



UNDERSTANDING AND USING SOIL TESTING

Doug Soldat, Ph.D.

This three-week course focuses on measuring and managing soil chemical properties. Topics covered include soil pH, cation exchange capacity, soil sampling techniques, and different soil test extraction and quantification methods. Dr. Soldat will then cover different ways to interpret soil test results including SLAN, BCSR, and MLSN.

WEEK 1: BASIC TRAINING: PRINCIPLES OF SOIL CHEMISTRY AND FERTILITY

Basics of soil fertility, plant controls on uptake, introduction to the soil testing process, results vs interpretations vs recommendations: Bring your own soil test reports to discussion.

WEEK 2: THERE IS A RIGHT AND A WRONG WAY TO SOIL TEST

Base cation saturation ratio (BCSR) theory, recognition and why to avoid BCSR, reliable result interpretation (SLAN and MLSN): Analysis of a real soil test report based on scientific principle and creation of a fertilization program from the interpretation.

WEEK 3: OTHER ASPECTS OF SOIL TESTING

What is soil organic matter and how to measure it, soil testing for salinity and sodicity, correcting salt problems: Discussion on organic matter testing and salinity and sodicity

GreenKeeper University courses generally consist of two hours of lecture content each week for students to view at their convenience and one weekly ZOOM discussion.

THIS COURSE IS OFFERED FROM NOV 29 – DEC 17, 2021