



SOIL SAMPLING PROCEDURE

S.I. NO. 31 of 2014

The soil sample shall be taken in accordance with the procedure as specified below:

- (a) The sampling area shall not exceed 4 hectares. Exceptionally, where soil types and cropping of lands were similar during the previous five years, a sample area of up to 8 hectares shall be deemed acceptable.
- (b) Separate samples shall be taken from areas that are different in soil type, previous cropping history, slope, drainage or persistent poor yields.
- (c) Any unusual spots such as old fences, ditches, drinking troughs, dung or urine patches or where fertiliser or lime has been heaped or spilled shall be avoided.
- (d) A field shall not be sampled for phosphorus until 3 months after the last application of any fertiliser containing this nutrient (chemical or organic).
- (e) The sampling pattern shown in the figure below shall be followed. A soil core shall be taken to the full 100mm depth. At least 20 cores shall be taken from the sampling area and placed in the soil container to make up the sample.
- (f) The field and sample numbers shall be written/attached onto the soil container.

