

## Submitting Manure and Compost Samples for Analysis

Sample mailers for submitting manure and compost samples are available from the laboratory or from some Penn State Cooperative Extension county offices. The mailer consists of a shipping box or bag, a sample container, sampling instructions, and a sample submission form.

Alternatively, you can print the sample submission form from the laboratory Web site and submit a manure sample (1 pint required) or compost sample (1 quart required) in your own plastic container. Manure and compost sampling procedures are provided on the laboratory Web site.

Send your manure or compost sample, completed submission form, and payment for test(s) requested to the Agricultural Analytical Services Laboratory.

## Contact Information

Please contact the laboratory with any additional questions you may have on manure and compost testing.

AGRICULTURAL ANALYTICAL SERVICES LABORATORY  
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## County Cooperative Extension Offices Contact Information

<b>Adams</b> 717-334-6271	<b>Clinton</b> 570-726-0022	<b>Lackawanna</b> 570-963-6842	<b>Pike</b> 570-296-3400
<b>Allegheny</b> 412-473-2540	<b>Columbia</b> 570-784-6660	<b>Lancaster</b> 717-394-6851	<b>Potter</b> 814-274-8540
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<b>Beaver</b> 724-774-3003	<b>Cumberland</b> 717-240-6500	<b>Lebanon</b> 717-270-4391	<b>Snyder</b> 570-837-4252
<b>Bedford</b> 814-623-4800	<b>Dauphin</b> 717-921-8803	<b>Lehigh</b> 610-391-9840	<b>Somerset</b> 814-445-8911
<b>Berks</b> 610-378-1327	<b>Delaware</b> 610-690-2655	<b>Luzerne</b> 570-825-1701	<b>Sullivan</b> 570-928-8941
<b>Blair</b> 814-940-5989	<b>Elk</b> 814-776-5331	<b>Lycoming</b> 570-433-3040	<b>Susquehanna</b> 570-278-1158
<b>Bradford</b> 570-265-2896	<b>Erie</b> 814-825-0900	<b>McKean</b> 814-887-5613	<b>Tioga</b> 570-724-9120
<b>Bucks</b> 215-345-3283	<b>Fayette</b> 724-438-0111	<b>Mercer</b> 724-662-3141	<b>Union</b> 570-966-8194
<b>Butler</b> 724-287-4761	<b>Forest</b> 814-755-3544	<b>Mifflin</b> 717-248-9618	<b>Venango</b> 814-437-7607
<b>Cambria</b> 814-472-7986	<b>Franklin</b> 717-263-9226	<b>Monroe</b> 570-421-6430	<b>Warren</b> 814-563-9388
<b>Cameron</b> 814-486-3350	<b>Fulton</b> 717-485-4111	<b>Montgomery</b> 610-489-4315	<b>Washington</b> 724-228-6881
<b>Carbon</b> 570-325-2788	<b>Greene</b> 724-627-3745	<b>Montour</b> 570-275-3731	<b>Wayne</b> 570-253-5970
<b>Centre</b> 814-355-4897	<b>Huntingdon</b> 814-643-1660	<b>Northampton</b> 610-746-1970	<b>Westmoreland</b> 724-837-1402
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<b>Clarion</b> 814-223-9028	<b>Jefferson</b> 814-849-7361	<b>Perry</b> 717-582-5150	<b>York</b> 717-840-7408
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# Manure and Compost Testing Programs



PENNSTATE



College of Agricultural Sciences  
Agricultural Research and  
Cooperative Extension

## Manure Testing

Managing manure for optimum economic crop production with minimum environmental impact requires a knowledge of the manure's nutrient content. While standardized or book values listing average nutrient contents of manures are available, they are of little value because of the larger variation that exists among different manure storage and handling systems. Instead, manure analysis is recommended for the accurate determination and optimum management of manure nutrients.

The Standard Manure Test 1 of this program provides the minimum analysis needed to develop a nutrient management plan. Standard Manure Test 2 provides all of the analyses in Standard Manure Test 1 plus additional secondary and trace elements. The phosphorus source coefficient provides a measure of the relative availability of P in manure to runoff and is for use in the P Index. Individual and optional tests are also available. For more details visit the laboratory Web site. The Agricultural Analytical Services Laboratory is a certified manure-testing laboratory.

## Compost Testing

Composting testing is important for characterizing the beneficial physical and chemical properties of a compost as well as for identifying potential problems with compost use. The laboratory employs testing procedures from the U.S. Compost Council's Test Methods for the Examination of Composting and Composts. Compost Test 1A is recommended as an initial test for feedstocks to help determine appropriate mixing ratios. This test may also be used as a basic test for finished composts although nutrient testing (Compost Tests 1B or 1C) on finished composts is recommended. The Basic Compost Tests Plus Pollutants (Compost Tests 2A and 2B) are recommended for feedstocks and finished composts that may contain metals and other pollutants. Compost Test 2A includes all analyses listed under Compost Test 1C plus the EPA 503 pollutants (arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, and zinc). Compost Test 2B includes an additional test for PCBs and satisfies the requirements of DEP Chapter 271, General Permit, Sewage Sludge Quality Test. The tests for the U.S. Compost Council STA program provide the analyses required for producers involved with the Compost Council's Seal of Testing Approval (STA) program. Individual and optional tests are also available. For more details visit the laboratory Web site.

## Manure Tests

Test Package	Description	Fee
Standard Manure Test 1	Percent solids, total nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, ammonium-nitrogen	\$32.00
Standard Manure Test 2	Percent solids, total nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, ammonium-nitrogen, calcium, magnesium, sulfur, sodium, copper, zinc, manganese, iron, aluminum	\$46.00
Phosphorus Source Coefficient	Relative availability of manure P to runoff for use in the P Index; may be added to either Standard Manure Test 1 or 2	\$15.00



## Compost Tests

Test Package	Description	Fee
<b>BASIC TESTS</b>		
Compost Test 1A	Percent solids, organic matter, pH, soluble salts, total nitrogen, total carbon, carbon:nitrogen ratio	\$30.00
Compost Test 1B	Compost Test 1A plus ammonium-nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium	\$46.00
Compost Test 1C	Compost Test 1A plus ammonium-nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, aluminum, calcium, magnesium, manganese, sodium, copper, iron, sulfur, zinc	\$60.00
<b>BASIC TESTS PLUS POLLUTANTS</b>		
Compost Test 2A	Percent solids, organic matter, pH, soluble salts, total nitrogen, total carbon, carbon:nitrogen ratio, ammonium-nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, aluminum, iron, manganese, sodium, sulfur, arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, zinc	\$280.00
Compost Test 2B	Compost Test 2A plus PCBs	\$390.00
<b>TESTS FOR U.S. COMPOST COUNCIL STA PROGRAM</b>		
Compost Test 3A	Percent solids, organic matter, pH, soluble salts, total nitrogen, total carbon, carbon:nitrogen ratio, ammonium-nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, zinc, respirometry test, bioassay, particle size (< 9.5 mm), fecal coliform	\$350.00
Compost Test 3B	Compost Test 3A without EPA 503 pollutants (arsenic cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, and zinc) and without fecal coliform	\$180.00