

Get a Jump on Spring Planting: Have Soil Tested at UNH Now

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UNH News Bureau
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October 24, 2002

DURHAM, N.H. -- Want the best garden in the neighborhood and a lush green lawn next spring? Want to be environmentally responsible in your use of fertilizer?

Then now is the best time to have your soil tested. The University of New Hampshire Analytical Services lab is well equipped and ready to test soil samples. Homeowner soil testing in the fall is just as effective as in the spring, and you'll be ready for planting.

The Analytical Services Lab, located in the Spaulding Life Science Center on the UNH campus, tests soil samples for researchers, homeowners, farmers, commercial growers and golf courses. Samples can be submitted in person, by mail or through the Cooperative Extension Service in each county. Mail submission is best, due to limited parking.

Two complete soil test packages are offered: 1.) Organic gardening (pH, nutrients and organic matter, \$17) and 2.) Standard gardening (pH, nutrients, \$12).

The Home Grounds and Gardens form includes information on taking a good soil sample, and can be requested by calling 603-862-3210 or visiting the Web site at <http://aslan.unh.edu/asl>. Soil testing forms can also be obtained from local county Cooperative Extension offices.

Soil samples will be analyzed and computer generated lime and fertilizer recommendations provided for specific crop needs. Results are typically available within two working days. If you supply an e-mail address, results will arrive on the day they are completed.

For further information contact the Soil Testing Lab at the Analytical Services Lab, Spaulding Life Science Center, 38 College Road, Durham, NH 03824, telephone 603-862-3210 or at Soil.Testing@unh.edu. The lab is open M-F, 7:30 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m., except on recognized UNH holidays.

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