

## Comparison of Soil Test Labs With a Special Note of Information Needed for UM-PMT (10/15/14 update)

### General Information

- **Laboratories included in this comparison (with the exception of AgroLab) were participants in the 1995 sample exchange.**
- ASSUME PAYMENT MUST BE INCLUDED WITH SAMPLES.
- Organic matter (OM) is an important soil property to track, but it is not offered in some basic packages. Producers are advised to request OM even if they choose a lab that charges an additional fee for the information.
- Soil texture analysis is not offered by many labs in their basic packages. If labs do offer the analysis for a separate fee, it is often very expensive. Soil texture of the dominant map unit in a field can be obtained from Web Soil Survey.
- Soil sampling depth should be 8 inches.
- There is no need to request recommendations from the soil test labs.
- Most labs have order forms and price lists on their website.
- A new soil characteristic called the **Degree of Phosphorus Saturation** or **DPS** will be required on fields where phosphorus-bearing nutrient sources are intended and soil test phosphorus is equal to, or greater than, 150 FIV. Some labs already provide DPS as part of their basic packages while others do not. Consult the right column of the table below for information on acquiring DPS or the necessary information for calculating it.

Lab	Cost	Analyses	Comments	Degree P Saturation (DPS) or Al and Fe reported?
A & L Eastern Agricultural Lab 7621 Whitepine Road Richmond, VA 23237 Phone: 804-743-9401 <a href="http://www.al-labs-eastern.com">www.al-labs-eastern.com</a>	<b>\$8.50 (Mehlich-3)</b> without recs  <b>\$1.50 each for Al and Fe</b>	<b>Basic Mehlich-3 Package (\$1)</b> OM, P, K, Ca, Mg, pH, buffer pH, CEC, percent base saturation of cations  <u>Al &amp; Fe</u> - required for high P soils to determine DPS for UM-PMT	Several micronutrient combinations are also available. See Schedule of Fees.	Al and Fe can be requested for an additional \$3 per sample.  <i>NuMan Pro 4.0 can calculate DPS when soil test includes Mehlich-3 Fe &amp; Al.</i>
Agri Analysis, Inc. a division of Pioneer Water Testing Laboratory, Inc. 280 Newport Road PO Box 483 Leola, PA 17540 Phone: 717-656-9326 or 1-800-464-6019 <a href="http://www.agrianalysis.com">www.agrianalysis.com</a>	<b>\$7.50 commercial</b> <b>\$9.00 private</b>  <b>\$9.25 commercial</b> <b>\$11.00 private</b>  <b>\$1.50 each for Al &amp; Fe</b>	<b>SBA</b> pH, buffer pH, lime requirement, P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> , K <sub>2</sub> O, Ca, Mg, CEC  <b>SBOM</b> SBA+OM  <u>Al &amp; Fe</u> - required for high P soils to determine DPS for UM-PMT	Lab has pick-up locations in Frederick, Walkersville and Woodsboro. <10 samples - \$5.00; 10-20 samples - \$0.50 each; >20 samples - \$10.00  See website for routes.	Al and Fe can be requested for an additional \$3 per sample.  <i>NuMan Pro 4.0 can calculate DPS when soil test includes Mehlich-3 Fe &amp; Al.</i>

