

SOIL SAMPLING PROCEDURES

Water Quality Sub-Area Demonstration Field

1. DEMONSTRATION FIELD:

An operator's largest field as delineated in the Farm Service Agency (FSA) cropping plan records, or other field with specific management challenges as agreed to by the District, in which the operator intends to plant corn, soybeans, milo, or forage sorghum in the ensuing crop year. If the operator does not have any irrigated row crop fields, the Demonstration Field shall mean the largest dryland field as delineated in the FSA cropping plan records, or other field with specific management challenges as agreed to by the District, in which the operator intends to plant corn, soybeans, milo, or forage sorghum in the ensuing crop year. An irrigated Demonstration Field shall be five acres in size or larger, a non-irrigated Demonstration Field shall be ten acres in size or larger.

2. One shallow soil sample (0-8 in.) is required for each 80 acres of the Demonstration Field and should be analyzed for organic matter and residual soil nutrients.
 - a. 8-12 soil cores to a depth of 8 in. shall be used to make one shallow composite soil sample
3. One deep soil sample (8-24 in., (8-36 in. encouraged)) is required for each 80 acres of the Demonstration Field and should be analyzed for nitrate-N.
 - a. 6-8 soil cores to a depth of 24 or 36 in. shall be used to make one deep composite soil sample
 - b. Deep soil sampling exemptions will be given for fields coming out of soybeans or another legume crop.
4. The composite samples shall be sent to a state licensed soil lab.
5. Grid sampling will be accepted but be sure nitrate analysis is included.
6. No application of nitrogen fertilizers prior to November 1st.
7. Soil samples are due by April 1st of each year.