

## Pre-Sidedress Nitrate Test (Corn)

### What does this test tell me?

This is a nitrate test that when pulled prior to your in-season Nitrogen application on corn, can provide you with how much nitrogen is in the soil. Based on that level, we can give you a recommendation of addition Nitrogen that you will need to reach your target yield. This alleviates the guesswork in determining how much nitrogen from earlier in the season is still present. With nitrogen prices higher than ever, this test also provides an economical benefit of knowing you are not applying more nitrogen that you actually need.

### Sampling Technique

Sampling methods for this test are different than that of a typical soil sample. The accuracy of your results are largely based on the sample that is submitted to the laboratory.

#### Time:

Take samples in the **spring** when the corn is **6-12** inches tall or at least a week before a planned sidedress application.

#### Depth:

Samples should be collected at a depth of 12 inches. All of recommendations are based on a 12 inch core depth. Take several subsamples across the sampling area to achieve a representative sample.

#### Place:

Areas having different soil types or management histories should be sampled separately. Avoid starter bands or other unusual areas. It is recommended to have a sample ever 20 acres or less.

#### Handling:

Mix soil cores pulled in a sampling area as you would any typical soil sample, and place in a soil bag to the fill line. Try to get samples to the laboratory as soon as possible.

#### Submittal Form:

You may use our regular soil information sheets for the Pre-Sidedress Nitrate Nitrogen tests, just be sure to write in your target yield and note "Pre-Sidedress Nitrate Test" across the form or in the remarks section.

#### Other:

These 12 inch Nitrate samples should not be tested for basic soil nutrient levels, as our nutrient recommendations are not based on samples taken at a 12 inch depth.

Nitrate Level Found in Soil (ppm)	Nitrogen Recommendations (lbs/acre)			
	120 BU/AC	150 BU/AC	175 BU/AC	200 BU/AC
2	110	140	160	185
4	110	140	160	180
6	105	135	140	160
8	100	125	140	155
10	90	115	120	145
12	80	100	120	140
14	75	90	100	125
16	65	80	100	120
18	60	70	80	100
20	50	60	65	85
22	40	45	50	70
24	35	40	45	60
25	30	35	40	55
26	25	30	35	50
28	20	25	30	45
30	15	20	25	40