water soil pH = 5.8
 How much lime?

Lime Recommendations for Virginia Plants in Pounds per 1,000 sq. ft.

Lime Rates in Ibs/1,000 sq. ft. of Ag Lime

	(rounded to the nearest 10 pounds)											
			Target pH			Acidity						
Buffer												
Index	5.2	5.8	6.2	6.5	6.8	meq/100g						
6.60	0	0	0	0	0	0.00						
6.50	0	0	0	0	0	0.03						
6.40	0	0	0	0	20	0.06						
6.38	0	0	0	20	30	0.12						
6.36	0	0	20	20	40	0.24						
6.34	0	0	20	20	40	0.36						
6.32	0	0	30	30	50	0.48						
6.30	0	0	30	40	60	0.59						
6.28	0	0	40	40	60	0.71						
6.26	0	20	40	50	70	0.83						
6.24	0	20	50	60	80	0.95						
6.22	0	30	60	60	80	1.07						
6.20	0	30	60	70	90	1.19						
6.18	0	40	70	80	100	1.30						
6.16	0	40	70	80	100	1.42						
6.14	20	50	80	90	110	1.54						
6.12	20	60	90	100	120	1.66						
6.10	20	60	90	100	120	1.78						
6.08	30	70	100	110	130	1.90						
6.06	30	70	100	110	140	2.02						
6.04	40	80	110	120	140	2.13						
6.02	50	80	110	130	150	2.25						
6.00	50	90	120	130	160	2.37						
5.95	60	100	140	150	170	2.67						
5.90	80	120	150	170	190	2.96						

>Soil test report buffer index = 6.40 $\gg$  Water soil pH = 5.8 > How much lime? >20 lbs./1,000 sq. ft.  $\checkmark$  Based on 0.2 points below desirable pH of 6.5

Lime Recommendations for Virginia Plants in Pounds per 1,000 sq. ft.

Lime Rates in lbs/1.000 sq. ft. of Ag Lime

	(rounded to the nearest 10 pounds)										
			Target pH			Acidity					
Buffer											
Index	5.2	5.8	6.2	6.5	6.8	meq/100g					
6.60	0	0	0	0	0	0.00					
6.50	0	0	0	0	0	0.03					
6.40	0	0	0	0	20	0.06					
6.38	0	0	0	20	30	0.12					
6.36	0	0	20	20	40	0.24					
6.34	0	0	20	20	40	0.36					
6.32	0	0	30	30	50	0.48					
6.30	0	0	30	40	60	0.59					
6.28	0	0	40	40	60	0.71					
6.26	0	20	40	50	70	0.83					
6.24	0	20	50	60	80	0.95					
6.22	0	30	60	60	80	1.07					
6.20	0	30	60	70	90	1.19					
6.18	0	40	70	80	100	1.30					
6.16	0	40	70	80	100	1.42					
6.14	20	50	80	90	110	1.54					
6.12	20	60	90	100	120	1.66					
6.10	20	60	90	100	120	1.78					
6.08	30	70	100	110	130	1.90					
6.06	30	70	100	110	140	2.02					
6.04	40	80	110	120	140	2.13					
6.02	50	80	110	130	150	2.25					
6.00	50	90	120	130	160	2.37					
5.95	60	100	140	150	170	2.67					
5.90	80	120	150	170	190	2.96					
	~~	100	100	100		0.00					



Low pH = Mo Def.

High pH = Mn Def.

### Outline

# Environment and pH Soil Testing Fertilizer

## Soil Test Report

					SAN	MPLE	HISTOR	Y							
Sample	Sample Field LAST CROP					L AP	AST LI PLICAT	ME TION		SOIL INFORMATION					
ID	ID		Name		Yield	d	Months Prev.	1	Fons/Acr	e	SMU-1 %	SMU-2 %	SMU- %	3 Yield Estimat	Productivity e Group
TMN03	TARECMN3								0		BKA 100				II
	LAB TEST RESULTS (see Note 1)														
Analysi	s P (lb/A)	K (lb/A)	Ca (lb/A)	Mg	g (lb/A)	Zn	(ppm)	Mn (p	ppm)	Cu	(ppm)	Fe (ppr	n)	B (ppm)	S.Salts (ppm)
Result	136	134	1084		197	1	L.3	3.	6	(	0.2	43.2	2	0.3	
Rating	VH	м	М		H+	ន	UFF	SU	FF	ន	UFF	SUFI	7	SUFF	
Analysi	Soil s pH	Buffer Index	EstCE/ (meq/100	C g)	Acidi (%)	ity )	Base (%	Sat. 6)	Ca	a Sat. (%)	]	Mg Sat. (%)	]	K Sat. (%)	Organic Matter (%)
Result	5.3	6.23	4.7		21.	5	78	.5	5	7.6		17.3		3.7	

