Soil Testing Procedure

1. Use a soil probe, spade or shovel to sample the soil profile to a depth of 6-8 inches. It is important to obtain a representative sample of the soil in the root zone rather than only the surface soil. NOTE: Samples for the lawn should be taken to a depth of 4 inches.

2. It is generally advisable to take several sub samples (at least 10) around your garden or lawn, then combine these in a clean bucket or pail. This gives a representative sample of the entire growing area.

3. From the bucket or pail, select about a pint of soil. Put representative samples in a soil bag, clean plastic container (margarine container) a new sandwich bag or similar package.

4. Make sure to label with your name, address and include information on the garden crops grown. If you send more than one sample, be sure to identify each plainly.

5. Bring sample(s) to Riley County – K-State Research and Extension Office, located in the Riley County Office Building at 5th and Humboldt between 8 am and 5 pm. Phone 785-537-6350