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## Sampling Instructions for Soils

- For pasture or cropping take samples as you would do for mineral testing ie using a grid or zig zag pattern from the sample paddocks.
- For vine or tree crops take soil samples from within the row of the plant away from heavy traffic areas. For tree crops like avocado take the sample from within the drip line of the canopy.
- Take several representative 2-2.5cm diameter cores from the upper 7-10 cm soil.
- Mix the cores together.
- Place **2 cups** of this mixture in a ziplock plastic bag (or similar strong plastic bag).
- Mark each bag clearly with ID and date. Samples must include roots if Mycorrhizal assay required.
- Root samples: carefully tease out fine surface roots of tree or vine from soil, enough to place over the palm of the hand. Take care not to damage their epidermal cells. (surface cells)
- Root samples need not be taken separately for pasture.
- If sample cannot be sent immediately store in fridge overnight. **DO NOT FREEZE! DO NOT PACK SAMPLE WITH FREEZER BAGS!** Soil biology dies if frozen.
- Send sample with submission form via overnight courier to: 107 Argelins Road, Hanmer Springs. 7331.
- The Report will be forwarded within 8 working days from receipt of sample.