FERTILIZER AND LIMESTONE RECOMMENDATIONS

Crop: Soybeans (10)

Lime, To	ons/Acre		Fertilizer, lb/A					
Amount	Туре	N	P205	K20				
1.25	AG	0	0	<mark>6</mark> 0				

### **Reading a Fertilizer Label**

What does this mean?14-0-26-19S

# Reading a Fertilizer Label > 14-0-26-19S

	GUARANTEED ANALYSIS	
	TOTAL NITROGEN (N)	%
	14.45% Urea Nirtogen (N)*	. 07
FERTILIZER	SULUBLE POIASH (N <sub>2</sub> U)	%
	10.50% Free sulfur (S)	
14-0-26	9.20% Combined sulfur (S)	
	IRON (Fe) Total0.96	%
	0.19% Water Soluble Iron (Fe)	
	MANGANESE (Mn) Total0.48 0.1% Water Soluble Manganese (Mn)	%
Nitrogen N	DERIVED FROM: Polymer Coated Sulfur Co	ateo
Phosphate $P_2O_5$	Urea, Sulfate of Potash, Iron Oxide, Manga Oxide.	nes
Potash K <sub>2</sub> O	CHLORINE (CI) Max2.00%	6
<	*7.00% Slowly Available Urea Nitrogen from	1
	Polymer Coated Sulfur Coated Urea.	

## **Reading a Fertilizer Label**

### **≻4-3-3**

### **AGGRAND**°

Natural Fertilizer enhances plant productivity by providing the important nutrients: Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium.

#### **GUARANTEED ANALYSIS**

 Total Nitrogen (N)
 4.0%

 2.5% Water Soluble Nitrogen
 1.5% Water Insoluble Nitrogen

 Available Phosphate (P205)
 3.0%

 Soluble Potash (K20)
 3.0%

 Derived from:
 3.0%

Fish, Kelp, Bloodmeal, and Sulfate of Potash.

F1136



AMSOIL INC. 925 Tower Ave. • Superior, WI 54880 U.S.A. Visit us on the web at www.altrumonline.com



NET WT. 2.25 lbs (1.02 kg)

32 fl oz (946 ml)

### Take Home Message

> Only put out the nutrients you need!

- Monitor soil nutritional "health" via soil samples
- Plant tissue samples are useful for finding deficiency problems
- Tissue and soil test if unsure of problem:
  ✓Good area
  - ✓ Bad area

Tissue = short term fix; Soil = Long term

# QUESTIONS?

➢ Follow us on Facebook:



- Virginia Tech Eastern Shore AREC Crop & Soil **Environmental Sciences**
- http://www.facebook.com/EasternShore.Soils
- >Mark Reiter >757-414-0724 ext. 16 ▷mreiter@vt.edu

### Outline

Environment and pH
 Soil Testing
 Plant Tissue Testing
 Troubleshooting

## **Taking Plant Tissue Samples**

Avoid samples contaminated with dust or soil. ✓ Shake, brush off, wash if needed > Do not sample plants with other problems. ✓ Diseased ✓Insect injury Mechanically damaged

### **Taking Plant Tissue Samples**

> Mail the sample in a paper bag ✓ Do not mail in a plastic bag ✓ Let the sample air dry if wet to prevent mold Sample at the correct growth stage Sample the correct plant part > Make sure everything is labeled

### **Growth Stage**

### http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/424/424-100/PDF\_part7.pdf

Crop	Time	Plant Part to Sample No. of Plants	to Sample
Alfalfa	Early bloom	Top 4-6" of plant	30
Bermudagrass	Optimum time for maximum quality hay	Upper half of plant	50
Corn	Prior to 4th leaf stage	Whole plant, cutting at ground level	30
	Prior to tasseling	Entire leaf immediately below whorl, removing at stalk	20
	At silk when silks are still green	Entire ear leaf, removing at stalk	20
Cotton	At full bloom	Youngest recently mature leaves on main stem, collecting 2 leaves per plant	25
Peanut	At bloom stage	Last fully mature leaves at top of the plant, collecting 3 leaves per plant	25
Small Grains	Prior to jointing	Whole plant above ground, remove dead leaves	50
	Jointing to heading	Uppermost fully developed leaf	50
Soybeans	Prior to or at initial bloom	Uppermost fully developed trifoliate leaf set (composed of 3 leaflets)	
		per plant. Remove leaf stem (petiole)	25
Tobacco	Prior to or at bloom	Entire 4th leaf from the top of the plant	15

