

Collecting and Submitting Soil Samples

- Use iron or stainless steel probes/tools & a clean plastic bucket.
- Avoid combining areas of different soil types & fertilizer histories; avoid fertilizer bands, & corners / ends of fields.
- Collect 15 to 20 cores per sample; sample 0 to 8 inches deep for plowed fields; 0 to 4 inches deep for no-till or pastures.
- Break up cores & mix soil in bucket.
- Label soil box with name, address, and sample IDs using a pencil or waterproof marker.
- Fill the sample box to red fill line; do not overfill.
- **DO NOT PUT SOIL IN PLASTIC BAGS.**
- **DO NOT TAPE BOXES.**
- Lime history is important; be sure to record lime applied in the past 12 months on page 1.
- Crop codes are required to receive a recommendation.
Samples cannot be processed without a crop code.
- Ship samples in a well packed cardboard box so samples are tightly secured from within. Do not ship samples using flat mailers or envelopes.

Crop Codes for Homeowners

- 022 Lawn Centipede**
- 026 Lawn (not centipede)**
- 024 Vegetable Garden**
- 023 Flower Garden**
- 030 Berries / Fruits / Nuts (*except blueberries*)**
- 032 Blueberries**
- 031 Landscape Tree (*deciduous and evergreen*)**
- 020 Azalea / Camelia**
- 025 Mtn. Laurel / Rhododendron**
- 028 Rose**
- 029 Shrubs**