

Soil Sample Questionnaire -- Field Crops

Date _____

Sample No. _____ Field Identification _____ Field Size _____ acres

A completed questionnaire must accompany each sample. Retain a duplicate copy for your records. Number the samples and questionnaires for your own identification. Directions for obtaining soil samples are on the next page.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Community _____

(If known) Range _____ Township _____ Section _____

Plant Life

1. Quality of recent plant life:

Growth - uniform _____ uneven _____

Color - deep green _____ light green _____ yellow _____ other _____

Density - thick _____ medium _____ sparse _____

2. Field history and plans:

	Crop	Fertilizer used (available lbs./A.)				Tons/A Manure	Approximate yield/acre
		Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Potassium	Other		
Next year							
This year							
Last year							
2 yrs. ago							

3. If hay meadow or pasture: native _____ seeded grasses _____ legumes _____
 grass-legume mixture _____ If mixture, approximate grass _____ % and legume _____ %

Soil

4. Observable deposits: none _____ white specks _____ white, barren, crusty _____

5. Topsoil depth: _____ inches.

6. Subsoil: (if known) sand _____ gravel _____ clay _____ hardpan _____ lime _____ solid rock _____

7. Water penetration: rapid _____ moderate _____ slow _____ waterlogged _____

8. Field last heavy-leveled: never _____ date _____

Water

9. Method of irrigation: none _____ surface _____ sprinkler _____

10. Water applications: number per season _____ hours per set _____ length of run _____ feet

11. Average duration of irrigation season: _____ days

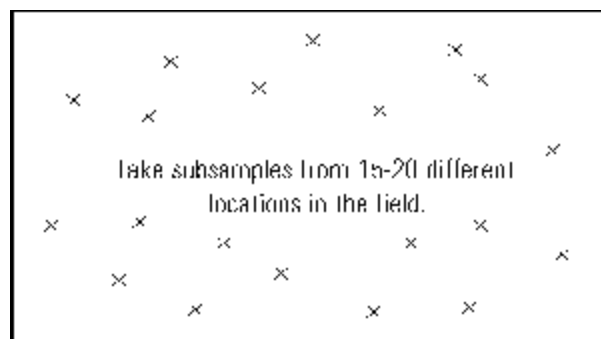
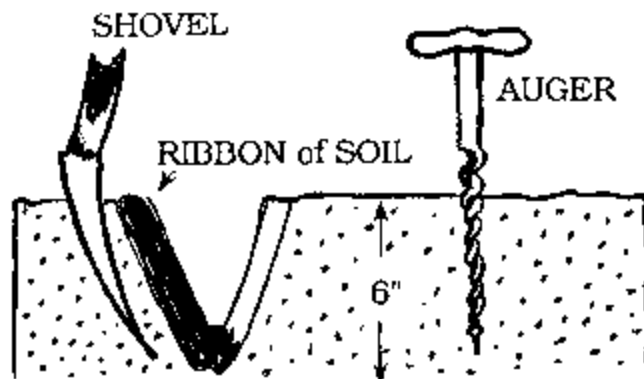
12. Water sources: well _____ reservoir _____ creek or river _____ canal project _____

Name of creek, river, reservoir, or canal project _____

Directions for taking soil samples for field crops

1. **Read these directions carefully:** Soil tests show only the condition of the sample submitted to the laboratory. It is therefore important to take a sample representative of the area under consideration. Each sample should represent 10 and not more than 20 acres. Recommendations will be no better than the accuracy of the sample and the completed soil questionnaire on the back of this sheet. Have soil tested at least once every rotation.
2. **Sample only uniform areas:** Divide field into soil type areas as indicated by variations in plant growth, soil color, or soil hardness. Sample each area individually. Do not sample (or sample separately) abnormal areas -- low spots, hard spots, and trampled areas, for example.
3. **Clean off trash and rubbish:** Remove grass and leaf litter, stones, etc., before sampling. Do not include this material in the sample.
4. **Sample zone:** For most routine analyses, take samples from the plow layer or principal root zone. If the area is poorly drained or shows signs of alkali, sample the crust and the second and third foot depths, too, and send in these samples.
5. **Take several samples:** If a soil auger is not available, use a spade or shovel to take a sample. Dig a hole about six inches deep. Shave a ribbon of soil from the side of the hole and put it in a clean container. Repeat this procedure at 10 or 12 locations in the field. Mix samples from like soils, breaking up all clods. Spread on a clean paper or canvas to dry. Do not use heat to dry. About one quart of air-dry soil is sufficient for analysis. Package the samples in a one quart Ziploc® style plastic bag.
6. **Fill out soil questionnaire:** Samples will not be analyzed unless accompanied by a completed soil questionnaire for each soil type sampled. Questionnaires are available at www.uwo.edu/ces/FORMS/CES_Subject_Forms.htm.
7. **Number or label samples:** Number and label each container and send or bring sample(s) accompanied by completed soil questionnaire(s) and appropriate fees to the soil-testing laboratory.
8. **Soil testing laboratory address:**

UW Soil Testing Laboratory
Laramie R&E Center Research Greenhouse
962 N. 30th.
Laramie, WY 82072



MP-6.3 Directions and questionnaire adapted and revised by K. Belden.

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