Agriculture Proficiency Testing

Collaborative Testing Services

TESTING QUESTIONS

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QUOTE REQUESTS & ORDER INQUIRIES

Subscriptions Department
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Collaborative Testing Services, Inc.

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About Us

Founded in 1971, Collaborative Testing Services (CTS) is a leading proficiency testing provider that serves the evolving quality assurance needs of several industries with innovative interlaboratory proficiency testing. With worldwide clients in both the public and private sectors, we aim to create and administer sustainable and meaningful testing schemes in both our industry and forensic programs.

CTS is ANAB-accredited to ISO/IEC 17043. Certificate Number: AP-1884.

Our Testing Process

In keeping with the principles of quality assurance, we use a prepaid subscription model where testing is conducted on a thrice-annual schedule to ensure that proficiency testing is a streamlined and consistent process for your laboratory:

- Purchase your testing, noting the type of samples offered, frequency of testing, and other conditions.

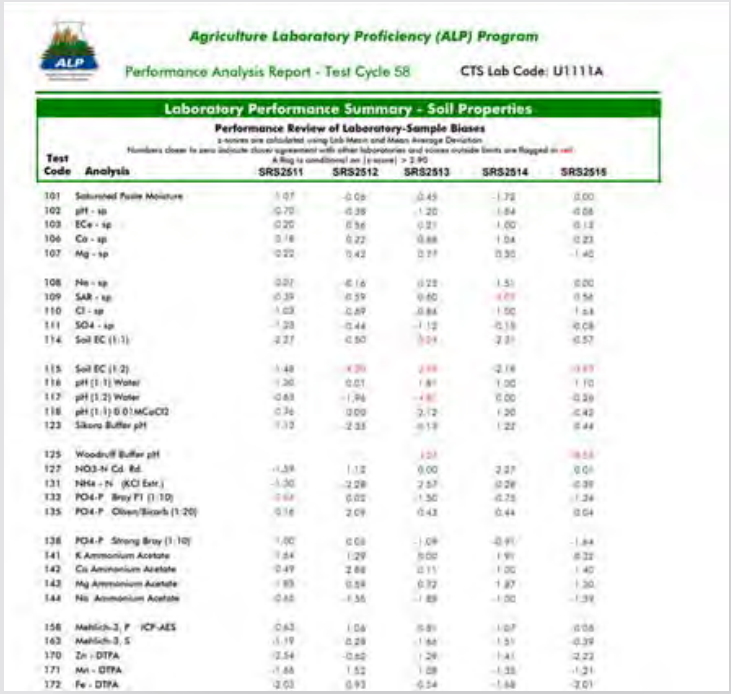
- Receive your samples, test at your convenience, and submit your results through our full-service customer portal before the data due date (six weeks after samples ship).

- Receive your in-depth, individualized Performance Analysis Report just three weeks after the data due date, which uses univariate and bivariate consensus statistics to provide you with insight on what is actionable, what is diagnostic, and what is predictive.

Our Reports

Our reports are generated through a comprehensive analysis by our technical staff, with several features designed to provide data that is both insightful and easy to navigate.

- Trend charts visually present your historical performance over time, where continuous and consistent enrollment reaps the most benefits.
- Data tables provide a Comparative Performance Value (CPV), a ratio that represents how well your laboratory's results agree with the other participants. Our graphs provide this information in a visual format to pinpoint your lab's performance.
- Data flags and comments can be used to predict or diagnose potential issues before they escalate.



