

# Sampling Guide

DNA-only and Full Soil Health Test- sample collection and submission protocol

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## Collect Soil Cores & Mix

- 1 Take 10 or more soil cores from representative points across the paddock or block being tested. Core down to a consistent depth, maximum 25 cm. Combine all cores in a clean container and mix thoroughly to create a uniform composite sample.

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## Take a Subsample

- 2 Remove a 200-300g subsample and place it in a standard zip-lock bag. Label the bag with the submitter name and block name exactly as entered in the portal.

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## Submitting Samples Online

- 3 Enter required details in Metagen's sample portal submission linked below. Follow the link where you will be directed to log in or register, ensure details match those on the bag.

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## Posting Samples

- 4 Send sample via express post to the address below, early in the week to avoid sample being held in post over weekends. Refridgerate (not freeze) sample over weekend if required.

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## Process & Turnaround

- 5 Soil samples are processed in batches, typically once at the start of each month, and again mid-month. Turnaround is approximately 6 weeks from sample submission.

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## Receiving & Paying Invoices

- 5 Invoices are issued once results are ready. On rare occasions where sample cannot be processed due to its soil properties, we do not charge for samples.
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### SUBMIT ONLINE

#### Lab Portal

Submit your sample and required information here:  
[metagenlab.au](https://metagenlab.au) →

### POST TO

#### Metagen Lab

Metagen Laboratory  
98 Chadwick Road  
Gatton QLD 4343

### CONTACT US

#### Lab Manager

Jade Mathews  
M: 0459 363 465  
E: [jade@metagen.com.au](mailto:jade@metagen.com.au)

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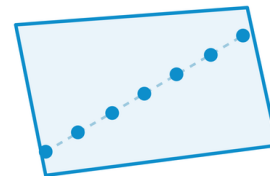
**Tips:**

- Most microbial activity occurs in the top 10 cm of soil; however, if using a deeper corer (e.g. 25 cm), maintain a consistent sampling depth across all sampling points and timings.
- Use GPS or reference points to ensure repeatable sampling locations over time

**Baseline Sampling & Soil Health Overviews**

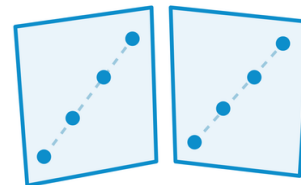
1

Collect at least 10 soil cores along a diagonal transect across a representative area or paddock. Combine the cores into a clean bucket, mix thoroughly, and submit a 200g composite sample.

**Comparison Samples**

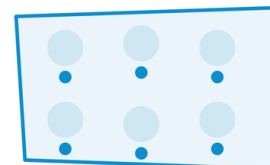
2

Collect soil cores from each management zone, treatment, paddock, or trial area using the same sampling pattern, depth and number of cores. Prepare a separate composite sample for each area to allow valid comparisons.

**Tree Crops**

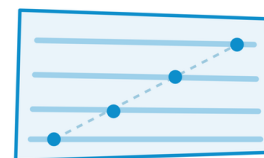
3

Collect soil cores from 8-10 representative trees. Sample around the dripline or wetted root zone, where fine feeder roots are concentrated. Combine into a composite sample for submission.

**Horticulture**

4

Collect soil cores along a diagonal transect across each management zone or treatment area. Sample within the active root zone at a consistent depth and combine into a composite sample.

**Broadacre**

5

Collect 8-15 soil cores along a diagonal transect across each representative zone. Avoid non-representative areas. Combine the cores thoroughly to produce one composite sample.

