

# Soil Health Nutrient Test Soil Sampling Protocol

## Soil Sampling Method

Soil testing for this project will only be done for surface samples to a depth as described below.

## Field Area

- Field, areas or management zones within a field should have similar soil type, cropping history and management treatment.
- Each sample should be representative of the area sampled.
  - Maximum acreage dependent upon topography and field uniformity
  - Follow **USDA-NRCS Fact Sheet MN-NUTR 3** (Soil Sampling and Fertilizer Recommendations)
    - [http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2\\_022974.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_022974.pdf)

## Sampling procedure

- Take 15-25 core samples randomly selected
- Consider previous crop row spacing and fertilizer placement, avoid over sampling in these areas, e.g. banded P with planter 2 X 2" placement, anhydrous applicator knife mark
- Mix samples thoroughly and save enough to fill a normal soil sample bag. (about a cup of soil)

## Sampling depth

- Take a sample to 6 inch depth
- Long term No-Till field should be sampled to a depth of 4 inches

## Sampling equipment

- Stainless steel soil-sampling probe is recommended
- Shovels can be used if they are rust free and clean

## Handling

- Samples DO NOT need to be air dried prior to shipping, but should not be saturated either
- Label and include the following information: **MVTL sample submission form includes required information.**
  - Submitter Name
  - Address
  - E-mail address
  - Phone
  - Farmer Name
  - Farm
  - Field ID
  - Land use-cropland, pasture, range
  - Previous crop
  - Crop to be grown & yield goal

Ship Samples to:



<http://mvtl.com>

1314 South Front Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
507-354-7645  
[mnsoil@mvtl.com](mailto:mnsoil@mvtl.com)

1201 Lincoln Way  
Nevada, IA 50201  
515-382-5486  
[mvtlia@mvtl.com](mailto:mvtlia@mvtl.com)

Call MVTL for shipping supplies