Agriculture Laboratory Proficiency (ALP) Program

Performance Analysis Report - Test Cycle 58 — CTS Lab Code: U1111A

Laboratory Performance Summary - Soil Properties

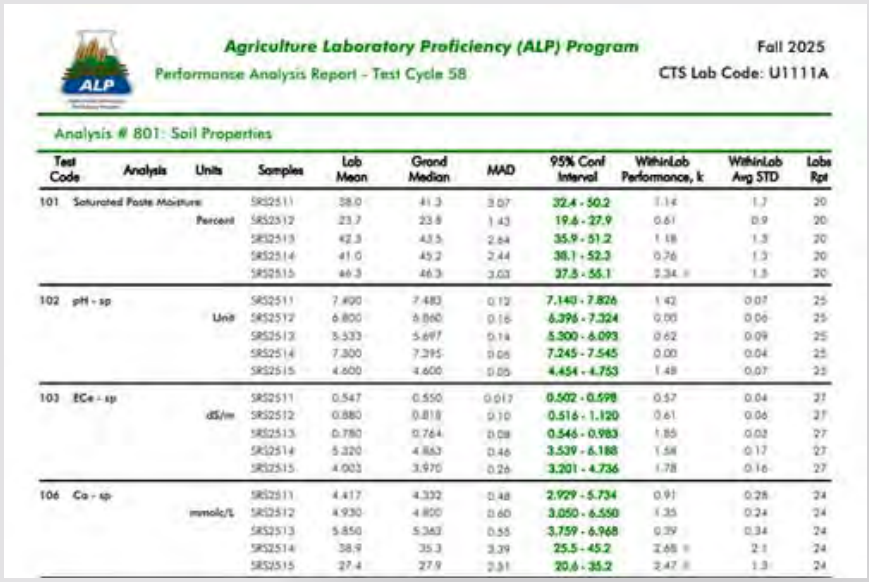
Performance Review of Laboratory-Sample Biases

z-scores are calculated using Lab Mean and Mean Average Deviation

Numbers closer to zero indicate closer agreement with other laboratories and scores outside limits are flagged in red.

A flag is conditional on |z-score| > 2.90

Test Code	Analysis	SRS2511	SRS2512	SRS2513	SRS2514	SRS2515
101	Saturated Paste Moisture	1.07	-0.06	-0.45	-1.72	0.00
102	pH - sp	-0.70	-0.38	-1.20	-1.84	-0.08
103	ECe - sp	0.20	0.56	0.21	1.00	0.13
106	Ca - sp	0.18	0.22	0.88	1.04	0.23
107	Mg - sp	0.22	0.42	0.59	0.30	-1.40
108	Na - sp	0.07	-0.16	0.23	1.51	0.00
109	SAR - sp	-0.39	-0.59	0.60	-4.99	0.56
110	Cl - sp	-1.03	-0.89	-0.84	1.00	1.66
111	SO4 - sp	-1.20	-0.44	-1.12	-0.15	-0.08
114	Soil EC (1:1)	-2.27	0.50	3.09	2.31	-0.57
115	Soil EC (1:2)	1.48	4.20	2.98	-2.18	-3.87
116	pH (1:1) Water	1.30	0.01	1.81	1.00	1.10
117	pH (1:2) Water	-0.83	-1.96	-4.80	0.00	-0.28
118	pH (1:1) 0.01MCaCl2	0.76	0.00	2.12	1.30	-0.42
123	Sikora Buffer pH	1.13	-2.33	-0.19	1.22	0.44
125	Woodruff Buffer pH			3.21		-18.55
127	NO3-N Cd. Rd.	-1.39	1.12	0.00	2.27	0.01
131	NH4 - N (KCl Extr.)	-1.30	-2.28	2.57	0.29	-0.39
133	PO4-P Bray P1 (1:10)	-0.64	0.02	-1.50	-0.75	-1.34
135	PO4-P Olsen/Bicarb (1:20)	0.16	2.09	0.43	0.44	0.04
138	PO4-P Strong Bray (1:10)	1.00	0.03	-1.09	-0.91	-1.64
141	K Ammonium Acetate	1.64	1.29	5.00	1.91	8.22
142	Ca Ammonium Acetate	0.49	2.88	0.11	1.00	1.40
143	Mg Ammonium Acetate	1.83	0.59	0.32	1.87	1.30
144	Na Ammonium Acetate	-0.65	-1.55	-1.89	-1.00	-1.39
158	Mehlich-3, P ICP-AES	0.63	1.06	0.81	-1.07	0.06
163	Mehlich-3, S	-1.19	0.28	-1.66	1.51	-0.39
170	Zn - DTPA	-2.54	-0.60	1.29	1.41	-2.22
171	Mn - DTPA	-1.66	1.52	1.08	-1.35	-1.21
172	Fe - DTPA	-2.03	0.93	-0.54	-1.68	-2.01



