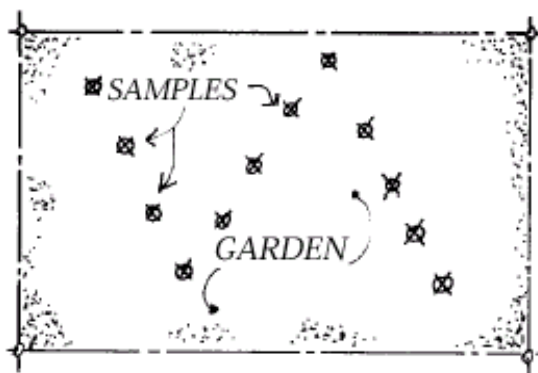
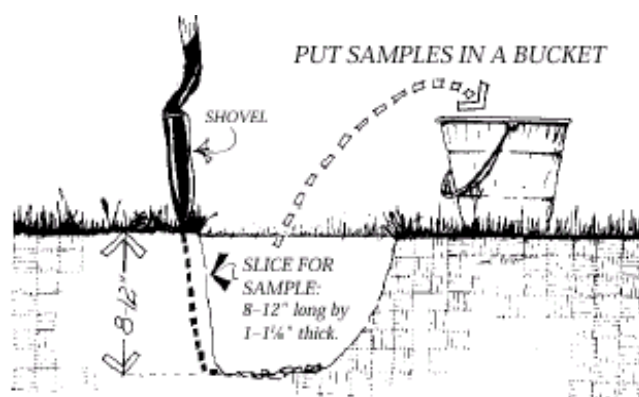


Soil Fertility Testing Procedure

The soil test provides a starting place for a soil improvement program for the home gardener. Unless you know the nutrient levels in your soil, you are only guessing when to apply fertilizer. Here is the proper procedure for soil testing. It is very important that you have collected your soil samples in this manner.

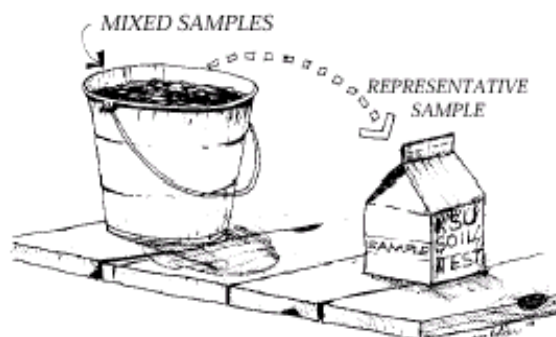


(1) Use a soil probe, spade, or shovel to sample the soil to a depth of:

- For established turf, sample to a depth of 3 inches.
- For a new lawn, sample to a depth of 4 to 6 inches.
- For trees and shrubs, sample to a depth of 8 - 12 inches.

(2) For gardens and lawns, you must collect several subsamples (at least 6) from the area being tested. All samples are put in a clean bucket or pail, and mixed together. This gives a representative sample of the entire area. Avoid including soil from unusual areas where the soil may be a different color or texture. Have unusual areas tested separately.

(3) From the bucket or pail, select about a pint of soil. Put the soil in a clean plastic ziploc bag or something similar. Make sure it is clean and labeled with your name, address, and phone number.



(4) Your sample will be sent to the Kansas State Soil Testing Laboratory. Your results will be sent directly to the Wyandotte County Extension Office to be interpreted by the Horticulture Extension Agent. You will receive a written recommendation in the mail in approximately 14 days.