<i>Lab</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Analyses</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<b>Degree P Saturation (DPS) or Al and Fe reported?</b>
AgroLab, Inc. 101 Cluckey Dr. Harrington, DE 19952 Phone: 302-566-6094 <a href="http://www.agrolab.us">www.agrolab.us</a>	<b>\$10.00</b>  Volume discounts available	<b><u>BSF</u></b> pH, buffer pH, OM, P, K, Ca, Mg, CEC, percent base saturation of cations, University of DE Phosphorus Saturation Ratio	See website for more analyses.	Yes. "University of D P Sat Ratio" is the same as DPS and is part of their standard soil test.
Brookside Laboratories, Inc. 308 South Main Street New Knoxville, OH 45871 Phone: 419-753-2448 <a href="http://www.blinc.com">www.blinc.com</a>	<b>Price determined by consultant</b>	<b><u>SOO1</u></b> pH, OM, Mehlich-3 P, Mn, Zn, B, Cu, Fe, Al, CEC, percent base saturation of cations, S, Bray II P	Brookside does not provide recs. Consultants develop the recs. Brookside prefers to receive samples from their consultants only.	Al and Fe are routinely reported for option SOO1.  <i>NuMan Pro 4.0</i> can calculate DPS from this information.
Pennsylvania Agricultural Analytical Services Penn State University University Park, PA 16802 Phone: 814-863-0841 <a href="http://www.aasl.psu.edu">www.aasl.psu.edu</a>	<b>\$9.00</b>  <b>\$5.00</b>  <b>\$6.00</b>	<b><u>Standard Soil Test</u></b> pH, Mehlich lime requirement, P, K, Ca, Mg, Zn, Cu, S  <b><u>OM</u></b>  <b><u>Al &amp; Fe</u></b> - required for high P soils to determine DPS for UM-PMT	See website for more analyses.	Al and Fe can be requested for an additional \$6 per sample.  <i>NuMan Pro 4.0</i> can calculate DPS when soil test includes Mehlich-3 Fe & Al.
Spectrum Analytic, Inc. PO Box 639 1087 Jamison Road NW Washington Court House, OH 43160 Phone: 800-321-1562 <a href="http://www.spectrumanalytic.com">www.spectrumanalytic.com</a>	<b>\$8.00</b>  <b>\$12.00</b>	<b><u>S1</u></b> pH, buffer pH, OM, P, K, Ca, Mg, CEC, percent base saturation of cations  <b><u>S2</u></b> Basic package plus <u>any 3</u> of the following - B, Cu, Fe, Mn, S, Zn	Dealer price is available to UME or other consultants. Soil info form would have to indicate "UME" under "company," and the sample must be sent by the UME office. Report comes back to UME, not the grower. Checks from individual growers are OK.	Will report DPS for UM-PMT for no extra charge with S1 or S2 options.
University of Delaware Soil Testing Program 152 Townsend Hall 531 S. College Avenue Newark, DE 19717-1303 Phone: 302-831-1392 <a href="http://www.ag.udel.edu/dstp">www.ag.udel.edu/dstp</a>	<b>\$12.00</b>	<b><u>B1-Commercial Agriculture Soil</u></b> pH, lime requirement, OM, P, K, Ca, Mg, Mn, Zn, Cu, Fe, S, B, % P Saturation		Percent P Saturation is the same as DPS and is included in B1 Routine Analysis

<i>Lab</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Analyses</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<b>Degree P Saturation (DPS) or Al and Fe reported?</b>
<p>Waters Agricultural Laboratories, Inc. 2101 Calhoun Rd Highway 81 <b>Owensboro, KY 42301</b> Phone: 270-685-4039 <a href="http://www.watersag.com">www.watersag.com</a></p>	<p><b>\$12.00 (corporate price for special package with Al)</b></p> <p><b>\$13.50 (individual price for special package with Al)</b></p> <p><b>\$0.75</b> (If requested along with other soil tests.)</p>	<p><b><u>Basic Test 4 + Al (BIV + Al)</u></b> pH, buffer pH, P, K, Ca, Mg, CEC, percent base saturation of cations, sulfate-S, Zn, Mn, Fe, Cu, B and Al</p> <p><b><u>OM</u></b></p>	<p><b>The Waters' Kentucky lab uses Mehlich 3 as an extractant.</b></p> <p><b>Maryland samples should now be sent to Waters – Kentucky.</b></p> <p>Extension offices and consulting companies get the corporate price if samples are sent from their address. Results are sent back to the sender.</p> <p><b>Al is not part of any routine soil analysis at Waters and is only run if requested.</b> Soil samples are kept for 30 days and Al can be requested for a \$1.50 per sample fee within that time frame if not initially requested.</p>	<p>Fe &amp; Al can be obtained when one requests the <b><u>Basic Test 4 + Al</u></b>.</p> <p>Write <u>M3 &amp; nutrient management</u> on soil submission form.</p>