

## Appendix D: Maryland Fertility Index Value Soil Test Category

Table D-1. Determining University of Maryland Soil Test Category				
Laboratory	Units Reported	Extraction Method	Lab P Result	MD Soil Test Category
A & L Eastern	ppm	Mehlich-3	0-21	low
			22-44	medium
			45-90	optimum
			91+	excessive
Agri Analysis: Use P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> value	lb P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> /ac	Mehlich-3	0-81	low
			82-193	medium
			194-415	optimum
			416+	excessive
AgroLab	ppm	Mehlich-3	0-21	low
			22-44	medium
			45-90	optimum
			91+	excessive
Brookside: Use easily extractable P, ppm P	ppm	Mehlich-3	0-18	low
			19-39	medium
			40-81	optimum
			82+	excessive
Brookside: Use easily extractable P, lb/ac P as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	lb/ac	Mehlich-3	0-84	low
			85-181	medium
			182-373	optimum
			374+	excessive
CLC	lb P/ac	Bray 1	0-22	low
			23-52	medium
			53-111	optimum
			112+	excessive
Harris: Make sure lab knows sample is from MD	ppm	Bray 1	0-10	low
			11-27	medium
			28-60	optimum
			61+	excessive
Logan	lb P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> /ac	Mehlich-3	0-84	low
			85-181	medium
			182-373	optimum
			374+	excessive
Penn State	ppm P	Mehlich-3	0-16	low
			17-39	medium
			40-84	optimum
			85+	excessive
Spectrum Analytic	ppm	Mehlich-3	0-15	low
			16-39	medium
			40-86	optimum
			87+	excessive

## Appendix D: Maryland Fertility Index Value Soil Test Category (continued)

Table D-1. Determining University of Maryland Soil Test Category (continued)				
Laboratory	Units Reported	Extraction Method	Lab P Result	MD Soil Test Category
Spectrum Analytic	lb/ac	Mehlich-3	0-21	low
			22-54	medium
			55-121	optimum
			122+	excessive
University of Delaware	P Index	Mehlich-3	0-18	low
			19-43	medium
			44-92	optimum
			93+	excessive
VA Tech	lbs P/ac	Mehlich-1	0-18	low
			19-39	medium
			40-81	optimum
			82+	excessive
Waters	lbs P/ac	Mehlich-1	0-18	low
			19-39	medium
			40-81	optimum
			82+	excessive

Use the following steps to determine the University of Maryland's soil test category.

1. Find the phosphorus value reported by the lab (column one).
2. If more than one result is reported for phosphorus, use the value reported in the units listed in column two, Units Reported, for the lab used.
3. If an extraction method is reported, it should match the method listed in column 3, Extraction Method, for the lab used.
4. Find the range of numbers in column four, Lab P Result, that includes the phosphorus value reported.
5. Follow that line over to the right. The final column, MD Soil Test Category, will tell you the corresponding University of Maryland soil test category.
6. Phosphorus recommendations are based upon UMD's soil test category.

This document has been adapted from the University of Maryland Extension publication SFM 4, *Converting Among Soil Test Analyses Frequently Used in Maryland*, revised August 2006.