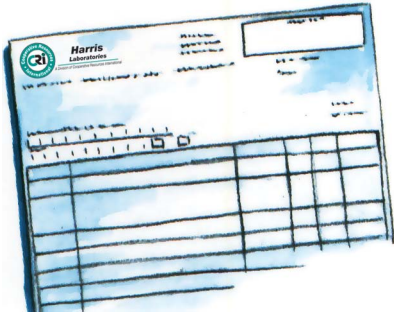


Harris Laboratories



Instruction Guide

Soil Sample Collection for Turf Grass

Proper Sampling Equipment

Equipment should be such that sampling depth can be monitored and controlled. A stainless steel sampling probe works the best.

Composite samples should be collected in a plastic bucket for thorough mixing. Metal buckets can contain traces of some micronutrients (particularly zinc), which can contaminate samples.

Soil sample bags should be either plastic or plastic lined. These can be supplied by Harris Laboratories.

Sampling Procedures

Determine which areas are to be sampled. Note for future reference. This is particularly important for fairways. It is best not to mix subsamples from different greens or fairways, sample separately.

Each sample should consist of a composite of many subsamples. About 10 to 15 subsamples are needed to supply the laboratory with enough soil for a nutrient analysis. The soil volume needed is roughly 1 cup (or approximately one pound).

Most important, "keep sampling depth consistent." Golf greens should be sampled to a depth of 3 inches. For other turf samples, 3 to 4 inches is adequate.

It is advisable to include the thatch layer in your sample since it is a biological active site. Keep in mind that this residue may contain fertilizer granules not yet dissolved or other materials which will affect the nutrient levels. Therefore, wait a minimum of 2 weeks after an application to collect soil samples.

Avoid any unusual area in your routine sampling. These should be analyzed separately. An example would be poorly drained areas.

Clearly mark the sample identification (example: GRN#1) on each bag and laboratory input sheet. Laboratory information sheets are available at the Harris Laboratories Web site, harristurf.agsource.com.

Paperwork and Shipping Instructions

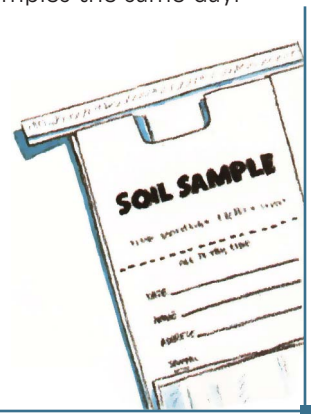
Laboratory input or information sheets will be provided by Harris Laboratories and also are available on our Web site. Please be sure all essential information is completed. The following is the required information:

- ❏ Samples submitted by: this will be preprinted by the laboratory and will contain your unique account number specifically identifying your company.
- ❏ Submitted for: the name and address needs to be completed for the golf course being tested.
- ❏ Turf type: this is expressed in broad categories – Greens, Fairways, Tee Boxes, General Turf.
- ❏ Be sure the sample identification on the laboratory input sheet matches up with what is labeled on the soil sample bag(s).
- ❏ Specify the desired analytical tests package to be performed.
- ❏ If other tests are requested (such as pesticide residues) please specify.
- ❏ Pack samples very tightly in a strong shipping box(s). Use packing material so the bag(s) will not shift in the box. Tape the box completely and affix the Harris Laboratories preprinted shipping label.
- ❏ If possible, collect and ship samples the same day.



Harris Laboratories

A Division of AgSource Laboratories
300 Speedway Circle, Unit #2 • Lincoln, NE 68502
Phone: 402/476-0300 • Email: harrislabs@agsource.com



Harris Laboratories provides complimentary sampling supplies, simply contact us. ←