

FBMG Help Desk  
**Question of the Week**

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**How do I get my soil tested?**

***Answer: It is very simple!***



# **A Simple Process**

***Healthy organisms are better able to thrive and fend off disease.***



***It is easy and well worth the effort.  
go to <https://soiltesting.tamu.edu/webpages/forms.html>  
Print the Urban Soil Submittal Form ( 1 form per sample )  
soil submittal form urban 2023 (tamu.edu)  
fill it out and follow the directions on the page 2 and below***

***Contact the Fort Bend Master Gardener Help Desk if you have questions.***

***Email: [FortBendmg@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:FortBendmg@ag.tamu.edu)***

***Phone: 281-341-7068***

***The soil Analysis Report will show the current levels of nutrients and provide fertilizer recommendations of N-P-K***

***All actions to improve soil can then become more deliberate.***



***<https://cdn-de.agrilife.org/extension/departments/scsc/scsc-pu-043/publications/files/testing-your-soil-how-to-collect-and-send-samples.pdf>***

# Get a Test For Each Area of your Yard

## *Remove the Guess Work*

*Your yard has multiple areas, the lawn, the raised bed, the vegetable garden, the butterfly garden, the front yard, the back yard and so on. They may be the same or they may be different.*



Your drawing can be as simple or detailed as you choose.

*Consider a test for each area.*

- *Make a simple drawing or sketch of your yard.*
- *Label each area 1,2,3 or A,B,C*
- *Label each bag and soil sample submittal form with the corresponding number or letter*
- *Collect the soil samples and send them in.*
- *When they come back to you with the specific recommendations you will know what nutrients your yard needs.*

Ca

What is wrong with my.....

Mg

## *Lack of nutrients?*

The answer to multiple garden, lawn, tree and plant concerns begin with the same answer.

A soil test will provide a soil analysis.

### Nutrient

A substance that an organism needs to live and to grow.

Ph

### Q & A

- *Which fertilizer is best for the lawn?*
  - *A proper recommendation requires knowing what is in the soil.*
- *What should be added to the flower or vegetable beds before planting?*
  - *A proper recommendation requires knowing what is in the soil.*
- *What causes blossom end rot?*
  - *Usually a lack of calcium. Incorrect PH can prevent the plant from absorbing the calcium.*

Fe

B

***Do you have questions about your home landscape and plants?***

***Contact the Fort Bend Master Gardener Help Desk***

***Email:***  
***FortBendmg@ag.tamu.edu***

***Phone:***  
***281-341-7068***

***The Help Desk is manned Monday thru Friday, 9am-Noon***

***<https://cdnde.agrilife.org/extension/departments/scsc/scsc-pu-043/publications/files/testing-your-soil-how-to-collect-and-send-samples.pdf>***  
***Blossom-End Rot in the Home Garden | Extension Marketing and Communications (ncsu.edu)***  
***(PDF) Understanding soil test results - infographic Blossom End Rot - Vegetable Resources Vegetable Resources (tamu.edu)***  
***blossomendrot.pdf (cornell.edu)***  
***Tomato | Texas Plant Disease Handbook (tamu.edu) Texas Plant Disease Handbook <https://extension.msu.edu>***  
***Soil, Water, and Forage Testing Lab Website Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Soil, Water and Forage Testing Laboratory (tamu.edu)***  
***Fertilizer Calculators for Texas A&M University Soil, Water and Forage Testing Laboratory (tamu.edu)***  
***Urban Fertilizer Calculator with Lists (tamu.edu)***  
***Soil testing: Why it is important (farmmanagement.pro)***  
***Soil Testing and Soil Testing Labs | University of Maryland Extension (umd.edu)***  
***How to Do a Soil Test to Your Lawn (And Read It) - Plant for Success***  
***Soils and Plant Nutrients Chapter of the North Carolina Extension Gardener Handbook***  
***SWFTL Urban Fertilizer Calculator with Lists (tamu.edu)***