

SAMPLING GUIDE

SOIL ANALYSIS

TEST	SAMPLING				
	WHEN	LOCATION	METHOD	DEPTH	WHAT MUST BE INCLUDED?
VAS %	Throughout the year	Choose a sample area of 3 ha or smaller. Avoid wet, lumpy, fine or powdery soil. Avoid dead zones or barren soil.	Remove top layer (\pm 5cm). Take 10-20 sub-samples and mix them well.	Top 10-15cm	500g - 1kg soil (+ submission form)
Microbial Respiration					
Haney Analysis					
PLFA					

SOIL & ROOT ANALYSIS

TEST	SAMPLING					
	WHEN	LOCATION	METHOD	DEPTH	WHAT MUST BE INCLUDED?	
Nematode Community Profile Analysis	Annual crops: When crop is still present, during growth phase; when testing for intended crops, sample shortly before harvest Perennial crops: Should be tested around the same time each year; keep samples from different rootstocks and plant ages separate	Choose a sample area of 3 ha or smaller. Avoid wet, lumpy, fine or powdery soil. Avoid dead zones or barren soil.	Remove top layer (\pm 5cm). Take 10-20 sub-samples and mix them well.	Top 5-15cm, in humus layer	2 kg soil	Always include submission form. Soil must be included in all root samples to prevent them from drying out. Tuberous crops: include tubers
Routine Plant-Parasitic Nematode Analysis				No deeper than the root zone	2 kg soil + 10 g fine roots	
Mycorrhizae Colonization	At least 2 months after planting	Area with healthy, living plants	Cut roots from living plant		10 g fine roots in soil	

SAMPLE PREPARATION: Place sample in a plastic bag that is clearly marked. **NB:** Include a completed submission form and attach it to the outside of the bag.

SAMPLE CARE: Samples should be kept cool and dry on their way to the lab. They can be kept for short periods on cement or tiles, but never in vehicles or in direct sunlight.