SOIL SAMPLE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR
FIELD-GROWN NURSERY CROPS (Mineral Soils)

Fill out this sheet and mail with soil sample to: Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory,
University of Connecticut, 6 Sherman Place, Unit 5102, Storrs, CT 06269-5102. The cost is
$8 per sample. Enclose a check made payable to the University of Connecticut (unless you are
using a prepaid mailing kit). Contact us with any questions at (860) 486-4274.

Name: ______________________________ Date: _____________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________
City: ___________________ State: _______ Zip Code: ________________
Phone: __________ Fax/Email: __________________________ Check if you want results ☐ faxed ☐ emailed
Sample name or number: ______________________________________________

IMPORTANT!
1. FOLLOW THE SOIL SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE.

2. DO YOU WISH TO RECEIVE FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS?  o YES  o NO
If not, no other information is required.

If you require limestone and fertilizer recommendations, please fill in the following section as completely as possible.

Are plants currently growing in the soil?  o Yes  o No
If no, when is the expected planting date? ________________________________

What crop(s) are or will be produced in this soil? __________________________

Have any cover crops been grown on the field between the rows?
 o None  o Yes; describe the type of cover crop, how it was grown and used. __________________________________________________________

Type of limestone applied and amount?
o calcitic limestone  o dolomitic limestone  o hydrated lime  o none
 o other; describe: ___________________________ Amount: __________ lbs/1000sq. ft.

Type of acidifying agent applied and amount?
o aluminum sulfate  o ferrous sulfate  o sulfur  o none
 o other; describe: ___________________________ Amount: __________ lbs/1000sq. ft.

When and how has limestone or acidifying agent been applied? ______________

Type of fertilizer used?  o slow release  o soluble-liquid  o granular mineral  o organic

SOIL TEST RESULTS
pH_________ Texture___________ Color__________ Laboratory No.__________
Please describe in detail your fertilization program; include how the fertilizer is applied, the frequency of application and the exact form and analysis of fertilizer used:

Is plant growth satisfactory?  
[ ] Yes  [ ] No

If no, describe growth and the nature of the problem:

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

How old are the plants? How were the plants propagated?
[ ] weeks  [ ] months  [ ] seed  [ ] cutting  [ ] division
[ ] years  [ ] growing seasons  [ ] grafting  [ ] tissue culture

What is the type of cultivation used?
[ ] clean cultivation  [ ] sod between rows  [ ] other; describe:

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

How are plants irrigated?
[ ] no irrigation  [ ] overhead  [ ] trickle  [ ] hand watered
[ ] other; describe:

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Describe the soil drainage characteristics.
[ ] excessive  [ ] good  [ ] fair  [ ] poor  [ ] very poor

SOIL SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Late October through early November is usually the best time to sample, but samples may be taken at any time of year, weather permitting.
2. Areas differing in topography, drainage, soil texture, nutrient additions, soil organic matter content or intended crop usage should be sampled and tested separately.
3. Under no circumstances should samples represent areas larger than 15 acres.
4. Avoid sampling unusual spots such as former sites of manure, mulch or compost piles.
5. It is imperative that the soil sample represents the area of interest. To obtain a representative sample, take core samples or thin slices of soil from 12 to 20 evenly distributed spots within the area to be tested. Place these slices or cores in a clean container, mix thoroughly and remove about one cup of soil for analysis. Transfer this cup of soil to a zipper-lock bag and label the outside of the bag with a sample name or number.
6. Samples may then be brought or sent to the Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory along with the filled out questionnaire and payment. Samples can be mailed in heavy envelopes or boxes. Prepaid soil collection kits are also available. Contact the lab for further information.
7. **Multi-sample discounts** are available to commercial growers planning to submit large numbers of samples.
8. A copy of the results of the analysis will be sent to you. If you would like to receive fertilizer recommendations made by Donna Ellis, Extension Educator, Plant Science, check the appropriate box on the Field-Grown Nursery Crops Questionnaire. RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE INCLUDED ONLY IF RECOMMENDATION IS REQUIRED.