

Soil health card results sheet

Numbers resulting from the different tests are not intended to be combined to give an overall value of soil health.

Date: _____ Location: _____ (draw a sketch map overleaf)

Soil Type: _____ Productivity: _____ Days since 20mm rain: _____ Soil moisture: dry / moist

TEST ↓	RESULT →	POOR 1 2 3	FAIR 4 5 6	GOOD 7 8 9	Test Scores (1-9)					
					5 test sites					Av/Comments
					1	2	3	4	5	
1. Diversity of macrolife		Fewer than 2 types of animals	2 to 5 types of animals	More than 5 types of animals						
2. Ground cover (ground plants or mulch)		Less than 50% ground cover	50% – 75% ground cover	More than 75% ground cover						
3. Penetrometer	• Surface	Penetrates to less than 5 cm	Penetrates more than 5 but less than 20 cm	Penetrates to 20 cm or more.						
	• 20 cm depth									
4. Infiltration	• Surface	More than 3 minutes	1 to 3 minutes	Less than 1 minute						
	• 20 cm depth									
5. Root development		Few fine roots only to 5 cm	Some fine roots to 10 cm	Many fine roots to 20 cm						
6. Structure	• Surface	Mostly clods or surface crust, few crumbs	Some clods but many 10 mm crumbs	Friable, readily breaks into 10 mm crumbs						
	• 20 cm depth									
7. Aggregate Stability	• Surface	Aggregate broke apart in less than 1 minute.	Aggregate remained intact after 1 minute.	Aggregate remained intact after swirling.						
	• 20 cm depth									
8. Earthworms		0 to 1	2 to 3	4 or more						
9. Soil pH	• 5 cm depth	pH 5.5 or lower	pH 5.5 to 6	pH 6.1 or higher						
	• 20 cm depth	pH 5 or lower	pH 5.1 to 5.5	pH 5.6 or higher						
10. Plant vigour		Stunted plants, leaf discolouration.	Some variation in growth and colour.	Appropriate leaf colour / uniform plant growth.						

DOWNLOAD THIS PDF TO YOUR DESKTOP FIRST to use this interactive pdf - you can fill in the test results directly on your computer and file for your records.



Site plan

(Showing a permanent reference point (add GPS), 5 sample points, soil type changes etc)

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Test comments

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
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9.	
10.	

The Soil Health Card
can be downloaded from
the following website:

www.soilcare.org/soil-health-card.html