Agriculture Laboratory Proficiency (ALP) Program — Fall 2025

Performance Analysis Report - Test Cycle 58 — CTS Lab Code: U1111A

Analysis # 801: Soil Properties

Test Code	Analysis	Units	Samples	Lab Mean	Grand Median	MAD	95% Conf Interval	WithinLab Performance, k	WithinLab Avg STD	Labs Rpt
101	Saturated Paste Moisture	Percent	SRS2511	38.0	41.3	3.07	32.4 - 50.2	1.14	1.7	20
			SRS2512	23.7	23.8	1.43	19.6 - 27.9	0.61	0.9	20
			SRS2513	42.3	43.5	2.84	35.9 - 51.2	1.18	1.3	20
			SRS2514	41.0	45.2	2.44	38.1 - 52.3	0.76	1.3	20
			SRS2515	46.3	46.3	3.03	37.8 - 55.1	2.34	1.3	20
102	pH - sp	Unit	SRS2511	7.490	7.483	0.12	7.140 - 7.826	1.42	0.07	25
			SRS2512	6.800	6.860	0.16	6.396 - 7.324	0.00	0.06	25
			SRS2513	5.533	5.697	0.14	5.300 - 6.093	0.62	0.09	25
			SRS2514	7.300	7.395	0.05	7.245 - 7.545	0.00	0.04	25
			SRS2515	4.600	4.600	0.05	4.454 - 4.753	1.48	0.07	25
103	ECe - sp	dS/m	SRS2511	0.547	0.550	0.017	0.502 - 0.598	0.57	0.04	27
			SRS2512	0.880	0.818	0.10	0.516 - 1.120	0.61	0.06	27
			SRS2513	0.780	0.764	0.08	0.546 - 0.983	1.85	0.02	27
			SRS2514	5.320	4.863	0.46	3.539 - 6.188	1.58	0.17	27
			SRS2515	4.003	3.970	0.26	3.201 - 4.736	1.78	0.16	27
106	Ca - sp	mmolc/L	SRS2511	4.417	4.332	0.48	2.929 - 5.734	0.91	0.28	24
			SRS2512	4.930	4.800	0.60	3.050 - 6.550	1.35	0.24	24
			SRS2513	5.850	5.363	0.55	3.759 - 6.968	0.39	0.34	24
			SRS2514	38.9	35.3	3.39	25.5 - 45.2	2.68	2.1	24
			SRS2515	27.4	27.9	2.31	20.6 - 35.2	2.47	1.3	24

ALP Program Schedule

Enrollment in our ALP program is open on a rolling basis, with subscriptions including three cycles of testing, beginning with the earliest cycle available for the next enrollment deadline.

Enroll Between:	Samples Ship:	Data Due Date:	Reports Issued:
August 16th – February 15th	• March • June • September	• April • August • October	• May • September • November
February 16th – May 15th	• June • September • March	• August • October • April	• September • November • May
May 16th – August 15th	• September • March • June	• October • April • August	• November • May • September

Test Listings and Methods

Test 801: Soil Analyses

Participants will report on a wide variety of physical and chemical properties. The full list is available on our program website under the "Properties & Soils" tab. Laboratories may use any soil method designated in USA regional publications and Canada.

Each test shipment includes five prepared soils, chosen specifically to represent those found in the different regions of the continental United States and Canada.

Samples are available in either 500mL or 1000mL sizes.

Test 802: Botanicals Analyses

Participants will report on a wide variety of physical and chemical properties. The full list is available on our program website under the "Properties & Soils" tab. Laboratories may choose to report results from both primary and secondary inorganic analyses.

Each test shipment includes four processed, homogenous botanical samples.

Test Listings and Methods (cont.)

