



Code of Practice for Soil Sampling

- As a guideline, take one sample to represent 2 ha. If area is not uniform, reduce the area presented by one sample. If the area is very uniform, a sample may be taken to represent 4 ha
- Map out discrete areas of the farm that are uniform in soil type, slope, drainage, cropping history, etc
- Take a composite sample of 20 cores in each designated area
- Cores should be taken to a depth of 10cm (4")
- Cores should be taken in a zigzag pattern across the sampling area
- Avoid unusual spots like old fences, ditches, feeding areas and gateways
- Avoid dung and urine patches and areas where fertilizers were stored or spilled
- Do not sample for P or K for 4-6 months after last fertilizer application and two years after liming. Sample at the same time of year on each occasion
- Sample every three years in intensive farming
- Sample every 4-5 years in more extensive farming
- Input soil information online or by using the soil analysis form, as appropriate
- Enter land parcel number for each sample on the soil form together with client PPSN number
- Include full information for grassland crops, paying particular attention to texture, stocking rates and cropping history

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Soil Analysis









TEAGASC Soil Analysis

- Saves money on lime and fertilizer requirements
- Is the basis for planning nutrient requirements for crops and animals
- Protects the environment from excessive P and other elements
- Helps you make the correct use of slurry and farmyard manure
- ALL SOIL RESULTS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

2010 Teagasc Soil Services & Charges

ANALYSIS SERVICE NUMBER	ELEMENTS TESTED	TOTAL CHARGE INC. VAT
S1 Basic or REPS	LR, pH, P, K	€25.00
S2 Dairy/Beef/Sheep/ Horses	LR, pH, P, K, Mg, Co and Total Mn	€36.00
S3 Sheep - Tillage	LR, pH, P, K, Mg, Co, Cu, Zn, easily reducible Mn and Total Mn	€42.00
S4 Tillage	LR, pH, P, K, Mg, Cu, Zn and ER Mn	€36.00
S5 Horticulture	LR, pH, P, K, B, Mg, Cu, Zn and ER Mn	€43.00
S6 (S1 + Mg) Tillage/Grassland	LR, pH, P, K, Mg	€27.00
S7 Organic-matter	Soil organic-matter %	€22.00
S8 (S6 + Organic-matter) Tillage	LR, pH, P, K, Mg and soil organic-matter %	€36.00
S9 (S4 + Organic-matter) Tillage	LR, pH, P, K, Mg, Cu, Zn, ER Mn and soil organic-matter %	€45.00

Nutrient Management

- Frequent soil testing is a vital requirement in successful tillage and grassland farming
- The correct amounts of lime, fertilizer and trace element inputs for tillage and grassland crops can only be determined on the basis of a reliable soil analysis
- Lime improves the availability of many soil nutrients and trace elements

Johnstown Castle Laboratories provide

- Comprehensive research back-up
- Results back within days/available electronically
- Independent scientific and cost effective recommendations
- Analysis carried out using the most modern techniques
- Over 50 years experience



Teagasc Johnstown Castle Crops, Environment and Land Use Research Centre