



# IFAS Analytical Services Laboratories Extension Soil Testing Laboratory

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## Producer Citrus Test Information Sheet

**Note: This Lab only tests samples from the State of Florida.**

Mailing Address (please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ FL Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \* \_\_\_\_\_

- This form can be downloaded from our website.
- Detailed information on this test can be obtained from SL253 accessed at [edis.ifas.ufl.edu](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu)
- For further information contact your local county Extension Agent

\* In order to expedite reporting of results; please provide an e-mail address if possible.

**Fill in all requested information, using one line per sample and additional sheets for more than 5 samples.**

Lab Use only	County	Acre-age	Test(s) Requested (see Page 2 or back)	Age of Tree (in yrs.)	Variety*	Sample ID Standard Soil Test + P	Trees 4+ yrs Sample ID Leaf Tissue Test for P	Expected Yield**	Cost

**NOTE:**

\* Variety: Please provide variety code: Orange- 63, Tangelo- 64, Tangerine- 65, Grapefruit- 66  
\*\*Expected Yield: **For trees 8+ years old-** Please provide expected yield in either Boxes/acre 'or' Lbs solids/Acre

Check \_\_\_\_\_ Money Order \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA.  
SAMPLES WILL NOT BE PROCESSED WITHOUT PAYMENT.  
Please enclose payment and this sheet in the same package as sample(s).  
Do not send cash through the mail.**

### Important Information for Soil Sample Collection and Submission

**Before Sampling:**

1. When taking a soil sample make sure and sample near the dripline of the trees and not in the row middle.
2. A sampling program is most effective if it is done annually.
3. Soil sample bags, addressed shipping boxes, and information sheets are available free from your county Cooperative Extension office. Obtain the materials you need to complete your sampling plan.

**Collecting Samples:**

1. In Florida, soil samples should be collected at the end of the summer rain season (August - October) before fertilizing in the fall.
2. Sample from soil surface to depth of tillage, usually 0 to 6 inches.
3. Collect soil from 20 or more spots within each area, mixing these samples in a clean plastic bucket.
4. Spread the composited material on clean paper or other suitable material to air dry. Do not send wet samples.
5. Mix the dry soil, and place about one pint of soil in a labeled sample bag.

**Sending samples to the Extension Soil Testing Laboratory:**

1. Enter each sample's identification on its sample bag and in the Sample ID Standard Soil Test + P column. List each sample separately.
2. Lime and fertilizer recommendations are provided only if the crop code is listed.
3. Include the analysis code for each desired test.
4. Enter the fee from the Analysis Cost list found on page 2 of this form.
5. Sum the costs of all samples and analyses. Make check or money order payable to: **University of Florida**. Checks written in any other name(s) will NOT be honored and returned and will cause avoidable delay in processing the samples.
6. Include the completed Producer Citrus Test Information Sheet and the check or money order in the shipping box with the sample(s).

**Test results:**

A soil test report will be emailed / mailed to you within 5 to 10 days after your sample arrives at the Extension Soil Testing Laboratory. Contact your county Extension office if you have questions concerning the Citrus Test Report.

Analysis Code	Analysis Name	Determinations Made	Analysis Cost
C1	Standard Soil Test	pH, P, K, Ca, and Mg ( For Trees 1-3 years of age)	\$7.00
C2	Standard Soil and Tissue Test	pH, P, K, Ca, and Mg ( For Trees 4+ years of age)	\$15.00
C3	Micronutrient Test	Cu, Mn, Zn	\$5.00
C4	pH and Lime Requirement	pH and lime requirement	\$3.00

### Important Information

- **Soil Testing** is most useful for pH, P, Ca, Mg and Cu; **Leaf Tissue Testing** is valuable for all of the elements.
- **Nitrogen:** N rates are standard for all citrus trees up to 3 years after planting. The tree variety (orange, grapefruit, tangelo, tangerine) is needed for trees 4 to 7 years old; for trees 8 years and older the variety also must be specified. If the variety is oranges, the expected yield in boxes/acre or lbs solids/acre must be given.
- **Phosphorus:** For trees up to 3 years after planting, a standard soil test ONLY is required. If tree is 4 years or older, please provide leaf sample for a Leaf Tissue Test as well as a soil sample for a standard soil test.
- **Potassium:** The tree age must be given because the recommended K<sub>2</sub>O rate coincides with the recommended N rate. For trees up to 3 years after planting, recommended rates are given in lbs per tree. For trees 4+ years old, the K<sub>2</sub>O rate is given in lbs per acre.
- **Magnesium:** A standard soil test must be performed. Based on the results a recommendation will be given that is proportional to the recommended N fertilizer rate.
- **Copper Toxicity:** A micronutrient soil test must be performed. A pH test is required when Cu is greater or equal to 25 mg/kg.
- **Soil pH:** Included in the standard soil test. Liming recommendations are given based on results to a target pH of 6.5.

### How To Take, Prepare, and Submit Plant Tissue Samples (for Analysis C2)

1. Ensure that each sample contains at least a generous handful of plant material (around half a gallon).
2. Be aware that spray residues, dust or soil on leaves can affect sample results; avoid sampling recently sprayed leaves; If all tissue is dusty or spray contaminated, wash leaves gently with flowing distilled water.
3. Do not sample disease-, insect-, or mechanically damaged plant tissue.
4. Place tissue samples directly into a clean paper or cloth bag or envelope. Do not use plastic containers.
5. If the plant tissue is wet or succulent, allow plant material to air dry for at least one day, before mailing.
6. When sampling suspected nutrient-deficient plants, two samples are recommended; one sample from normal plants, and another sample from abnormal plants.
7. The best time to collect 4-6 months old spring flush leaves for testing is July and August. Avoid immature leaves since they change composition rapidly.
8. Please do not provide any roots along with the sample.

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