

Soil Nutrient Questions

Field Ecology

Useful links for soil information:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/cyber/kidswrld/plant/nutrient.htm>

<http://www.donnan.com/soilph.htm>

<http://treefruit.wsu.edu/orchard-management/soils-nutrition/>

- 1) Name the 3 most important macronutrients that plants need from soil:
- 2) Describe what each of these nutrients do for plants:
- 3) How do you determine how much of each of these macronutrients are present in fertilizer?
- 4) Name two other essential macronutrients and three micronutrients for plants:
- 5) What is the Cation Exchange Complex (CEC) in soils? How does it affect soil nutrients?
- 6) What is the optimal range of pH in soil for most plants?
- 7) What is the term for soil that has a high pH? What about a low pH?
- 8) If the pH in soil is too high or low, what problems might that cause for plants?
- 9) Describe some signs that plants might be missing some essential nutrients and explain what can be done to the soil to help.