Test 803: Water Analyses

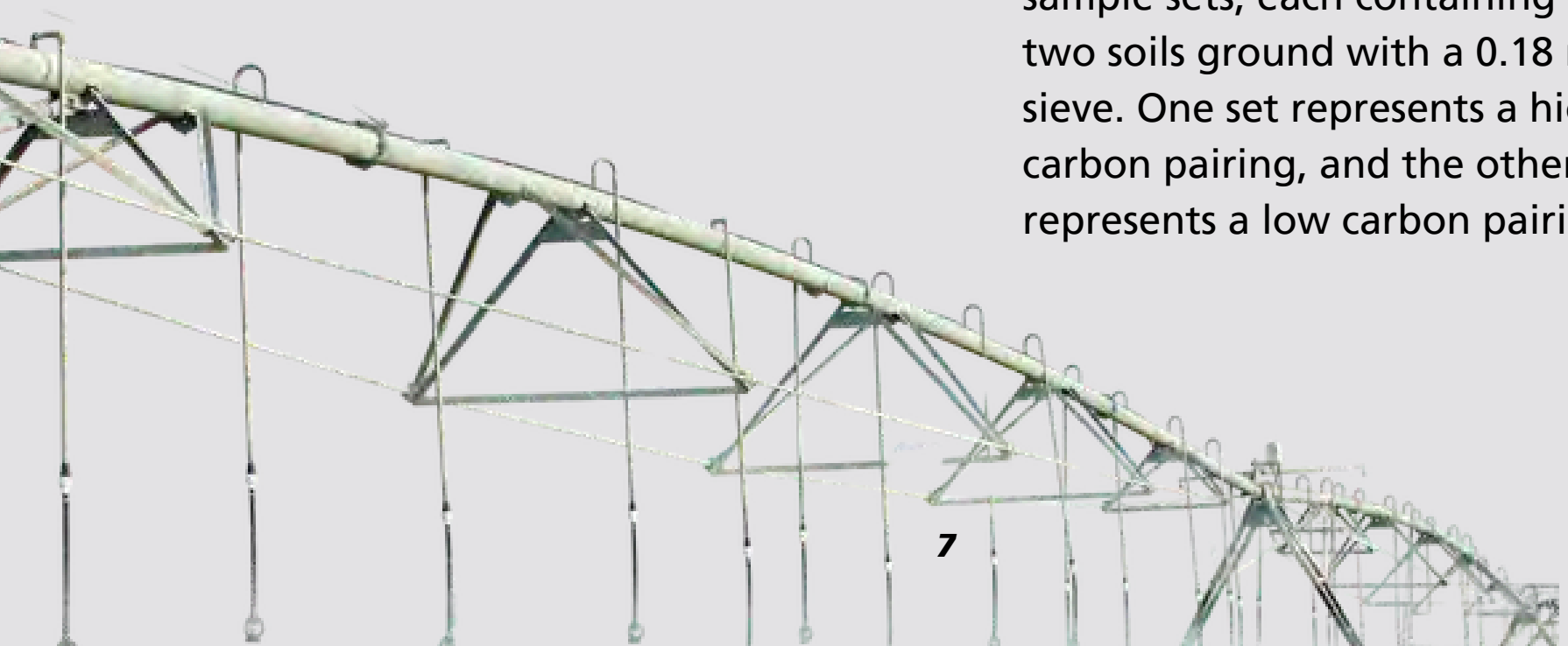
Participants will report on a wide variety of physical and chemical properties. The full list is available on our program website under the "Properties & Soils" tab. Laboratories may choose to report results from both primary and secondary inorganic analyses.

Each test shipment includes three samples of agricultural water.

Test 805: Soil Carbon Sequestration

Participants will use the methodologies indicated by their instrument manufacturer and report on any or all of the following properties: moisture content, dry matter content, total carbon, organic carbon, inorganic carbon, total nitrogen, and pH.

Each test shipment includes two sample sets, each containing 75 g of two soils ground with a 0.18 mm sieve. One set represents a high carbon pairing, and the other set represents a low carbon pairing.



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