

Collecting Soil Samples:

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. Sample Depth: For most areas, sample soil over the depth of the main root area or A horizon: eg 0-15cm.
For tree crops, orchards and cotton sample over the main root area out to the drip line: eg 0-30cm.
For sub soil samples, generally over 15-90cm, to investigate nitrogen reserves or possible toxic levels of sodium.
4. Avoid unusual areas such as stock camps, wet areas, old fence lines, timber burns and headlands. Before sampling, remove excess top growth and un-decomposed organic matter taking care not to remove any of the surface soil.
5. a) **Collecting soil samples in pasture areas:** Select five representative sites per 50 hectares. Drive in a permanent marker peg at each site. At a radius of approximately 30m around each site take 10 soil samples.
b) **Collecting soil samples in cropping areas:** Collect a minimum of 25 sub-samples along an easily identifiable "monitor line" across the area to be sampled.
6. Mix the sub-samples in a clean plastic bucket and remove about 500g (about two handfuls- half a bag). Exclude as much air as possible from bag.
7. After collecting the sample, mark identification on the plastic bag. Fill in this details sheet as your identification details will be the ones we use when returning the results to you.
8. Preferably keep the samples in a cool place between sampling and posting. Post samples ASAP ensuring all details are completed on the provided envelope. We require at least 4 working days to carry out a basic test. So with delivery times you should allow one week until results are available.

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

	1	2	3	4
Sample identification (field name):				
Test Requested (*eg Full, Salinity, Basic, Carbon Density):				
Depth of sample (cm):				
Soil type if known:				
Existing pasture/fallow/wheat etc.:				
Dry land or irrigation:				
Crop to be planted (this season):				
Fertiliser history:				
Any observed problems:				