

Healthy Soil & clean water =
Healthy Crops & Pasture =
Healthy Livestock & People

Soil Health:

- ▶ Structure
- ▶ Nutrients
- ▶ Biology



A garden can have hundreds of different plants to be cared for and cover an area measured in square metres rather than hectares. So a soil test designed for farms may be difficult to use.

To get the most out of your Garden Soil test it is important to let us know exactly what you need.

SWEP has **2 Garden soil tests** to choose from that are presented in a range of **4 report versions**, each with **3 plant types**. To get the most out of your test, you should take a little time to think about what you need and how to use our systems to get the required information.

Choosing the right Test

There are two tests to choose from –the '**Standard**' and the '**Complete**' Garden Soil Test.

The Standard test covers both exchangeable cations and essential plant nutrients and so is valuable for general garden planning and development, where a once-a-year soil test forms the basis for both soil management and fertilizer inputs.

The Complete test includes the same information, but with the addition of soil biology. It is used in situations where all aspects of Soil Health need to be considered. Once complete soil balance has been achieved, the sensitivity of soil biology to any disturbance makes this test valuable in monitoring changes that occur over time.

Report Versions

For both tests, the four basic versions are: "Vegetables", "Fruit", "Ornamentals" and "Mixed" with each including three plant types as follows:

	General Plant types
Vegetables:	Leaf vegetables Root vegetables Fruiting vegetables
Fruit:	Pome fruit Stone fruit Berries
Ornamentals:	Lawn Trees & shrubs Flower beds
Mixed:	Choose any 3 of the Plant types above

Specific Plants

Once you have chosen the test you can choose one of the basic versions, specify your own requirements based on the plants you have in your garden. For example, if you have a special interest, you can specify it with one or more of the general plant types. But remember, there must always be at least one of the general plant types on every report report.

To see exactly how this works, lets go through some examples:

1. **Vegetables garden + specific recommendations for Tomato.** In this situation you could choose 'Leaf vegetables', 'Root Vegetables', but replace 'Fruiting vegetable' with 'Tomatoes'.
2. **Fruit trees + Lemon.** This time choose the two general fruit tree types – 'Pome fruit', 'Stone fruit' and then specify 'Lemon'.
3. **Ornamentals for a Camellia enthusiast.** Choose any two of the three general ornamental plant types (say) 'Lawn' and 'Flower beds', then specify 'Camellias'.
4. **Additional report:** If three plant types are not enough, you can request additional reports for others you require. Additional reports are available for \$10 each.

Remember: There must be at least one of the general plant types on each report.

If you have any other questions, please email us at: services@swep.com.au