



HOMEOWNER SOIL TESTING **N.C. ONLY**

Peak Season Fee: \$5
 Check our [website](#) for peak season dates

NCDA&CS Agronomic Division [Soil Testing Lab](#)

Mailing Address (USPS): 1040 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1040
 Physical Address (UPS/FedEx/DHS): 4300 Reedy Creek Rd, Raleigh NC 27607
 Phone: (919) 664-1600

* REQUIRED FIELDS

		CLIENT			ADVISOR		
Sampling Date	Amt Due \$ _____	*Last Name	*First Name	Last Name	First Name		
	Amt Paid \$ _____	*Mailing Address			Mailing Address		
* N.C. County <i>(Where Collected)</i>	Payment method: Check Online Escrow Account: <i>(Provide account name or #)</i>	*City	* State	* ZIP	City	State	ZIP
Number of Samples	* Party Responsible for Payment: _____	* Email		Email			
		* Phone	PALS Account #		Phone	PALS Account #	

Lab Number <i>(lab use only)</i>	* Sample ID	Lime Applied past 12 Months		* Lawn/Garden Code
		Lb/1000 ft ²	Month	

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

KEY INFORMATION

- No fertilizer recommendations provided without a crop code
- Advisors submitting on behalf of clients, **must** include client email address for sample processing
- Compost or samples with less than 50% mineral soil should be submitted to the Compost or Soilless Media Lab for accurate analysis



[Soil Lab Homepage](#)



[Sample Collection](#)



[Sample Submission](#)

How to Collect a Soil Sample

1. **Tools:** Use a garden spade or trowel & a clean plastic bucket.
2. **When:** Collect samples prior to planting, fertilizing, or lime application. Early spring and late summer are ideal times. *Note: If the soil is too wet to plant, it is too wet to sample.*
3. **Where:** For a lawn, one sample from the front and one from the back yard is sufficient. For a vegetable garden, one sample is sufficient. For a flower bed or a bed of shrubs, you may want to sample each bed.
4. **Sampling depth:**
 - ⇒ Vegetable garden: 6 inches
 - ⇒ Lawns or untilled areas: 4 inches
5. **How:** For one sample, take a “slice” of soil to the proper depth from 12 to 15 different locations from the selected area, place in the bucket, and mix thoroughly.
6. Prior to folding the NCDA&CS soil box, label the soil box with name, address and sample IDs. The sample IDs should be a reminder of where the sample was taken. Use letters / numbers (max = 5 characters). **Box sample IDs MUST match those listed on the submission form.**
7. Use pencil or waterproof markers on boxes and forms.
8. Fill the soil sample box to the red fill line. Do not overfill.
9. Do not enclose soil in plastic bags in the soil box or tape the soil box.
10. Make sure that you fully complete the submission form, the information matches that on the box, and you make a copy for your records. Improperly submitted samples may be discarded.

How to Submit a Soil Sample

- NCDA&CS online submission is preferred. Samples may also be submitted using this fillable form.
- Enclose the sample submission form with your samples at the time of shipment. Tuck the form under the flaps of the first box.
- Lime Applied Within Past 12 Months – **Use only if limestone was applied within the past 12 months of this sample.** Please provide the amount in lb per 1000 sq ft. (Example: 1000 sq ft = 10 ft width x 100 ft length). One bag of lime weighs 40 lb.
- Lawn/Garden Planting Code – Specify a numerical code from the list on page 1. This choice determines the recommendations.
- Package soil sample boxes tightly in a cardboard shipping container to lessen the potential of damage during shipping. **Do not use flat mailers!**

EXAMPLE OF SUBMISSION FORM

LAB NUMBER (LEAVE BLANK – LAB USE ONLY)	YOUR SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION (maximum of 5 characters – same as on box)					LIME APPLIED WITHIN PAST 12 MONTHS <small>lb / 1000 sq ft Month</small>		LAWN / GARDEN PLANTING CODE
	F	R	O	N	T			026
	V	E	G					024
	B	L	U	E				032