ROSES
PROCEDURES FOR SOIL SAMPLING

Soil analysis can help determine the fertilization needs of your rose soil and assist in identifying problem conditions if they exist. This guide will help you collect representative and meaningful samples which will assure accurate laboratory analysis data.

Preplant or postplant soil analyses provide useful information for measurement of fertility or toxicity levels and to substantiate amendment requirements.

SOIL SAMPLING - ROSES

When to Sample - Soils

Preplant soil analysis data is used to determine the most appropriate plant varieties and helps determine the need for preplant fertilizers or soil amendments.

Soil samples may be collected throughout the year to monitor soil conditions or to determine the causes for poor growth in specific locations.

How to Sample - Soils

Soil samples should be representative of the area to be treated. If possible, areas should be uniform with respect to soil texture, slope, variety and irrigation design. Areas sampled should not be larger than one (1) acre. Problem areas should be sampled separately and compared with samples taken from adjacent non problem areas. The location of the sample areas should be noted and marked on a parcel or planting map for future reference.

Soil samples should contain at least 6-8 cores for each sample area. Retrieve an equal amount of soil from the surface to a depth of eighteen inches (0-18"). Soil core samples should be placed in a clean bucket and thoroughly mixed. Approximately a quart volume of this soil will be required for analysis purposes.

Labeling, Packaging, and Shipping

All soil samples should be labeled with your property name and address, sample identification, plant varieties, age, stage of growth, previous problems (if any) and the required analyses. Soil samples should be submitted in plastic bags as soon as possible after collection.

Corporate Offices & Laboratory
853 Corporation Street
Santa Paula, CA 93060
TEL: (805)392-2000
Env FAX: (805)525-4172 / Ag FAX: (805)392-2063
CA ELAP Certification No. 1573

Office & Laboratory
2500 Stagecoach Road
Stockton, CA 95215
TEL: (209)942-0182
FAX: (209)942-0423
CA ELAP Certification No. 1563

Office & Laboratory
563 E. Lindo Avenue
Chico, CA 95926
TEL: (530)343-5818
FAX: (530)343-3807
CA ELAP Certification No. 2670

Office & Laboratory
3442 Empresa Drive, Suite D
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
TEL: (805)783-2940
FAX: (805)783-2912
CA ELAP Certification No. 2775

Office & Laboratory
9415 W. Goshen Avenue
Visalia, CA 93291
TEL: (559)734-9473
FAX: (559)734-8435
CA ELAP Certification No. 2810

LEAF SAMPLING - ROSES

When to Sample - Leaves

To determine annual nutrient status, the preferred time for rose plant tissue sampling is when flowers are nearing maturity. For early or late season nutrient monitoring, or for problem diagnosis, other sampling times may be appropriate.

How to Sample - Leaves

Plant tissue samples should be representative of the area to be fertilized. The sampler should traverse each sample area collecting samples perpendicularly or diagonally to the plant rows. Sampling areas should be uniform with respect to soil texture, slope, variety and irrigation design. Problem areas should be sampled separately.

Volume and Type of Leaves to Collect

Collect 40 leaf blades from each area. Collect fully expanded mature leaves, three to five leaflets from the growing tip.

Labeling, Packaging, and Shipping

All plant tissue and soil samples should be labeled with your name and address, sample identification, variety, age/stage of growth, previous problems (if any), and the required analysis. Plant tissue samples should be placed in paper bags and soil samples in plastic bags. Plant tissue samples should be delivered to the laboratory as soon as possible to insure freshness. If held for more than one day, plant tissue samples should be stored in paper bags at room temperature until delivered or shipped. Analytical nutrient values are not affected if samples are allowed to air dry naturally. This becomes a problem if moisture is present and mold develops.

As an alternative to delivering to our laboratory, plant tissue and soil samples can be shipped same day delivery, via Greyhound, overnight UPS, or other private couriers.

When in doubt.....

If you have any questions or require assistance relating to the above, please visit www.fglinc.com or call Fruit Growers Laboratory's Agronomic Services.