### **Growth Stage**

### http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/424/424-100/PDF\_part7.pdf

Vegetable			
Asparagus	Midgrowth	Mature fern from 18-36" up	10
Beet	Midgrowth	Young mature leaf, 3 leaves/plant	25
Broccoli	Heading	Young mature leaf, 2 leaves/plant	
Brussels sprout	Midgrowth	Young mature leaf, 3 leaves/plant	25
Cabbage	Head half grown	Young wrapper leaf, 2 leaves/plant	30
Cantaloupe	Prior to or at initial fruit set	Mature leaf near growing tip, 3 leaves/plant	25
Cauliflower	Buttoning	Mature leaf with stem removed	30
Collards	Midgrowth	Young mature leaf, 3 leaves/plant	25
Cucumber	Prior to or at initial fruit set	Mature leaf near growing tip, 3 leaves/plant	25
Green beans	Prior to or at early bloom	Uppermost mature leaves, 3 leaves/plant	20
Kale	Midgrowth	Young mature leaf, 3 leaves/plant	30
Onion	Midgrowth	Young mature leaf, 2 leaves/plant	30
Peas	Bud to full bloom	Entire top growth	15
Peppers, bell	Midgrowth	Young mature leaf, 3 leaves/plant	30
Potatoes, Irish	Tubers half grown	Young mature leaf, 3 leaves/plant	25
Spinach	Midgrowth	Young mature leaf, 2 leaves/plant	25
Sweet corn	At silking when silks are green	Entire ear leaf, removing at stalk	20
Sweet potato	Midgrowth	4 <sup>th</sup> leaf from a primary vine,	
		counting down from growing tip	30
Tomato,	Early fruiting	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> leaf from growing tip mech. harvest	50
Turnip greens	Midseason	Young mature leaf, 3 leaves/plant	25
Watermelon	Prior to or at initial fruit set	Mature leaf near growing tip, 3	25

# Sufficiency Ranges

Table 3. Plant Nutrient Sufficiency Ranges for Field, Forage, Fruit, and Nut Crops\*

Crop**	N	P	ĸ	Ca	Mg	Mn	Fe	В	Cu	Zn	Mo
	%					ppm					
Field, Forage											
Alfalfa	4.50-5.00	0.35	2.20	0.80	0.40	25	30	15	7	15	0.5
Bermudagrass	2.00-3.00	0.20-0.50	1.50-2.50	0.25-0.75	0.15-0.50	50-250	50-300	5-20	6-20	20-50	-
Corn-up to 12" tall	3.50-5.00	0.30-0.50	3.00-4.00	0.30-0.70	0.20-0.60	30-300	50-250	4-25	3-20	20-60	0.2
Corn-ear leaf at silk or leaf below whorl	3.00-3.50	0.25-0.45	2.00-2.75	0.25-0.80	0.20-0.50	30-200	50-300	3-20	3-20	20-60	0.2
Cotton	3.50-4.50	0.30-0.50	2.00-3.00	2.25-3.00	0.50-0.90	50-350	50-250	20-60	8-20	20-60	—
Peanut	3.50-4.50	0.25-0.50	2.00-3.00	1.25-2.00	0.30-0.80	50-350	50-300	25-60	-	20-50	0.5
Small grains	4.00-5.00	0.20-0.40	1.50-3.00	0.20-0.50	0.15-0.50	25-100	25-100	3-20	5-25	20-70	-
Soybeans	4.25-5.00	0.30-0.50	1.75-2.50	0.50-1.50	0.25-0.80	20-200	50-300	25-60	6-30	20-50	0.5
Tobacco	3.50-4.25	0.25-0.50	2.50-3.20	1.50-3.50	0.20-0.65	30-250	50-200	20-50	15-60	20-80	-
Fruit, Nut											
Apple	2.00-3.00	0.15-0.50	1.25-3.00	1.00-2.00	0.20-0.50	20-200	50-400	20-60	5-20	15-50	-
Blueberry	1.80-2.00	0.10-0.20	0.40-0.60	0.30-0.75	0.20-0.30	20-200	60-150	10-50	10-20	10-50	_
Cherry	2.00-3.00	0.15-0.50	1.25-2.50	1.50-2.50	0.20-0.50	20-200	50-400	20-60	5-20	15-50	—
Grape	0.80-1.00	0.20-0.50	1.50-2.50	1.75	0.40-0.80	30-200	30	40-60	5-20	20-50	_
Peach	2.75-3.50	0.25-0.50	1.20-2.50	1.50-2.50	0.20-0.50	20-200	60-400	20-100	5-20	15-50	-
Pear	2.20-3.00	0.15-0.50	1.00-3.00	1.00-2.00	0.20-0.50	20-200	50-400	20-60	5-20	15-50	_
Pecan	2.50-3.90	0.12-0.30	1.00-1.50	0.70-1.50	0.30-0.60	100-800	50-300	20-45	10-30	50-100	-

