



Soil Testing Form – Compost

Instructions:

- Soil sampling instructions and test descriptions are on page 2.
- Please print legibly.
- Please give each sample a unique name.
- Make checks payable to “UNH Cooperative Extension.”
- **Please allow 3 WEEKS for test results.**

Name: _____ Business/Farm: _____ County: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____ FAX: _____

Receive Test Results by (choose one): ☐ Email ☐ Mail ☐ FAX Payment Type: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Account

Mail or Bring Samples to:

UNH Cooperative Extension Spaulding
Hall – Room G28 38 Academic Way
Durham, NH 03824

Questions? Call 603-862-3200

Email: soil.testing@unh.edu

Visit: extension.unh.edu/diagnostics

UNHCE ID# (leave blank)	Sample Name	Compost Type	Methods Used	Time Composted	Product Stabilized?	Proposed Use	Standard Compost, Feedstock Analysis \$50	Standard Compost, + Extracted Nutrients \$65	Standard Compost, + Total Nutrients \$80	TOTAL Sample Cost:
		1. Animal manure 2. Leaf /yard waste 3. Biosolids 4. Other materials*	1. Windrow 2. Static Pile 3. In-vessel 4. Other	1. 1-2 months 2. 3-4 months 3. 5-6 months 4. 7-9 months 5. 9 months	Yes or no? If yes, how long?	1. Seed starter 2. Container mix 3. Topsoil blend 4. Garden use				
Test descriptions are on back of page.										TOTAL COST:

* If other materials are used, please list them here:

See next page

Soil Testing Form – Compost – Page 2

Sampling instructions

Take compost samples with considerable care. If the sample is not representative of the windrow or pile, the test results will be of no value. Windrows or piles which have had different starting materials or which have been composted for differing lengths of time or under different conditions should be sampled separately.

Take compost samples with a clean spade or shovel. The bulk of the sample should come from the interior of the windrow or pile. Take samples randomly from at least 5 different locations. All equipment should be clean. Never take a sample from just one spot and assume that it is representative of the lot as a whole. Place the 5 or more samples in a clean bucket or other container and mix well. The sample size required for the tests is **4 to 6 cups**. If desired, the sample may be dried prior to submission, but this is not necessary. If the sample cannot be submitted immediately, it should be refrigerated for storage and transport. Do not store or transport samples in a hot environment such as the trunk of a car.

Test descriptions

Standard Compost, Feedstock Analysis includes percent solids (and moisture), organic matter, pH, soluble salts, total nitrogen, total carbon and the carbon to nitrogen ratio (C:N). This test is recommended as an initial test for feedstocks to help determine appropriate mixing ratios.

Standard Compost, Extracted Macro Nutrients includes standard feedstock plus ammonium nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.

Standard Compost, Total Nutrients includes standard feedstock plus ammonium nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, aluminum, calcium, magnesium, manganese, sodium, copper, iron, sulfur and zinc.