RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

Lab #_____
Received _____

SOIL TESTING LABORATORY
ASB-II, Cook Campus
57 US Highway 1 South
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(848) 932-9295 *FAX:* (732) 932-9292

OM

Soil test questionnaire for Organic Media: potting "soil" & compost

Read Sampling Instructions carefully before taking a sample. Then complete this form.

Please print legibly!

_____
Contact Name

_____ (_____) _____-_____ _____
Farm or other *Telephone* *County*

_____ _____
Street address *Email*

_____ _____
City, State, Zip *Sample I.D. (name your sample)*

Saturated Media Extract Test Request

☐ **Organic Growing Media Fertility**
pH, available nutrients (P, K, Ca, Mg, Fe, Mn, Cu, Zn, B), interpretation $ 30

☐ **Greenhouse (soilless) potting media test**
pH, available nutrients, plant-available nitrogen (nitrate-N & ammonium-N), soluble salt level, interpretation $ 60

☐ **Compost/Basic Test**
pH, nitrate-nitrogen, soluble salt level, maturity index, interpretation $ 70

☐ **Compost/Technical Test**
pH, plant-available nitrogen (nitrate-N & ammonium-N), soluble salt level, organic matter content, total N, C:N ratio, maturity index, moisture content, visual assessment $ 150

☐ A**dd Available Nutrients to either Compost Test**
Saturated Media Extract of P, K, Ca, Mg, Fe, Mn, Cu, Zn, B $17

Total payment required: $_____

Please include payment by check to **"**Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**"**
or provide credit card information:

☐ **Visa** *or* ☐ **Mastercard** *or* ☐ **Discover**

_____ _____-_____-_____-_____
Name as it appears on card *Card number*

_____ _____/_____ _____
Billing address (if different than above) *Expiration date* *3-digit Security code*

_____ _____ _____
Signature *Lab use*

Automated recommendations are not available for organic media analyses, but the following information may be useful to Rutgers Cooperative Extension staff for providing management guidance.

For greenhouse samples:

Type of growing media: ☐ new mix ☐ old mix

Components: ☐ peat ☐ bark ☐ sand ☐ perlite ☐ vermiculite

☐ other: _____

Fertilizer materials used in past month:

	Date	Kind	Amount (oz/100 plants)
Lime	_____	_____	_____
Fertilizer	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____

Greenhouse media: Check one type of planting.Provide additional information requested:

Vegetable & Fruit				
❍	**Annual vegetable**	*Type/Variety*	*Weeks after planting: for tomatoes, number of clusters*	*Condition of foliage: good-fair-poor Fruit set: good-fair-poor*
❍	**Perennial vegetable**	*Type/Variety*		❍ *To be planted* ❍ *Established*
❍	**Strawberry**	*Variety*	❍ *To be planted* ❍ *Established*	Year fruit will set:
Ornamental Shrub and/or Tree Nursery				
❍	**Woody ornamentals that prefer low pH**			❍ *To be planted* ❍ *Established*
❍	**Other woody ornamentals**			❍ *To be planted* ❍ *Established*
Flowers				
❍	**Annual & biennial flowers**	*Type/Variety*		❍ *To be planted* ❍ *Established*
❍	**Perennial flowers, bulbs, & ground cover**	*Type/Variety*		❍ *To be planted* ❍ *Established*
❍ **Other**		*Please specify:*		❍ *To be planted* ❍ *Established*

For compost samples:

Type of Compost:

- ☐ *backyard pile or bin*
- ☐ *large static pile*
- ☐ *turned pile*
- ☐ *turned windrow*
- ☐ *in-vessel*

Compost feedstock (check all that apply):

- ☐ *leaves and woody yard waste*
- ☐ *grass clippings*
- ☐ *food scraps/waste*
- ☐ *manure: type* _____
- ☐ *stall bedding: type* _____
- ☐ *other:* _____

Compost is best used as a soil conditioner. A fully mature compost improves soil quality by increasing organic matter content, improving fertility, nutrient- and water-holding capacity, biological activity, and soil structure & tilth. Compost testing is most useful for evaluating maturity of the compost and its relative benefit and potential problems as a soil amendment. Compost may not work well by itself as growing media.

Rutgers NJAES Soil Testing Lab

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