



LABORATORY ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION REPORT

Report For: Bill Smedley

R R 1 Box 99
Somewhere, IL 60000-

Report For: Morton High School

Order No.: 211842
Location Name: Sod or Turf
Area Name: Sod/Turf

Sample Number	Water pH	Buffer pH	Pounds Per Acre				Percent Organic Matter
			Phosphorus	Potassium	Calcium	Magnesium	
Excessive							
High							
Optimum							
Low							
Deficient							
Average	6.1	6.6	46	240	4600	1040	3.6

Recommendations:

By following these recommendations you will optimize your plots attractiveness. We highly recommend soil testing each year to properly address fertility, maximizing your plots effectiveness.

Crop:**	Per Acre	(Tons)	Year 1 (Lbs)			Years 2-4 (Lbs)		
		Lime	N	P	K	N	P	K
Perennials	Buildup	1.6	0	0	80	0	0	80
Customer Crop: Sod	Maintenance	0	20	45	180	0	60	300
	Total	1.6	20	45	260	0	60	380

Fertilizer is sold with three components, (N) Nitrogen, (P) Phosphate and (K) Potash at a specific rate per acre, ie. 10-10-10. Your soil test results tell you what your plots fertilizer needs are.

*See your farmer's co-op or fertilizer dealer for product blends and application. For small areas, divide Lbs/Acre by 43.5 to apply lbs nutrient / 1000 sq ft.
Lime -- Tons/Acre * 2000 / 43.5 = Lbs Lime / 1000 sq ft

**Perennials (ex: alfalfa, clover, chicory)
Annuals (ex: corn, brassicas, oats, sunflower, wheat, millet, sorghum)
Mixed (ex: legumes, annuals; legumes can persist into 2nd-4th years)

Comments:

Establishing Wildlife Food Plots

You have made the most important decision in establishing a food plot-a soil test! It is only a part of a good quality food plot however. Consider these other areas along with the soil test recommendations for best results.

Ask yourself what kind of plot do you want. Is it to see more wildlife, for hunting opportunities, for improving health of existing wildlife? Choose areas that have good drainage and at least 6 or more hours of sun. Then choose plant mixes that match – hunting plots, year round forage, or for general wildlife.

Small plots mainly for hunting (at least 1000 sq ft) should be long strips or small blocks located close to cover or trails and hunting sites. Nutritional plots are generally larger (1 acre or more) and managed to attract deer and other wildlife throughout the year.

For nutritional plots, plant 60% of the acreage to perennial food sources, about 40% to late summer and fall plants. Clovers, alfalfa, chicory, and brassicas are good perennial forages. Use cereal grains, corn, and soybeans for fall plots. See your seed vendor to match mixes to fit different situations and areas.

Weed control is the biggest problem after establishment. Note the plants and grasses in the plot area and have a plan for controlling them for at least the first 2 years. Plowing, disking, or using a herbicide like Roundup are possibilities for initial ground preparation. Mowing and/or hand weeding may be required also. Good soil preparation is important for seed-soil contact. After seeding, roll or cultipack for best germination.

Neglecting to fertilize and lime properly is a waste of time and money. Forage production, nutritive value, and plot longevity will not be what it should be. For legumes or mixes with legumes, pH is the key. These plants grow best in soil with pH 6.5 to 7.0 so lime is an important factor. Generally, P and K soil test levels of 50 and 300#/A respectively are very adequate for most mixes. For alfalfa plots, potassium should be added every year. Fertilizing and liming before planting gives the most benefit so a soil test will tell how to correct the soil for the best growth.

Soils are the backbone of the project so choose plot areas carefully. Sampling and testing is the only way to know the present nutrient levels and what nutrients or lime needs to be added. Testing should be done at least every 3-4 years or whenever the plot is redone.