

HOW TO TAKE SOIL SAMPLES FOR NEMATODE ANALYSIS FROM FIELD CROPS

University of Tennessee Extension

1. Take sample when soil is moist. It should not be too wet or too dry. Just after harvest in the fall is usually the best time to take a soil sample for nematodes.
2. Divide large fields into 25-acre sections and take a sample from each section. Collect at least 15-20 borings from six to eight inches deep per 25 acres with a soil probe/tube or "sharp shooter" shovel. A uniform, random sample should be taken for best results. Sampling in a zig-zag pattern across a section of the field being sampled is usually best.
3. Since nematodes are not uniformly distributed, the entire section of the field must be sampled to get a representative sample.
4. Take samples from beneath the previous crop row or root area if possible. **IF NOT TAKEN FROM ROW. PLEASE INDICATE ON FORM.**
5. If soils differ in appearance, crop growth, or previous treatments, take one sample from each affected area in question.
6. Mix this soil thoroughly and put about one quart of this soil in a zip-lock plastic bag. Mark each bag with field number, county and producer name.
7. Keep samples in a COOL PLACE until mailed, delivered to the laboratory, or County Director's office.
8. Fill the [Nematode Soil Sample Form](#) out completely and place in envelope with check made payable to the **University of Tennessee for Cotton and Corn samples**. Be sure to indicate which crop the sample came from.
9. Be sure that your check covers the \$15.00 PER SAMPLE charge. **Soybean Cyst samples are FREE.**
10. Mail samples to: **Extension Lab C, 605 Airways Blvd., Jackson, TN 38301**, or take to your local County Extension office.
11. Results will be e-mailed directly to producers with a copy sent to local Extension Director (please make note on Nematode Soil Sample Form if you would like a hard copy of results mailed to you). Expect results in two to three weeks.
See utcroplab.com, under soybean diseases for more forms

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Agriculture, and county governments cooperating in furtherance
of Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.
Tim L. Cross, Dean