UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Mailing Address (please print legibly)

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

_____, FL Zip _____ Phone _____

Email* _____
*Please provide an email address to receive your results faster.

Signature _____
(signature only required for UF personnel for approval of chartfield charges)

UF/IFAS Analytical Services Laboratories
Extension Soil Testing Laboratory
2390 Mowry Road/PO Box 110740/Wallace Building 631
Gainesville, FL 32611-0740
Email: soilslab@ifas.ufl.edu Website: http://soilslab.ifas.ufl.edu

WATER TEST FORM

Note: This lab only tests samples from Florida.

Direct any questions about this test or the interpretation of the results to your local UF/IFAS Extension agent.

NOTE: These tests will not determine if the water is suitable for human consumption. Bacteriological tests may be available from the county health department or select commercial laboratories.

INCLUDE 1 PINT OR 2 CUPS OF WATER PER SAMPLE

Fill in all requested information, using one line per sample. Use additional forms for more than 9 samples.

Lab Use Only	Your Sample ID	County	Crops to be grown	Water Source Information					Water Use Information				Cost		
				Well	If well, specify location and depth			Surface ditch or pond	General Household Use	Irrigation			Irrigation and micro-irrigation	OR	House-hold
				Check	Range	Town-ship	Sec-tion	Check		Household Overhead or seep	Overhead or seep	Micro-irrigation			
													$10	**OR**	$9
													$10	**OR**	$9
													$10	**OR**	$9
													$10	**OR**	$9
													$10	**OR**	$9
													$10	**OR**	$9
													$10	**OR**	$9
													$10	**OR**	$9
													$10	**OR**	$9

NOTE ANY SPECIAL PROBLEMS HERE:

Check○ Money Order ○Cash ○Total_____
Please enclose payment and this sheet in the same package as sample(s).
Please make checks and money orders payable to **UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA.**
Samples will not be processed without payment. Do not send cash through the mail.

Reviewed: 08/2025

Instructions and Information for the Water Test Form

Taking a Representative Water Sample

Tools

1. **A clean plastic bottle holding about 1 pint to collect the water sample.** Do not use shampoo or detergent bottles because it is difficult to remove all residues. Glass bottles are not recommended.
2. A corrugated shipping box.
3. Packing material. Use this material to pack the sample to avoid damage or leakage during shipment to the UF/IFAS Extension Soil Testing Laboratory.
4. This form. Use additional copies if you plan on sending more than 9 water samples.

Sampling

1. Allow the water source to run from the intended collection point for several minutes.

   For household samples, allow the water to flow for several minutes to ensure the water sample is directly from the well. Water standing in the house plumbing for some time is not a representative sample.

   For irrigation and microirrigation samples, sampling as close to the water source as possible will ensure that the sample represents the water source. If you are filtering the water, you may wish to sample the water both before and after filtration to assess the effect of the filtering operation. Filtration will only affect the physical characteristics (suspended solids) of the water.
2. Rinse the sample container and its lid several times in the flowing water. Do not use soap or detergent during this rinsing step.
3. Fill the container completely with the flowing water. Leave as little air as possible in the container. Tightly seal the lid immediately after filling the container to ensure against leakage.
4. Label the container and pack it carefully in a shipping box.
5. Include in the shipping box:
   - Your labeled water sample(s)
   - This Water Test Form with all the requested information on page 1 completed
   - A check or money order payable to: **University of Florida**

Mail your sample to:

UF/IFAS Analytical Services Laboratories
Extension Soil Testing Laboratory
2390 Mowry Road, Wallace Bldg. 631
PO Box 110740
Gainesville, FL 32611-0740

Water Testing—An Aid to Problem Diagnosis

The physical and chemical determinations made by the UF/IFAS Extension Soil Testing Laboratory can be used effectively to diagnose potential problems in water. However, the lab does not test water suitability for human consumption. Bacteriological tests may be available from the county health department or commercial laboratories.

Test Results

The test report will be emailed/mailed to you in 5–10 days after your sample arrives at the UF/IFAS Extension Soil Testing Laboratory. Contact your local UF/IFAS Extension office if you have questions about your results.

Potential Water Quality Problems

Tests	Irrigation (including microirrigation)	Household
Ca, Mg, and total carbonates	Liming potential/plugging problems	Hardness
Fe and Mn	Foliage stains/plugging problems	Staining, taste
Na and Cl	Salt water intrusion, plant damage	Salt water intrusion and landscape plant damage
Electrical conductivity	Plant damage from high salt content	Plant damage from high salt content
pH	Corrosion potential/plugging	Corrosion
Suspended solids	Plugging problems	N/A