### Outline

Environment and pH
 Soil Testing
 Plant Tissue Testing
 Troubleshooting

### Troubleshooting

### Take at least four representative samples

Soil
 Good area
 Bad area
 Plant Tissue
 Good area
 Bad area





### Nutrient Stratification – grass or no-till



### How Lime Works



# How Lime Reduces Soil Acidity

A Ca<sup>2+</sup> ion from the lime replaces two H<sup>+</sup> ions on the cation exchange complex.

- But realize, Ca is not actually reducing the number of H+ ions.
- The H<sup>+</sup> ions combine with OH<sup>-</sup> to form water.

Soil pH increases because the acidity source (H<sup>+</sup>) has been reduced.

### **Neutralizing Acidity with Lime**

### $CaCO_3 + H_2O \longrightarrow Ca^{++} + HCO_3^{-} + OH^{-}$

Displaces Al & H from Clay Breaks down to carbon dioxide + water

Combines with H<sup>+</sup> released from the clay or from Al-OH to form water

### How Lime Works





#### Manganese (Mn) Soil Test Calibration

Г

Manganese Calibration - Soybeans				
Soil Test Manganese ppm	Recommend Manganese If The Soil pH Is Equal To Or Greater Than The Following (0.22733 x Mn ppm) + 5.1			
$\begin{array}{c} 0.0 - 0.4 \\ 0.5 - 0.9 \\ 1.0 - 1.4 \\ 1.5 - 1.6 \\ 1.7 - 1.9 \\ 2.0 - 2.4 \\ 2.5 - 2.9 \\ 3.0 - 3.4 \\ 3.5 - 3.9 \\ 4.0 - 4.4 \\ 4.5 - 4.9 \\ 5.0 - 5.1 \\ 5.2 - 5.4 \\ 5.5 - 5.9 \\ 6.0 - 6.4 \\ 6.5 - 6.9 \\ 7.0 - 7.4 \\ 7.5 - 7.9 \\ 8.0 - 8.4 \\ 8.5 - \end{array}$	$5.1 \\ 5.2 \\ 5.3 \\ 5.4 \\ 5.5 \\ 5.6 \\ 5.7 \\ 5.8 \\ 5.9 \\ 6.0 \\ 6.1 \\ 6.2 \\ 6.3 \\ 6.4 \\ 6.5 \\ 6.6 \\ 6.7 \\ 6.8 \\ 6.9 \\ 7.0 \\ $			
# Lab's web site www.soiltest.vt.edu

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# Sampling instructions

## Report Notes

QUICKLINKS
Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences - Virginia Tech Soil Testing Lab
Fees and Forms
Sampling Instructions
Report Notes
About Our Laboratory
Have Questions?
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College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Crop & Soil Environmental Sciences
Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station
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### Mission

The Virginia Tech Soil Testing Laboratory is affiliated with both Virginia Cooperative Extension and the department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences, and analyzes soil samples submitted by the public and university researchers. Tests are performed to evaluate the soil's nutrient potential and to determine the most beneficial application rates of fertilizer and lime for optimum plant growth. Accurate soil analysis with subsequent recommendations provide a tool for making economical and ecological land use decisions. Maximum economic yields are realized through careful management of nutrient availability. Over-fertilization is costly and may be damaging to the environment.

Sciences - Virginia Tech Soil Testing Lab

#### Operation

A routine soil test package includes analysis for soil pH, P, K, Ca, Mg, Zn, Mn, Cu, Fe, and B, along with fertilizer and lime recommendations for the specified crop. Soluble salts and organic matter tests are also available. Local Cooperative Extension offices in counties and cities throughout the state can provide soil sample boxes and information sheets.

