Soil Testing

The basic soil test includes soil pH, buffer value, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, calculated CEC and base saturation all for the price of $7.00 per sample.

The Basic Plus soil test is all the above with zinc, manganese, iron, copper, sodium and boron for $15.00.

Pre-sidedress nitrate (PSNT), organic matter and soluble salts are also offered for additional fees.

**Submitting a soil sample is a simple procedure.**

Divide the area of interest into one or more sampling areas (from about an acre down to flower bed size), based on uniform soil type, fertilization and planting history. Sandy or eroded areas, problem areas, or areas where plant response is significantly different should be sampled separately -- provided the area can be fertilized separately.

Collect small portions of soil from approximately 10 random locations that represent the average soil conditions of that area. Each sample should be collected so that you have a plug or slice of soil 6 inches deep.

Mix the small portions together to form a composite sample. If the soil is wet, allow it to air dry (do not heat) on a paper plate before mixing.

From the composite sample remove enough soil (about two cups) and put in a zip-loc bag.

Bring the sample to our office and we will fill out the necessary paperwork for you.

Rutherford County Extension, 315 John R Rice Blvd., Suite 101, Murfreesboro, TN 37129.

Call with any questions, 615-898-7710.

The results will be mailed to you in ten days to two weeks.

*Remember, "Soil test results are only as good as the sample submitted."*