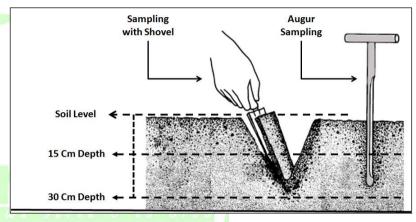


PROCEDURE FOR SOIL SAMPLE COLLECTION

- **1.** Divide the garden into different homogenous units based on the visual observation and grower's experience.
- 2. Take cores from points where root activity is high rather than the middle of the lines.
- **3.** Remove the surface litter at the sampling spot.
- **4.** For sampling Tube Augur, Screw Augur, Post hole augur, spade, gardening tools like shovel are used.
- 5. In moist soil tube Augur, spade, gardening tools are used while in dry soil screw augur is used.
- 6. Sampling with augur is done by driving it to a depth of 15 cm for top soil and 15-30cm for sub soil.
- or gardening is done with spade or gardening tool like shovel first a 'V' shaped cut is made on soil to a depth of 15cm to collect top soil. For sub soil sampling the cut is extended to a depth of 30cm and soil from 15cm to 30cm depth is



- collected. Remove thick slices of soil from top to bottom of exposed face of the 'V' shaped cut and place in clean container/tray.
- 8. Care must be taken to separately keep Top soil and Sub soil samples and not to mix them for maintaining accuracy in analysis.
- **9.** From each section/unit 10 nos. of top soil sample and 10 nos. of sub soil samples should be collected from well distributed spots moving in a **zigzag** manner.
 - Mix the 10 topsoil samples thoroughly and remove foreign materials like roots, stones, pebbles and gravels. In the same way the 10collected subsoil samples are also mixed.

Reduce the bulk to approximately 500gm by quartering or compartmentalization.

Quartering is done by dividing the thoroughly mixed sample into four equal parts. The two opposite quarters are discarded and the remaining two quarters are remixed and the process is repeated until the desired sample size is obtained. Thus a top soil composite and a subsoil composite sample of one section or unit of the garden is obtained.



Collect the sample in a clean cloth or polythene bag and label it with information like:

- i. Name of the garden/grower
- ii. Location of the garden
- iii. Date of collection
- iv. Topsoil/ Subsoil
- v. Section no
- vi. Age of plants in the section
- vii. Yield in previous year.

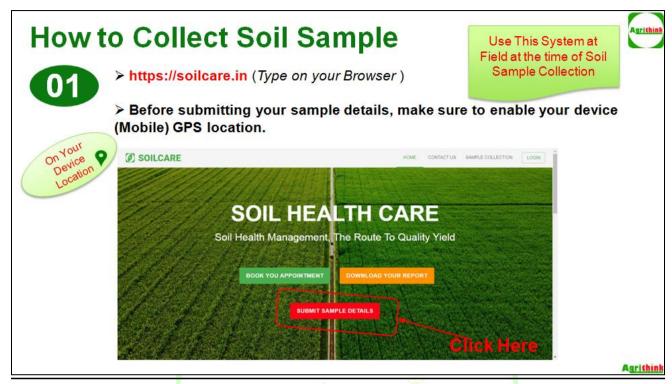
Note:

- a) It is always advisable to test the soil within 21 days for best results.
- **b**) Always keep the soil in shade.
- c) In sloppy areas take samples across the slope rather than along the slope.
- d) Always observe for difference in soil colour, growth of plants, soil texture. Collect extra samples from the spots showing these differences.
- e) Try to avoid collecting soil samples within one and half months of water soluble phosphate fertilizer and organic manure application and one month of applying potash and nitrogenous fertilizer in soil.



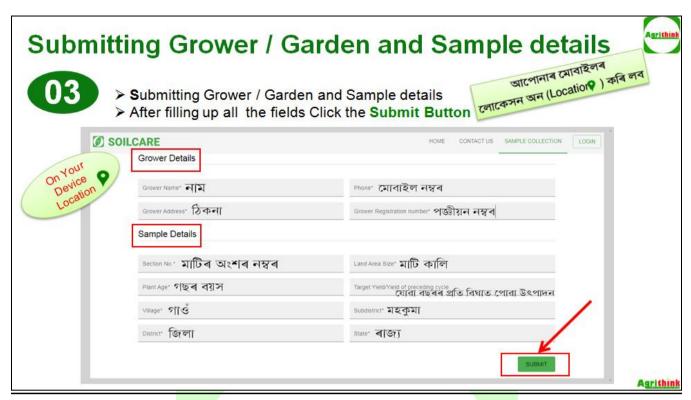


Illustration of Steps of Soilcare Application for Soil Sample Collection















➤ For Collection of Soil Sample, write Grower / Garden Registration No, Phone number and Section no on the bag.

- > Do not forget to mark the bag as
- Top Soil
- Sub Soil
- Section No. (Same for both Sample)



Agrithin
