

CARA Soil Health Sampling and Bulk Density Infield Form

Complete one form for each field or Soil Health Benchmark

Sampling date	_____	Farmer name	_____
Field unit ID	_____	Legal land location	_____
Sampling location or SL	_____	Lab Use only SN/ Sample No.	_____ / _____

Bulk density sampling requirement

Select one method and follow it for every accepted core used to represent the site and depth.

METHOD A Same soil as the analytical composite	☐ Use only when every composite core is collected to the full selected depth with the same known internal diameter, every accepted core is counted, and ALL recovered soil, roots and stones are retained in the correct composite bag. Do not discard soil in the field.
METHOD B Separate bulk density composite	☐ Use when Method A requirements cannot be met. Beside EACH analytical composite core, collect a separate intact known-volume core at the same depth. Combine all paired bulk-density cores for this site and depth in one dedicated BD bag and record the depth, diameter and accepted-core count in Table B.

Table A.- Core infield records for maximum of ten selected sampling points

Core no.	GPS Coordinates	Penetrometer depth (inches)		Water Infiltration (min)	Comments on core sampling
		200 PSI	300 PSI		
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

DEPTH RULE: If 300 PSI is reached within 0–6 inches, collect separate 0–3 inch and 3–6 inch samples. If 300 PSI is not reached within 0–6 inches, collect one 0–6 inch sample.

Table B.- Bulk Density Sample Information

Method Selected	Internal diameter at cutting edge	Selected sampling depth	Numbers of cores
_____	_____ cm	☐ 0–3 in ☐ 3–6 in ☐ 0–6 in ☐ Other: _____	_____

Keep every sample moist, cool, sealed and protected from direct sunlight. Do not air-dry, oven-dry or freeze samples intended for Soil Food Web analysis.

Table C.- Field completion and laboratory record

FIELD SAMPLING CHECK ☐ Bag label includes field ID, depth, method and accepted-core count. Bags per sample: 1 depth: ☐ 1 bag (Method A) ☐ 2 bags (Method B) Bags per sample: 2 depths: ☐ 2 bag (Method A) ☐ 4 bags (Method B) ☐ core information for sleeve depth and Diameter included. ☐ All recovered soil, roots and stones remain with the correct sample. ☐ Missing or rejected cores and depth changes are documented. ☐ Sample is moist, cool, sealed and ready for delivery.	LABORATORY USE ONLY Complete moist composite mass: _____ g Moisture subsample ID: _____ Coarse fragment record: _____ Calculated total sampled volume: _____ cm ³ Calculated composite bulk density: _____ g/cm ³ Laboratory initials and date: _____
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