

**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](mailto:soilslab@ifas.ufl.edu) Website: <http://soilslab.ifas.ufl.edu>

# **PHOSPHORUS INDEX 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.

**INCLUDE ½ PINT OR 1 CUP OF SOIL PER SAMPLE**
**Fill in all the requested information using one line per sample. Use additional sheets as required.**

Lab Use Only	Your Sample ID	Crop Code	County	Estimated Acreage*	Sample Depth (inches)	Test Requested	Test Cost
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10
						P1	\$10

\*This information is used to compute the total acreage served by the UF/IFAS Soil Testing Program.

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.

**Important Information for Soil Sample Collection and Submission**
**Before Sampling**

- Develop a soil sampling plan of your field. Samples should represent the area being tested, so collect samples from areas of the same soil type, appearance, or cropping history. If needed, keep samples from problem areas separate. From this plan, count the number of samples you will collect.
- Soil sample bags and test forms are available for free from your local UF/IFAS Extension office. Assemble all the materials needed before completing your sampling plan.

**Collecting Samples**

- Collect soil from 20 or more spots in each area, mixing these samples in a clean plastic bucket.
- Sample from soil surface to depth of tillage, usually 0– 6 inches.
- Spread the composited material on clean paper or other suitable material to air dry. Do not send wet samples.

- Mix the dry soil, and place about ½ pint or 1 cup of soil in a labeled sample bag.

**Sending Samples to the UF/IFAS Extension Soil Testing Laboratory**

- Enter each sample's ID on the sample bag and in the Your Sample ID column. List each sample separately.
- Lime and fertilizer recommendations are provided only if the crop code(s) is listed.
- Include Crop Codes found on Page 2 of this form. Up to 6 codes can be added per sample line.
- Add the costs of all samples and tests. Make check or money order payable to **University of Florida**.
- Include the completed Phosphorus Index Test Form and the check or money order in a shipping box with the sample(s).

**Test Results**

A soil test report will be mailed/emailed to you in about 3-6 days after your sample arrives at the UF/IFAS Extension Soil Testing Laboratory.

## Crop and Test Codes for Phosphorus Index Test Form

Although soil test phosphorus (P) methods are calibrated well for crop production, there is serious concern that these methods are being inappropriately interpreted to address environmental problems from nutrient applications. This is particularly true in case of P losses from agricultural soils and their impact on water quality. In the absence of other suitable methods, the regulatory agencies are using soil test P methods and interpretations to regulate nutrient applications on

agricultural soils. To assess the risk of phosphorus leaving agricultural lands, a tool has been developed called the "P-Index," specific to Florida conditions. To have P loss assessment, soil samples should be collected from the specific field(s) and submitted with this form filled out completely to the UF/IFAS Extension Soil Testing Laboratory at the address on page 1.

### AGRONOMIC CROPS

#### Crop Code    Field Crops

- 2    Corn, non-irrigated
- 5    Corn, irrigated
- 9    Cotton
- 7    Grain sorghum
- 15    Hemp (fiber, seed or flower)
- 8    Oats for grain, Rye for grain
- 10    Peanuts
- 11    Soybeans
- 13    Sugarcane for syrup
- 12    Tobacco (flue cured)
- 27    Wheat for grain

#### Crop Code    Pasture and Forage Crops

- 23    Alfalfa
- 35    Bahiagrass; establishment of new plantings
- 36    Bahiagrass; established pasture
- 26    Cool-season annual grasses (small grains and ryegrass)
- 22    Cool-season legumes or legume-grass mixtures (lupines, sweetclover, vetches and all true clovers, white, red, arrowleaf, crimson, subteranean)
- 32    Hay or silage (perennial grass)
- 25    Improved perennial grasses other than bahiagrass (bermuda, digit, star)
- 33    Limpograss (Hemarthria)
- 28    Perennial peanuts
- 14    Summer forages (millet or sorghum)
- 21    Warm-season legumes or legume-grass mixtures (aeschynomene, alyceclover, desmodium, hairy indigo, and other tropical legumes)

### FRUIT CROPS

Except for pH and lime requirement, and in some cases P, soil tests are not used as a basis for fertilization of perennial fruit and nut crops in Florida. Program fertilization is practiced, and plant tissue testing is helpful in certain crops. Tissue testing is available from commercial labs. Consult with your county UF/IFAS Extension agent about interpretation before taking samples.

#### Crop Code    Crop Description

- 60    Citrus (establishment)
- 61    Citrus (bearing trees)
- 67    Blueberry (bearing)

### VEGETABLE CROPS

Please use the Landscape and Vegetable Garden Test Form (SL136) for home gardens. Codes for particular vegetables will result in fertilizer recommendations for commercial vegetable production and are not appropriate for home vegetable gardens.

Crop Code	Crop Description	Crop Code	Crop Description
217	Bean, lima, pole, snap	227	Okra
228	Beet	223	Onion, bulb
212	Broccoli	229	Onion, bunching
212	Brussels sprouts	204	Parsley
207	Cabbage	216	Pea, English, snow or southern
226	Carrot	201	Pepper, bell or specialty
212	Cauliflower	215	Potato, Irish
214	Celery	218	Potato, sweet
208	Collard and Chinese Cabbage	230	Pumpkin squash
220	Corn, sweet	219	Radish
211	Cucumber	210	Spinach
203	Eggplant	230	Squash, summer or winter
225	Kale	224	Strawberry
229	Leek	200	Tomato, cherry or slicing
209	Lettuce, crisphead endive, escarole, or romaine	225	Turnip
205	Muskmelon	221	Watermelon
225	Mustard		

### ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE

Do not use this form for potting media used in containers. Use the Container Media Test Form (SL134). For fertilization of plants in the landscape, use the Landscape and Vegetable Garden Test Form (SL136).

#### Crop Code    Crop Description

- 601    Commercial nursery growing azaleas, camellias, gardenias, hibiscus, or ixora in the ground
- 600    Commercial woody ornamental nursery growing plants other than azaleas, camellias, gardenias, hibiscus, or ixora in the ground
- 71    Athletic field, golf green, tee, or fairway

Test Code	Test Name	Determinations Made	Test Cost
P1	Phosphorus Capacity Index Test (Mehlich-3 extraction method)	pH, P, Al, Fe and SPSC (Soil Phosphorus Storage Capacity)	\$10