

How to Prepare Soil Samples for Shipping

Here's how to **pack your soil samples for shipping to Waters Agricultural Laboratories** so they arrive intact and can be tested properly:

1. Labeling your Soil Bags

*Regular address labels can smear, peel, or fade when exposed to moisture or friction during shipping. **Using Avery 5520 waterproof labels helps protect sample identification**, reducing the risk of delays or resampling due to unreadable labels.

2. Complete the Submission Form

*Print the **Lab Check-in Sheets** affiliated with your **Grid Sampling Software** or fill out the **Soil & Plant Information Sheet** for your Waters Lab location. You can download the correct form from watersag.com/sample-submittal-forms/.

3. Pack the Samples in a Shipping Box

*Use a **sturdy shipping box** — Waters offers small, medium, and large shipping boxes free with sampling supplies if you order them online at watersag.com/sampling-supplies-2/ or call your Lab to order.

*Place your **labeled soil sample bags upright** in the box. Try to organize them in Sample ID order with their corresponding information sheet or Lab Check-in sheet. Pack the samples tight in the box to help prevent shifting and ruptures.

*Shipping is covered by Waters Lab for boxes with **25+ soil samples** or **15+ plant tissue samples**. If these minimum quantities are not met, a **\$16.50 shipping charge** will apply.

*Be sure to include the Lab Check-in sheet or information sheet in the same box as the samples it applies to. When shipping multiple boxes, avoid putting all information sheets in a single box—this ensures each box can be processed promptly if shipments arrive separately.

4. Ship the Samples

*Take the packaged box to your chosen carrier (UPS, FedEx, etc.) and ship it to Waters Agricultural Laboratories.

*If using a prepaid return label provided by the lab, that carrier service and method should be used for return.

Notify the lab if you have questions or need to confirm shipment details.

Before You Ship: Quick Checklist

- Samples are securely bagged and sealed and placed in order in the box
- Waterproof labels are applied and clearly readable
- Information sheets are filled out correctly and are included in each box
- Box meets minimum sample requirements for free shipping (if applicable)