matters especially cigarette ash. Divide representative soil samples into four. Remove soil samples 1 and 3 and retain soil samples 2 and 4 (see illustration). Repeat the process four times until you obtain one kilo.

8. *When air-dried, get at least 1 kilo from each composite soil sample and place it separately in a cloth or plastic bag.*

(One kilo air-dried soil is equivalent to 3 cans of condensed milk-full of soil).

9. *Label the bags properly and send them to the nearest Regional or Provincial Soils Laboratory.*

Fill up the revised B.S. Form 9—10 and submit it to the laboratory technician in the Soils Laboratory.

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How to Collect Soil Sample for Analysis

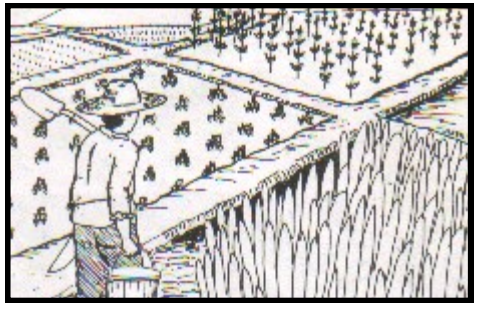
Department of Agriculture
BUREAU OF SOILS
AND WATER MANAGEMENT

The soil contains nutrient elements in varying amounts. These elements usually become sufficient when the soil is continuously activated. Nutrient supplements in the form of fertilizer are, therefore, required. The kind and amount of fertilizers to be applied to the soil can be determined through chemical analysis of the soil.

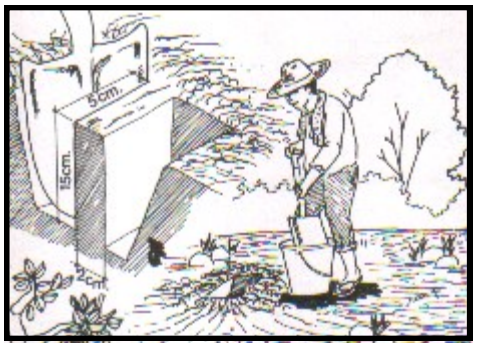
Have your soil analyzed by the BSWM or in the Department of Agriculture's regional or provincial soil laboratories nearest your area for effective fertilizer use and increased crop production.

Steps in Collecting Soil Sample for Analysis

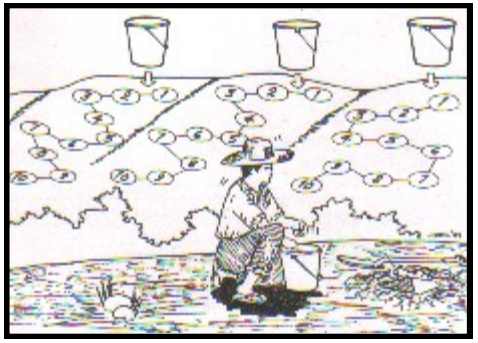
1. *Prepare the following: pail, shovel, bolo, plastic and meter stick.*



2. *Divide your farm according to the kind of crops grown or to be grown, type of soil (sandy, clayey or loamy) and topography (level, flat, sloping or hilly). Collect soil samples separately from the different soil unit areas and place them in separate containers.*
3. *Brush away stone, rubbish, trash or grass on the surface of the land.*
4. *Using the shovel, push it down the surface or topsoil to a depth of approximately 15 cm and get a slice of soil sample 2 cm thick and 5 cm wide. Place this in a container.*



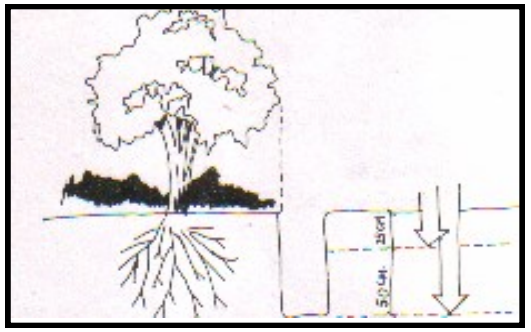
5. *Get similar samples at random from as many as 10 sites and mix them in a container. Get a composite soil sample of about 1 kilo to represent the soil unit area.*



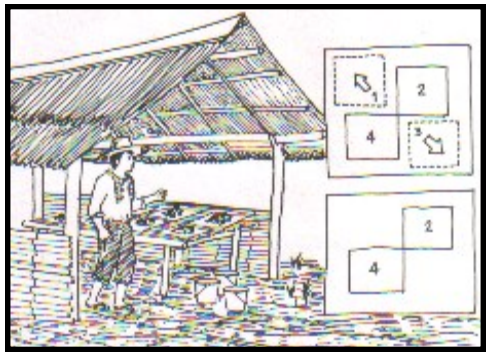
NOTE: A soil unit area is any section of the farm where the soil type, its topography and vegetation are more or less similar.

6. *For areas to be devoted to orchard, for instance citrus orchard, get subsoil samples from below the 25 centimeters down from where the topsoil sample was taken. A composite subsoil sample is also required for fruit trees/permanent crops.*

For fruit trees, soil samples should be taken directly below the rim of the crown of the tree as illustrated below.



- 0 to 25 cm depth for shallow rooted plants like rice, corn and vegetables.
- 25 to 30 cm depth for fruit trees/permanent crops like coconut.



7. *Air dry the soil samples by spreading them in plastic sheets or mats under the shade or indoor. Be sure to avoid contaminations among the samples and keep them away from dirt or foreign*