

## Instructions for Soil Samples:

### General tips to achieve accurate results:

Wash hands thoroughly or put on latex gloves before handling material to be sampled.

Take sample only when it's possible to package and ship immediately.

Keep samples cool but do not freeze. Freezing and thawing kills many beneficial microbes.

Follow recommended sample delivery time frames.

A helpful tool in taking soil samples is an apple corer which you can purchase at any grocery store.

1. Identify the problem area, or other area of interest to take the sample from.
2. Take sample cores from 5-10 different randomly selected spots within the area of interest. Begin at the top of the soil, so wipe away any debris or organic matter sitting on top of the soil. The best sample cores are from the root zone of the desired plant. If the root zone cannot be located cores from 3-4 inches down into the soil will work.

Note: Taking 5-10 cores will give you a better representation of the area than just 1-2 cores would. IF you are testing for mycorrhizal colonization make sure you include a minimum of 25 centimeters (10 inches) of roots. It is best to have some root material in every sample.

3. Empty those 5-10 cores into a clean bucket or bowl. Mix up the core samples.
4. Put 2 cups of mixture in a plastic sandwich size zip lock bag. Leave some empty space in the bag.
5. To send your sample you can use any carrier that can get your sample to our lab within 2-3 days.

Earthfort Labs  
635 SW Western Blvd  
Corvallis OR, 97333

This test takes approximately 15 working days to complete and we do give recommendations as to what your soil needs to be at optimum health. Make sure you include a submission which is available by requesting the form via email at [peter@compostwerks.com](mailto:peter@compostwerks.com)

## Instructions for Solid Soil Amendment:

### General tips to achieve accurate results:

Wash hands thoroughly or put on latex gloves before handling material to be sampled.

Take sample only when it's possible to package and ship immediately.

Keep samples cool but do not freeze. Freezing and thawing kills many beneficial microbes.

Follow recommended sample delivery time frames.

An optimal sample will come from the middle of your compost pile.

1. Go in 6-12 inches into your compost pile, halfway between top and the ground and take one handful.
2. Repeat step 1 (3-5) times taking each handful from a different location of the pile.
3. Mix the material together in a clean bucket.
4. Place 2 cups of mixture in a clear sandwich size zip lock bag. Leave some empty space in the bag.
5. When ready to send your sample you can use a variety of carriers. As long as your sample is received at the lab within 2 days.