

NDSU Soil Testing Lab

Why Soil Test?

- Soil sampling and analysis gives you chemical and physical information about your soil which can be used to optimize plant growth or assist in solving soil-related problems.
- Soil test results will guide you in the decision whether or not to fertilize, resulting in environmental and economic benefits.
 - See "What do I do with my soil test results?" for fertilizer recommendations for numerous plant species.
- Soil test results can indicate problem areas in your soil. Some examples include: excess salts, high or low pH, problematic soil texture, adverse nutrient levels, etc. These results can be useful for guidance in management or remediation decisions.
- Soil test results taken over time also allow you follow changes in soil properties over time. This is useful to track remediation efforts or determine if unfavorable trends are occurring.

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