

SOIL TEST INFORMATION SHEET – FP-101

Food Plots – Non Legume

Winter Annuals: Ryegrass, Wheat, Oats, Rye, or Mixtures of These

1. The soil should be limed when the soil pH is 5.5 or lower. Use dolomitic lime if the soil test magnesium level is medium or lower.
2. On soils with pH values above 5.8 with a medium or lower level of magnesium, apply 150 lbs. / acre of K-Mag (Sulfate of Potash Magnesia). Use a prepared seedbed and apply 50 lbs. / acre of nitrogen and the total recommended rates of phosphorus and potassium at or shortly before planting.
3. Apply another 50 lbs. / acre of nitrogen in late December or early January.
4. If the sulfur level is less than 15 ppm, apply 50 lbs. / acre of Ammonium sulfate at or shortly before planting.

Food Plots – Legumes

Cool Season or Warm Season: Clovers, Austrian Winter Peas, Cow Peas, Vetch, and Iron/Clay Peas

1. **Low soil pH is more critical for legumes than for non-legumes.** Lime should be applied in the summer or the fall prior to planting. Use dolomitic lime if the magnesium levels are medium or lower.
2. On soils with pH values of 6.0 with a medium or lower level of magnesium, apply 150 lbs. / acre of K-Mag (Sulfate of Potash Magnesia).
3. For warm season legumes, apply the recommended rates of phosphorus and potassium at planting or in the spring when growth begins. For cool season legumes, apply the recommended rates of phosphorus and potassium in the fall before or at planting.
4. If the sulfur level is less than 15 ppm, apply 50 lbs. / acre of Ammonium sulfate at or shortly before planting.
5. For perennial legumes like clover, it is important to only apply nitrogen prior to planting and not in any subsequent fertilizations to keep from encouraging weed competition from non-legume species.

Food Plots- Legume and Non legume mixes

Cool Season Winter Annual Grasses with Legumes

1. **Low soil pH is more critical for legumes than for non-legumes.** Lime should be applied in the summer or the fall prior to planting. Use dolomitic lime if the magnesium levels are medium or lower.

2. On soils with pH values of 6.0 or greater, with a medium or lower level of magnesium, apply 150 lbs./acre of K-Mag (Sulfate of Potash Magnesia).
3. All the recommended rates of phosphorus and potassium and 30 lbs./acre of nitrogen should be applied at or shortly before planting. Apply an additional 50 lbs./acre of nitrogen as a top dress application after the grass is well established.
4. If the sulfur level is less than 15 ppm, apply 50 lbs./acre of Ammonium sulfate at or shortly before planting.