



Collect Soil Samples for pH Testing¹



- 1) Determine where you want to sample. Examples are “west garden” or “raised bed for herbs.” The final sample will usually consist of a mixture of several subsamples from different places within that area. Determine how much soil you’ll need from each subsample to make 3/4 cup total. You will also need a container for mixing subsamples and a plastic container or ziplock bag for your final soil sample. Label the final soil container with your name, date and location of the sample.

- 1) Thoroughly clean your tools, hands and gloves. A small amount of fertilizer or lime on your hands or tools will affect the results.

- 2) Select several spots for your subsamples.

- 3) For each spot, scrape away surface debris, mulch or vegetation. Dig down to the part of the soil where the plant roots will grow. That’s usually 6 to 8 inches deep, except for lawns where it’s about 3 inches.

- 4) If the soil is moist, let it dry on a newspaper for a few days. Clean the soil of stones, sticks and any other debris it may contain. It should also be broken up to small particles.

- 5) Mix all subsamples in your mixing container. Loosely fill the ziplock bag with about ¾ cup of your mixture.



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This publication will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Please call 541-344-5859 for information.

¹ Oregon State University, 10 Minute University, Oregon Master Gardener Association—Clackamas County Chapter in Cooperation with Oregon State University Extension Service, “Testing Soil pH”.



Submit Soil Sample for pH Testing

Name	Check preferred method of notification: Email _____ Phone _____ U.S. Mail _____
Street Address	
City, State, Zip	
Phone	
Email	

Today's Date _____

Location of Soil Sample _____


Collect about ¾ cup of soil. If the soil is moist, let it dry on a newspaper for a few days. Clean out any stones, sticks or other debris. Be sure your soil container is labelled with your name and the soil location, in your words. Attach this form to the sample.

Bring it to the plant clinic at OSU Extension at 996 Jefferson St, Eugene, OR 97402. The cost for the test is \$2, cash or check payable to LCMGA. The office is open Monday-Thursday, 10am-1pm and 2-5pm.

You will be contacted with the pH result within a week.

Call the Plant Clinic with questions at (541) 344-0265.

Test result pH: _____ Date client notified _____

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