

Collecting Potentially Contaminated Soil Samples: *The objective of composite soil sampling is to represent the average conditions in the sampled body of material. Composite soil sampling should not be considered unless there is a high degree of certainty in the site history and a low likelihood of the existence of contamination.*

1. If the soil types vary, sample the predominant soil type. **NEVER MIX SOIL TYPES.**
2. Preferably sample early in the morning and do not sample very wet soils.
3. **Safety Considerations:** Safety boots are mandatory, observe the requirements of the Chemical Hygiene Plan and use appropriate PPE for the contaminant suspected. This may include disposable overalls, gloves, overshoes and respirators.
4. **Depth** – The depth of sampling will be determined by cultivation history:
Cultivated soil - Cores or slices should generally be taken down to tillage depth (up to 150 mm). For small areas (less than 10 hectares) use 16 sampling locations per hectare.
Uncultivated soil - cores or slices are taken down to a depth of 30 – 80 mm.
Tanks or pits - All samples shall be taken no less than 15 centimeters below the exposed surface being sampled. Samples for compositing should be taken from random locations on the floor and walls of the tank pit with cores or slices. Grab samples from areas with greater potential for contamination such as stained soils, adjacent to a corrosion hole, opposite a man way, or opposite a tank opening should be collected.
5. **Hotspots or high levels** – if an area is suspected of containing high levels of pesticides (drum storage or chemical preparation areas, cattle and sheep dip yards, spray races and orchard packing sheds) then this spot should be sampled separately. The purpose of sampling is to locate the limits of contamination.
6. Place sample in a clean plastic bucket, mix and remove about 500g (about two handfuls- two 200ml glass jars). After sampling, return any excess soil to the sample site. Washing water, waste paper towels and any disposable PPE shall be carefully disposed of as contaminated waste.
7. After collecting the sample, mark identification on the glass jar. Fill in this details sheet as your identification details will be the ones we use when returning the results to you.
8. Post samples ASAP ensuring all details are completed. Allow at least 10 working days to carry out a contaminated site test. So with delivery times you should allow three weeks until results are available.

BILLING NAME:			
POSTAL ADDRESS:			
CONTACT NAME:			
PHONE:		FAX:	
email:			
PROPERTY NAME:		DATE SAMPLED:	
Any Comments:			

	1	2
Sample identification (site name):		
Test Requested (*eg TPH Bands, BTEX, metals, insecticides, herbicides):		
Depth of sample (cm):		
Soil type if known:		
Land Use (Residential, Industrial, Agricultural)		
Any observed problems:		