

**Mailing Address (please print)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ FL, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please provide an email address to receive your results faster.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(signature only required for UF personnel for approval of chartfield charges)

**UF/IFAS Analytical Services Laboratories  
Extension Soil Testing Laboratory**

2390 Mowry Road/PO Box 110740/Wallace Building 631

Gainesville, FL 32611-0740

Email: [soilslab@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:soilslab@ifas.ufl.edu) Website: <http://soilslab.ifas.ufl.edu>

**NUTRIENT TESTING FORM FOR BAHIA PASTURES**

**Note: This lab only tests samples from Florida.**

Direct any questions about this test or the interpretation of the results to your county UF/IFAS Extension agent.

**Fill in all requested information, using one line per sample. Use additional forms for more than 7 samples.**

Lab Use Only	County	Test(s) Requested (see below)	Crop Codes* (see below)	Circle ONE N-option** (see below)				Estimated Acreage*** (see below)	Sample ID for Soil	Sample ID for Leaf Tissue	Cost
				L	M	H	Hay				
				L	M	H	Hay				
				L	M	H	Hay				
				L	M	H	Hay				
				L	M	H	Hay				
				L	M	H	Hay				
				L	M	H	Hay				
				L	M	H	Hay				

\***Crop Codes: 35** – Bahiagrass establishment of new plantings; **Test 1** - Standard Soil Test

**36** – Bahiagrass, established with Low, Medium, or High Nitrogen options; **Test B1** - Standard Soil and Tissue Test (pH, lime requirement, P, K, Ca, Mg) or **Test 1**, Standard Soil test (pH, lime requirement, K, Ca, Mg, and P test value ONLY)

\*\***N-Option:** You must indicate **Low (L), Medium (M), High (H)** or **Hay** N Option, when requesting tests for **Crop Code 36**. Choose the Hay option if any cuts of hay are planned.

Further explanations on N-Option can be found on the back of this form under the heading "Important Information for Bahiagrass" (crop codes 35 and 36). **SAMPLES FOR CROP CODE 36 WILL NOT BE ANALYZED WITHOUT AN N-OPTION SELECTED.**

\*\*\*This information is used to compute the total acreage served by the UF/IFAS Soil Testing Program.

Check  Money Order  Cash  Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Please enclose payment and this sheet in the same package as sample(s).**

Please make checks and money orders payable to **UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA**.

Samples will not be processed without payment. Do not send cash through the mail.

**Important Information for Soil Sample Collection and Submission**

**Before Sampling**

1. Develop a soil sampling plan of your field. Samples should represent the area being tested, so collect samples from areas of the same soil type, appearance, or cropping history. Sample problem areas separately, if needed. From this plan, count the number of samples you will collect.
2. Soil sample bags, addressed shipping boxes, and test forms are available for free from your county UF/IFAS Extension office. Obtain the materials you need to complete your sampling plan.

**Collecting Samples**

1. Collect soil from 20 or more spots in each area, mixing these samples in a clean plastic bucket.
2. Sample from soil surface to depth of tillage, usually 0–6 inches. For pastures, sample from 0 to 4 inches depth.
3. Spread the composited material on clean paper or other suitable material to air-dry. Do not send wet samples.
4. Mix the dry soil, and place about 1 pint of soil in a labeled sample bag.

**Sending Samples to the Extension Soil Testing Laboratory**

1. Enter each sample's ID on the sample bag and in the Soil Sample ID column. List each sample separately.
2. Lime and fertilizer recommendations are provided only if the Crop Code(s) is listed.
3. Include the Test Code for each desired test.
4. Enter costs from the Test Cost list found on page 2 of this form.
5. Add the costs of all samples and tests. Make check or money order payable to **University of Florida**. Checks written to other names will not be honored and will be returned, causing a delay in processing the samples.
6. Include this form and the check or money order in the shipping box with the sample(s).

**Test Results**

A soil test report will be emailed/mailed to you in 5–10 days after your sample arrives at the Extension Soil Testing Laboratory. Contact your county UF/IFAS Extension office if you have questions concerning the bahia test report.

Test Code	Test Name	Determinations Made	Test Cost
B1	Standard Soil and Tissue Test (for Crop Code 36)	pH, lime requirement, P, K, Ca, Mg	\$15
1	Standard Soil Test (for Crop Code 36)	pH, lime requirement, K, Ca, Mg, and P test value only	\$7
1	Standard Soil Test (for Crop Code 35)	pH, lime requirement, P, K, Ca, Mg	\$7
2	pH and Lime Requirement	pH and lime requirement	\$3
3	Micronutrient Test	Cu, Mn, Zn	\$5
4	Organic Matter	percent organic matter	\$10
5	Electrical Conductivity (soluble salts)	conductivity in 1:2 soil:water	\$2

### Important Information for Bahiagrass (Crop Codes 35 and 36)

Two types of tests are available for bahiagrass pastures in Florida (see table above for details).

#### Phosphorus Testing and Recommendations for Bahiagrass

- Soil tests alone are not adequate to determine P fertilization needs of bahiagrass.
- For Test Code B1, a tissue and soil test must be submitted together to determine P fertilization needs.
- Phosphorus should not be applied if tissue P is at or above 0.15%, even if soil tests Very Low or Low for P.
- If P recommendations are not desired and the producer only is interested in K, Mg, Ca levels, and pH, a Standard Soil Test will apply (Test Code 1). This WILL NOT include P fertilizer recommendations.
- Test Code 3 (Micronutrient Test) can be requested in addition to Test Code B1.

#### Bahiagrass Testing for New Establishment Plantings

- For Crop Code 35, either Test Codes 1 or 2 can be requested. Test Code 3 can be requested in addition to either Test Code 1 or 2.
- Decisions concerning liming and N fertilization of bahiagrass pastures are very sensitive to cattle productivity and prices.

#### Selecting the Correct N-Option (for Crop Code 36 only)

- The N-Option is ultimately based on your budget and expected/potential yields. Choose the appropriate option from those listed below. Samples CANNOT be analyzed without an N-option selected.
- Select **Low** for normal grazing operations only, with minimal fertilizer budgets. Do not select low if cutting for hay because the nutrient removal is much greater than grazing by animals.
- Select **Medium** for moderately intensive grazing operations.
- Select **High** for intensive grazing operations.
- Select **Hay** when making any cuts of hay.

### How To Take, Prepare, and Submit Plant Tissue Samples (for Test Code B1)

1. Ensure that each sample contains at least a generous handful of plant material (approximately 1/2 gallon).
2. Do not sample leaves contaminated with soil or sprays. If all tissue is dusty or spray contaminated, wash leaves gently with flowing distilled water.
3. Do not sample disease-, insect-, or mechanically damaged plant tissue.
4. Place tissue samples directly into a clean paper or cloth bag or envelope. Do not use plastic containers. If the plant tissue is wet or succulent, allow plant material to air-dry for at least one day before mailing.
5. When sampling, the plant part and plant maturity are important factors. Be sure to collect the proper plant part at the recommended time. A general rule of thumb is to sample the youngest, fully mature plant material during the growth cycle.
6. Please do not provide any roots with the sample.