# mini Soil pH Tester

### **PREPARATION**

#### The soil sample

Remove the top 2" of the surface soil. Break up and crumble the soil underneath to a depth of 5". Remove any stones or organic debris. Thoroughly wet the soil with water (ideally rainwater) to a mud consistency.

#### The probe

Using the specially supplied cleaning pad, lightly shine 4" - 5" of the probe avoiding the bullet shaped tip. Wipe clean using a cotton cloth or tissue.

## TAKING A SOIL pH READING

- 1. Push the meter probe vertically into the moistened soil to a depth of 4"-5".
- 2. Twist the probe between your fingers several times to ensure that wet soil is well distributed over the surface of the probe.
- 3. If the reading is in the green zones:
  Remove the probe from the soil and wipe any soil particles from the surface of the probe. Reshine the probe and insert back into the soil at a different point.
  Twist the probe 2 or 3 times, as before, and wait 60 seconds before taking the final reading.
- 4. If the reading is in the orange or red zones:
  Remove the probe from the soil and wipe any particles from
  the surface of the probe. Do not reshine the probe. Insert the
  probe back into the soil at a different point.
  Twist the probe 2-3 times between your fingers and wait 60
  seconds before taking the final reading.

Material	ADJUSTIN pH Change	NG SOIL p	D <b>H</b> Loamy	Clay	
Dolomitic or Calcic Limestone	+½ unit (0.5 pH) +1 unit (1.0 pH)	2½ 5	5 8½	5½ 11	
Hydrated Lime	+½ unit (0.5 pH) +1 unit (1.0 pH)	1½-2 3½-4	3-4 6-6½	<b>4-4</b> ½ 8-8½	
Iron Sulfate	-½ unit (0.5 pH) -1 unit (1.0 pH)	¾ <b>1</b> ½	1½ 3	2 4	
Aluminum Sulfate	-½ unit (0.5 pH) -1 unit (1.0 pH)	½-¾ 1-1¼	1-1/4 21/4	1½ 3	

Amounts listed are pounds per 100 square feet. \*Do not add more than 5 lbs. of lime or 1/2 lb. of sulfur in one application.

## FOR USE IN SOIL ONLY. DO NOT USE IN LIQUIDS!

PLANT pH PREFERENCES						
Vegetables Beans Beets Broccoli Brussels Sprouts Cabbage Carrot Cauliflower Celery Cucumber Leek Lettuce	6.0-7.5 6.0-7.5 6.0-7.0 6.0-7.5 6.0-7.5 5.5-7.0 5.5-7.0 5.5-7.0 6.0-8.0 6.0-7.0	Onion Parsnip Pea Pepper Potato Radish Rutabaga Spinach Squash Tomato	6.0-7.0 5.5-7.5 6.0-7.5 5.5-7.0 4.5-6.0 6.0-7.0 5.5-7.5 6.0-7.5 5.5-7.0			
Flowers/Shrubs Azalea Camellia Carnation Clematis Daffodil Dahlia Erica Fuschia Geranium	4.5-6.0 4.5-5.5 6.0-7.0 5.5-7.0 6.0-6.5 6.0-7.5 4.5-6.0 5.5-6.5 6.0-7.5	Gladiolus Hydrangea (blue) Hydrangea (pink) Hydrangea (white) Magnolia Primula Rhododendron Rose	6.0-7.0 4.0-5.0 6.0-7.0 6.5-7.0 5.0-6.0 6.0-7.5 4.5-6.0 6.0-7.0			
Fruit Blackberry Cherry Currant (black) Currant (red) Gooseberry Grapevine Lemon	5.0-6.0 6.0-7.5 6.0-8.0 5.5-7.0 5.0-6.5 6.0-7.0 6.0-7.0	Melon Peach Raspberry Rhubarb Strawberry Lawns	5.5-6.5 6.0-7.5 5.0-6.5 5.5-7.0 5.0-7.5 6.0-7.5			

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