Regen Ag Lab Gain Ground

31740 Hwy 10
Pleasanton, NE 68866

Soil Health Sampling

1. Soil samples can be collected using a clean, rust free probe, spade or shovel. A soil probe allows samples to be taken from an accurate depth. If using a spade or shovel, a furrow slice may be taken. Remove all vegetation and residue prior to sampling.

   ***Note:** Use clean instruments and avoid the use of lubricants (i.e. WD-40) when sampling to prevent inaccurate results.

2. Collect a representative sample from areas that best represent the field average. Be sure to sample from areas with similar soil types, topographies and covers. Avoid problem areas that do not accurately represent your soil. We recommend a soil temperature at a minimum of 50° F.

   ***Example:** If a field has three (3) predominate soil types in a ratio of 50%, 30%, and 20%, soil cores should be taken from those sites in similar ratios for a representative sample. This sample example can be used for topography and production.

3. Using a soil probe, insert the probe at a 90° angle, without twisting, to the desired depth (0-6" or 0-8" are common*). Twist a quarter of a turn then pull straight out. If the soil is clearly compacted more than 1" within the probe, remove the core and sample again. The probe does not need cleaned between sampling, unless the probe is clogged, or the soil is wet.

   ***Note:** All samples must be taken from the same depth for proper interpretation

4. Combine at least ten (10) cores for the area of interest. Thoroughly mix cores and send a subsample of two (2) cups in a plastic lined paper soil bag or plastic bag (i.e. sandwich bag, whirlpac, etc.)
5. Clearly label all the sample bags with unique identifiers such as a location or a number. These labels must match the label names used on the submittal form and must indicate the desired test and sampling depth in addition to necessary customer information (i.e. Name, Address, Email, and Phone Number). This form is accessible on our website.

   ***Hint:** Label bags using a Sharpie or pen prior to sampling to prevent labels from smearing.

6. Store samples in a cool and shaded location for a maximum of two (2) days or in the fridge for a maximum of two (2) weeks prior to shipping. If longer times are expected, store in the freezer.

   ***Note:** Microbial activity can be strongly impacted if not properly stored.

7. Place all samples and submittal forms in a box and ship samples using a standard carrier. We recommend two (2) to three (3) day shipping.