

Comparison of Soil Test Labs

4/3/2024 Update

General Information

- ASSUME PAYMENT MUST BE INCLUDED WITH SAMPLES.
- Organic matter (OM) is an important soil property to track, but it is not offered in some basic packages. Producers are advised to request OM even if they choose a lab that charges an additional fee for the information.
- Soil texture analysis is not offered by many labs in their basic packages. If labs do offer the analysis for a separate fee, it is often very expensive. Soil texture of the dominant map unit in a field can be obtained from Web Soil Survey.
- Soil sampling depth should be 8 inches.
- There is no need to request recommendations from the soil test labs.
- Most labs have order forms and price lists on their website.
- A new soil characteristic called the **Degree of Phosphorus Saturation** or **DPS** will be required on fields where phosphorus-bearing nutrient sources are intended and soil test phosphorus is equal to, or greater than, 150 FIV. Some labs already provide DPS as part of their basic packages while others do not. Consult the right column of the table below for information on acquiring DPS or the necessary information for calculating it.

Lab	Cost	Analyses	Comments	Degree P Saturation (DPS) or Al and Fe reported?
Waypoint Analytical Virginia, Inc. 7621 Whitepine Road Richmond, VA 23237 Phone: 804-743-9401 www.waypointanalytical.com	\$10.00 (Mehlich-3)	<u>S1M Package</u> OM, P, K, Ca, Mg, pH, buffer pH, CEC, % base saturation of cations	Several micronutrient combinations are also available. Contact Waypoint for more information.	Al and Fe can be requested for an additional \$2.75 per soil sample.
	\$15.00 (Mehlich-3)	<u>S2M Package</u> S1M Package Plus 2 Trace minerals (Select Fe and Al for High P soils)	Micronutrient options are: Boron, Copper, Iron, Manganese, Sodium, Sulfur, Zinc and Aluminum	<i>NuMan Pro 4.2 (and later)</i> can calculate DPS when soil test includes Mehlich-3 Fe & Al.
	\$20.00 (Mehlich-3)	<u>S3M Package</u> - S2M Plus all minerals		
Waypoint Analytical Pennsylvania, Inc. 280 Newport Road Leola, PA 17540 Phone: 717-656-9326 or 1-800-464-6019 www.waypointanalytical.com	\$10.00 (Mehlich-3)	<u>S1M Package</u> P, K, Ca, Mg, pH, buffer pH, CEC, % base saturation of cations	Several micronutrient combinations are also available. Contact Waypoint for more information.	OM is not included in standard test package. If desired, OM must be requested for an additional \$1.00/sample.
	\$14.00 (Mehlich-3)	<u>S2M Package</u> S1M Package Plus 2 Trace minerals (Select Fe and Al for High P soils)	Micronutrient options are: Boron, Copper, Iron, Manganese, Sodium, Sulfur, Zinc and Aluminum	Al and Fe may be selected as the 'two trace minerals' that may be added in the S2M analysis.
	\$19.00 (Mehlich-3) \$1.00	<u>S3M Package</u> - S2M Plus all minerals <u>OM</u>		<i>NuMan Pro 4.2 (and later)</i> can calculate DPS when soil test includes Fe & Al.

Lab	Cost	Analyses	Comments	Degree P Saturation (DPS) or Al and Fe reported?
AgroLab, Inc. 101 Clukey Dr. Harrington, DE 19952 Phone: 302-566-6094 www.agrolab.us	\$19.80	CSF pH, buffer pH, OM, P, K, Ca, Mg, Na, Mn, Zn, B, Cu, Fe, Al, NO3-N CEC, percent base saturation of cations, Phosphorus Saturation Ratio	This lab provides NO3-N, which measures soil nitrate levels - That is, Nitrogen immediately available to plants.	Yes. Phosphorus Saturation Ratio is the same as DPS and is part of their standard soil test.
Rutgers Soil Testing Laboratory Rutgers, State University of New Jersey ASB-II, Cook Campus 57 US Highway 1 New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8554 soiltest@njaes.rutgers.edu	\$20.00	Farm Fertility Test pH, buffer pH, OM, P, K, Ca, Mg, Cu, Mn, Zn, B, Fe, S, CEC, % Base saturation of Cations	See website for more information and analyses. Excellent resource for understanding soil fertility and pH and interpreting results.	Al is not included in this Test
Pennsylvania Agricultural Analytical Services Lab Penn State University 111 Ag Analytical Svcs Lab University Park, PA 16802 Phone: 814-863-0841 http://agsci.psu.edu/aasl	\$10.00 \$5.00 \$6.00	Standard Soil Test pH, Mehlich lime requirement, P, K, Ca, Mg, Zn, Cu, S OM Al & Fe - required for high P soils to determine DPS for UM-PMT	See website for more analyses. NO3-N, Nitrate Nitrogen may be tested for an additional \$8.00	Al and Fe can be requested for an additional \$6 per sample. They must be written in on the right column of the sample submittal form. <i>NuMan Pro 4.2 (and later)</i> can calculate DPS when soil test includes Mehlich-3 Fe & Al.
Spectrum Analytic, Inc. PO Box 639 1087 Jamison Road NW Washington Court House, OH 43160 Phone: 800-321-1562 www.spectrumanalytic.com	\$10.00 \$16.00 \$3.00 for additional Micronutrients	S1 pH, buffer pH, OM, P, K, Ca, Mg, CEC, % base saturation of cations S2 S1 Plus 3 Micronutrients Al & Fe - required for high P soils to determine DPS for UM-PMT	See website for more analyses, including additional micronutrients.	Iron (Fe) and Aluminum (Al) can be tested in addition to S1 for an additional \$6.00. This costs as much as the S2 <i>NuMan Pro 4.2 (and later)</i> can calculate DPS when soil test includes Mehlich-3 Fe & Al.
University of Delaware Soil Testing Program 152 Townsend Hall 531 S. College Avenue Newark, DE 19717-1303 Phone: 302-831-1392 www.ag.udel.edu	\$14.00	B1-Commercial Agriculture Soil pH, lime requirement, OM, P, K, Ca, Mg, Mn, Zn, Cu, Fe, S, B, Al, Phosphorus Saturation Ratio.		Phosphorus saturation ratio is the same as DPS and is included in B1 Routine Analysis
Waters Agricultural Laboratories, Inc. PO Box 382 257 Newton Highway Camilla, GA 31730-7216 Ph: 229-336-7216 www.watersag.com	\$8.00 (Mehlich-3) \$9.00 (Mehlich-3) \$1.00 \$3.50	Basic Test 2 (B2) pH, buffer pH, P, K, Ca, Mg, CEC, % base saturation of cations Routine Test 1 (R1) Same as B2 PLUS ANY TWO: B, Zn, Mn, Fe, or Cu. OM (extra charge at GA location only) Al- Al and Fe are required for high P soils to determine DPS for UM-PMT	MD samples can now be sent to Georgia, Kentucky or N. Carolina locations. Kentucky Address: 2101 Calhoun Rd Highway 81 Owensboro, KY 31730 North Carolina Address: 364 W. Park Drive Warsaw, NC 28398	Fe and Al must be requested for high P soils. Select R1 test (including Fe) and add Al for \$3.50 extra. For the KY and GA locations, specify Mehlich 3 on the soil submission form. OM is not standard at the Georgia location. To include OM, check the appropriate box on the soil submission form.