

# SOIL TESTING CAMPAIGN SAMPLE INFORMATION FORM

Please submit this completed form and payment with samples. Mark each sample bag with your sample identification and ensure that it corresponds with the sample identification written on this form. \*See sampling and mailing instructions on the back of this form.

**SUBMITTAL AND INVOICE INFORMATION:** This information will be used for all official invoicing and communication.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ County where sampled \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please check county office where dropped off:

\_\_\_\_ Cameron Office  
\_\_\_\_ Hidalgo Office  
\_\_\_\_ Willacy Office  
\_\_\_\_ AgriLife Research & Extension Center – Weslaco

This form is valid for agricultural producers participating in the Rio Grande Soil Testing Campaign in the Texas counties of Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy.

SAMPLE I.D.		SAMPLE INFORMATION (Required)			(See options list)below	
Laboratory # (For Lab Use)	Your Sample I.D.	FSA* Tract #	Acreage Represented**	Planned lime/ Fertilizer for 2018**	What are you growing?*	How is forage used?
Example	Back 20	1234	20 acres	400 lbs 15-2-10	Cotton-2 bales	<input type="checkbox"/> Grazing (G) <input type="checkbox"/> G&H <input type="checkbox"/> Hay (H) <input type="checkbox"/> *Min. requirement
			**	**	**	<input type="checkbox"/> Grazing (G) <input type="checkbox"/> G&H <input type="checkbox"/> Hay (H) <input type="checkbox"/> *Min. requirement
			**	**	**	<input type="checkbox"/> Grazing (G) <input type="checkbox"/> G&H <input type="checkbox"/> Hay (H) <input type="checkbox"/> *Min. requirement
			**	**	**	<input type="checkbox"/> Grazing (G) <input type="checkbox"/> G&H <input type="checkbox"/> Hay (H) <input type="checkbox"/> *Min. requirement

**\*Mandatory for sample dropoff and processing.**

Have you soil tested in the past 3 years? \*\* \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

## Rio Grande Soil Testing Campaign

This free to the producer soil testing campaign is valid for agricultural soil samples submitted through the Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy County Extension Offices and District 12 Extension Office. All samples must be routed through these offices utilizing this form. Please indicate acreage each sample represents, the crop and yield goal to be grown, and what N-P-K fertilizer rates would normally be used (if no soil test was performed). Samples submitted on this form but not routed through these Extension Offices will not be analyzed.

**\*\*Must be answered for samples to be processed.**

**Pricing valid from 10/01, 2017- 1/31, 2018.**

### 1. Routine Analysis (R)

(pH, NO3-N, Conductivity and Mehlich III by ICP P, K, Ca, Mg, Na, and S)

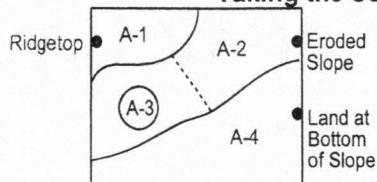
**Results will be mailed to address listed above.**

Please note: pricing valid only if routed through above listed County Extension Offices during the soil testing campaign.

G. Grazing  
H. Hay  
G&H. Grazing and Hay  
\*Min. Requirement for NRCS

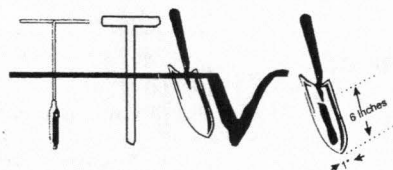
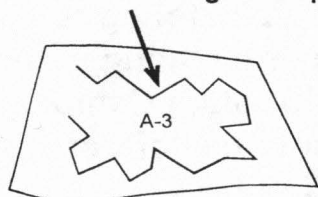
# Procedure for Taking Soil Samples

## Taking the Soil Sample (Refer to Figure 1)



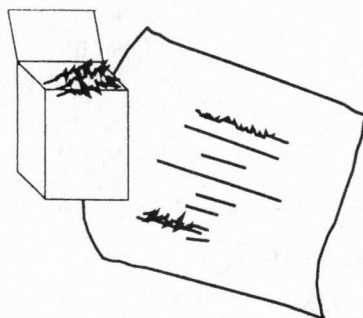
- Take one composite sample for every 10 to 40 acres. A separate sample should be taken for:
  - ⇒ Areas with different soil types
  - ⇒ Areas with different land uses or fertilizer uses
  - ⇒ Areas with different terrain
- Approximately 1 pint of the composite soil sample is required for routine analyses. Additional sample is required for texture or detailed salinity (submit 2 sample bags marked identically).
- Avoid sampling areas such as small gullies, slight field depressions, terrace waterways, or unusual areas.
- When sampling fertilized fields, avoid sampling directly in fertilized band.

## Taking a Composite Sample (Refer to Figures 2 and 3)



- Take a sample from 10 to 15 different areas.
- Use a spade, soil auger or soil sampling tube.
- Clear litter from the surface (do not remove decomposed black material).
- When using a soil auger or sampling tool, make the core or boring 6 inches deep into the soil (3 to 4 inches deep for permanent sod)
- When using a spade:
  - ⇒ Dig a V-shaped hole and take a 1 inch slice from the smooth side of the hole.
  - ⇒ Take a 1 x 1 inch core from the center of the shovel slice
- Repeat in 10 to 15 different places. Put in a clean plastic bucket or other non-metallic container, thoroughly mix and remove a pint (or more if additional tests are desired) as a composite sample representing the whole field or area.
- To improve the nitrate-nitrogen analysis, samples may be **air dried** before sending to the laboratory. **Do not use heat** to dry samples.
- Completely fill soil sample bag or other suitable pint container. Do not use old vegetable cans, tobacco cans, match boxes, glass containers, etc. to submit samples. If more than one sample bag is used, label bags as 1 of 2, 2 of 2, etc.

## Shipping the Sample and Payment (Refer to Figure 4)



- Complete the information form on the front page (information required for recommendations).
- Please include payment with the sample. Send check or money order made out to Soil Testing. **DO NOT SEND CASH**. Please note that the *price is per sample*.
- Be sure to keep a record for yourself of the area represented by each sample.
- Be sure that sample numbers on sample bags correspond with sample numbers on the front page.
- Send samples and payment to:

### United States Postal Service

Soil, Water and Forage Testing Laboratory  
2478 TAMU  
College Station, TX 77843-2478

### Other Couriers (FedEx, UPS, etc.)

Soil, Water and Forage Testing Laboratory  
2610 F&B Road  
College Station, TX 77845  
Phone: (979) 845-4816

Website: [soiltesting.tamu.edu](http://soiltesting.tamu.edu)

Email: [soiltesting@tamu.edu](mailto:soiltesting@tamu.edu)