Soil samples are analyzed and computer recommendations generated usually within three working days of receipt. The completed soil test reports, along with one or more soil test notes containing additional information on fertilization and liming, are either mailed or emailed directly to the client. A copy of the report is also made available to the local Cooperative Extension office.

### Lab facts

- C'

» Started operations in 1938.

💿 People 🧿 Pages

Search CSES

8 - phosphorus concentration in milk

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- » Over 50,000 samples are tested each year.
- » More than a third of garden samples tested have too much lime, creating an alkaline soil that can cause micro-nutrient deficiencies in plants.
- Lab uses over 1,000 gallons of liquid argon a year.
- 1 in 7 existing lawn samples test low in phosphorus.
- Lab uses automated pH analyzers designed and manufactured in Australia.
- In a typical March, one person with half-time help types in client information for around 10,000 samples.
- Data from soil test instrumentation is captured electronically, and never has to be entered by hand.

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	Nitrogen (N)	Phosphate (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	Potash (K <sub>2</sub> O)	Physical State
Material Supplying	%	%	%	
Phosphorus				
Ammonium polyphosphate (APP)	10	34-37	0	liquid
Diammonium phosphate (DAP)	18-21	46-53	0	sold
Ground bone (raw)	2.5 to 4	20-25	0	solid
Ground rock phosphate	0	25-40 (14-65% avail.)	0	solid
Monammonium phosphate (MAP)	11-13	48-62	0	solid
Steamed bone meal	1 to 2.5	22-30	0	solid
Superphosphate, normal	0	16-22	0	solid
Superphosphate, triple	0	44-53	0	solid
Potassium				
Muriate of potash (potassium chloride	0	0	60-62	solid
Potassium nitrate	13	0	44	solid
Potassium sulfate	0	0	50-53	solid
Potassium thiosulfate	-	0	25	liquid
Potassium orthophosphat	te -	30-50		
Potassium magnesium su	ulfate 0	0	22	solid

## http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/424/424-100/424-100.html

	Nitrogen %	Sulfur %	Phosphorus %	Potassium %	Magnesium %	Calcium %	Sodium %	Boron ppm	Zinc ppm	Manganese ppm	Iron ppm	Copper ppm	Aluminum ppm
Analysis	3.81	0.32	0.28	2.77	0.13	0.35	0.01	7	25	48	112	7	33
Normal	2.00	0.20	0.20	1.50	0.15	0.30	0.00	5	21	32	36	6	0
Range	3.51	0.31	0.37	3.01	0.46	0.71	0.11	11	35	49	55	11	251
	N/S	N/K	P/S	P/Zn	K/Mg	K/Mn	Ca/B	Fe/Mn					
Actual Ratio	11.9	1.4	0.9	112.0	21.3	577.1	500.0	2.3					
Expected Ratio	10.8	1.2	1.1	101.8	7.4	556.8	631.3	1.1					
			1										
Very High					GOOL	) – Gr	een Pl	ants					
High													
Sufficient													
Low													
Deficient													
	N	S	Р	к	Mg	Ca	Na	В	Zn	Mn	Fe	Cu	AI
	Nitrogen %	Sulfur %	Phosphorus %	Potassium %	Magnesium %	Calcium %	Sodium %	Boron ppm	Zinc ppm	Manganese ppm	Iron ppm	Copper ppm	Aluminum ppm
Analysis	Nitrogen % 4.08	Sulfur % 0.18	Phosphorus % 0.40	Potassium %	Magnesium % 0.13	Calcium % 0.28	Sodium % 0.01	Boron ppm 7	Zinc ppm 28	Manganese ppm 29	Iron ppm 81	Copper ppm 6	Aluminum ppm 19
Analysis	Nitrogen % 4.08 2.00	Sulfur % 0.18 0.20	Phosphorus % 0.40 0.20	Potassium % 2.76 1.50	Magnesium % 0.13 0.15	Calcium % 0.28 0.30	Sodium % 0.01 0.00	Boron ppm 7 5	Zinc ppm 28 21	Manganese ppm 29 32	Iron ppm 81 36	Copper ppm 6 6	Aluminum ppm 19 0
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 Sulfur greened up the wheat
Higher soil pH would probably aggregate low Mn concentrations
Mg and Ca borderline low = low pH

Drought? Sandy?



