TURF TIPS

Irrigation Water Sampling Guide

Irrigation Suitability Analysis Includes:

- Water pH
- Hardness
- Bicarbonate
- Carbonate
- Nitrate
- Total Dissolved Solids
- Sodium
- Chloride
- Boron
- Sulfate
- Electrical Conductivity (ECw)
- Phosphorus
- Potassium
- Magnesium
- Calcium
- Sodium Absorption Ratio
- Manganese
- Iron

Steps for Collecting and Shipping Water Samples

1. Use a clean plastic container. Rinse the bottle (including the lid) several times with the water to be tested. AgSource provides complimentary sampling supplies, including clean plastic bottles. Please call the laboratory directly or visit our website to order yours.
2. To reflect the water quality at the time of application, collect sample from the pumping station or within the irrigation system.
3. IIf a system of irrigation wells (ground water) is being used, sample each well separately and identify each sample's source. This will qualify the water specifically from each well. (This is important if pumping into a holding pond.)
4. When collecting a sample from the irrigation system, let the water run for two to three minutes before collecting the sample. (This will purge static water from the system.)
5. When sampling from a pond, collect water from the pumping station, if possible. Remember to let the pumping station water run for two to three minutes before collecting the sample. Do not collect the water from the side of the irrigation pond. Sediment will act as a contaminant.
6. Fill the bottle and eliminate all head space. Be sure the lid is tight so that samples do not leak during transit. The laboratory needs at least 125 ml (about 4 ounces) of water.
7. **DO NOT** use glass containers.
8. If possible, collect and ship sample(s) the same day.
9. Clearly identify all bottles and complete necessary paperwork before shipping. Sample submission forms are available on our website or by calling the laboratory directly.

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