

## **SOIL ANALYSIS:**

Is testing of your soil necessary?

Soil is a complex, living, changing and dynamic component of the agro ecosystem. Soil testing is the procedure done in order to know the nutritional information about our soil. The determination of our soil helps in deciding the fertilizers that should be programmed in the field. Balancing the soil results in the biological activation by improving the soil microbe activity. A proper soil test will help ensure the application of enough fertilizer to meet the requirements of the crop. By soil analysis, it is possible to determine the nutrient needs and exportation, identify nutritional deficiencies, evaluate nutritional states, help in the managing of fertilization programs and diagnose levels of nutrients in diverse plant organs. Thus plant analysis should be carried out in order to increase the productivity and demand. Soil testing is the most important process to be carried out which helps the growers to take better decisions on plant nutrition. By analyzing the soil, the selection of fertilizer programs can be cost effective.

Optionally, the recommendations of nutrition and the choice of the crop will be suggested on requisition.

### Selection of Sample:

The best time of year to soil sample is in the fall directly after the crop is removed. It is necessary that the soil should be tested every year. Take the samples from the depths (about 1 to 15 cm). It is also recommended that in the areas of season, location, crop rotation, soil type and sampling depth must be maintained for proper soil test interpretation. The depth of sample for surface soils would be 0 to 6 inches.

### Parameters:

The parameters necessary for soil analysis are

pH, EC, Organic matter(OM), Sodium(Na), Potassium(K), Calcium(Ca), Magnesium(Mg), Nitrogen(N), Phosphorous(P), Sulphate(S), Boron(B), Iron(Fe), Copper(Cu), Zinc(Zn), Manganese(Mn).