



**HARRINGTONS ORGANIC LAND CARE**  
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## SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS FOR SOIL TESTING

All samples must be accompanied with a Soil Submission Form.

### SOIL SAMPLES

#### Chemical Analysis

- For lawns and row crops, take 5 representative 1" diameter cores 3-6 inches deep, if possible, in area of interest. For shade trees and ornamentals take several representative 1" diameter cores 6-12 inches deep, if possible.
- Record depth of cores on intake form
- Note site history on form
- Mix cores thoroughly, place 2 cups into a sealable plastic bag. Label sample.
- Send via 2-3-day delivery service.

#### Biological Analysis

- For lawns and row crops, take 5 representative 1" diameter cores within the root zone of plant (usually about 3-6 inches). For shade trees and ornamentals take several representative 1" diameter cores 6-12 inches deep, also within the root zone.
- Mix cores together and place 2 cups in a sealable plastic bag, leaving room for air. Label sample.
- Send 2-3-day delivery

### COMPOST SAMPLES

#### Chemical and Biological Analysis

- Take several samples throughout the pile from at least 12 inches into the pile, halfway from the ground to the top.
- Mix the samples together and place 2 cups in a sealable plastic bag, leaving room for air. Label sample.

### LIQUID COMPOST EXTRACT/TEA SAMPLES

#### Biological Analysis

- Use a clean, dry 1-liter bottle.
- Take several samples from the center of your brewer and mix them together.
- Fill the bottle with 1/2 tea and 1/2 air.
- Send via Next Day Delivery

### SOIL TESTING METHODOLOGY

#### Chemistry:

Soil moisture content & % organic matter: 24 hr drying, then combustion

Basic Plus: Mehlich III process extracts nutrients S, B, P, K, Ca, Mg, Fe, Cu, Zn, Mn - which are then analyzed on an ICP Spectrometer

Complete Chemistry nutrients: process extracts nutrients twice, once through a Mehlich III process and then through a Mehlich I process. Both analyzed on an ICP Spectrometer and the two data sets are compared.

#### Biology:

Soil Foodweb Biological analysis as developed by Dr. Elaine Ingham. After 30+ years of studying and improving soils, Dr. Ingham, and the Soil Foodweb Inc. have identified optimal soil microbe ratios for compost, compost teas, crops, landscape plants, trees, and shrubs.