

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
 College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service
 Potential Acidity Information Sheet
 Division of Regulatory Services

| | |
|---|--|
| Date Sampled: ____/____/____ Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ | Tests to be made (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Potential Acidity (\$20) <input type="checkbox"/> Routine soil test (pH, buffer pH, P, K, Ca, Mg, Zn) and Potential Acidity (\$25) |
| | email: _____ |

*In the area below, just list the sample ID(s) for the sample(s) submitted.
 All other entries are for office use only.*

Billing Code: _____ Sample ID
(use only 4 characters)

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|-----|--|----|
| 1 | | | 697 | | 99 |
| 2 | | | 697 | | 99 |
| 3 | | | 697 | | 99 |
| 4 | | | 697 | | 99 |
| 5 | | | 697 | | 99 |
| 6 | | | 697 | | 99 |
| 7 | | | 697 | | 99 |
| 8 | | | 697 | | 99 |

Make checks payable to "University of Kentucky"

About the Potential Acidity Test

The potential acidity test provides a measure of the acidity due to sulfides in soil. A common term for these soils are acid sulfate soils. Acid sulfate soils form under water where sulfur exists in a sulfide form. Once exposed to air, the sulfide oxidizes to sulfate which causes acidity to be produced.

The pH of acid sulfate soils is less than 4. Lime recommendations from a routine soil analysis is not adequate to quantify the amount of lime required to neutralize all of the potential acidity from reduced sulfides. Thus, the potential acidity test was designed for a better quantification of lime needed in these type of soils.

In sampling soil for testing, take about a dozen cores of samples in the designated area at a 6 inch depth. Collect the cores in a clean bucket. Mix the cores thoroughly and pour about a pint of the soil into a ziploc bag. Put the ziploc bag inside another ziploc bag to ensure sample integrity if the bag breaks open. If you are submitting more than one sample, it is important to have sample numbers placed on the bags and forms.

Submitting a sample with this form provides a choice of potential acidity (\$20) or routine soil test and potential acidity (\$25). If you are submitting samples directly to the lab, provide payment for the tests along with the samples with checks payable to "Division of Regulatory Services". The test result for potential acidity will be the lime required to neutralize the acidity in the top 6 inch layer of soil.

Submit the sample(s) to:

University of Kentucky
Soil Testing Laboratory
103 Regulatory Services Bldg.
University of Kentucky
Lexington KY 40546