

AGF-0514

# Interpreting a Soil Test Report

AGF-0514-Table 2

Test Parameter	Desirable Ranges		Use of Measure
pH	6.3–7.0		Water pH (neutral pH = 7.0) affects nutrient availability
Buffer pH	6.8–7.0		Used to determine lime requirement.
	<b>When reported as part per million (ppm)</b>	<b>When reported as pounds per acre</b>	
Phosphorus (P) Mehlich 3	20–50	40–100	Used to make P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> recommendation
Potassium (K) Mehlich 3	100–170	200–340	Used to make a K <sub>2</sub> O recommendation. CEC is used to determine the desired range.
Calcium (Ca)	200–8,000	400–16,000	Levels less than 200 ppm are a concern. Ca deficiencies are rare in Ohio.
Magnesium (Mg)	50–1,000	100–2,000	Levels less than 20 ppm are a concern. Dolomitic limestone is a significant source of Mg.

