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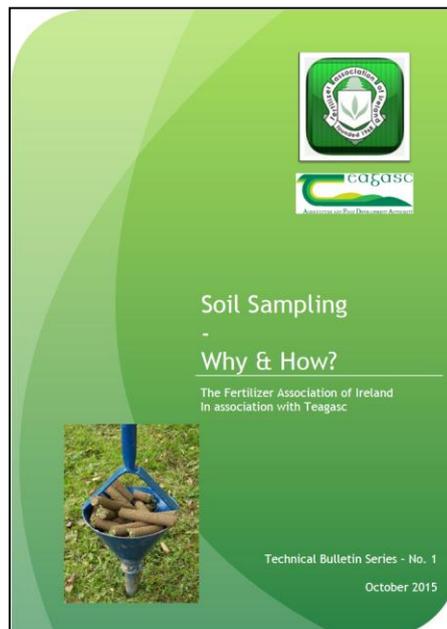
Technical Bulletin highlights benefits and best practice for Soil Sampling

Improving soil fertility management is a key step for improving the agronomic, economic and environmental performance of Irish farms. The Fertilizer Association of Ireland, in conjunction with Teagasc, are launching a Technical Bulletin to highlight this message and to promote best practice for soil and nutrient management. The bulletin is being launched at the Teagasc Soil Fertility Conference, which takes place today, Friday 16 October, in Clonmel.

The first in a Series of bulletins, the bulletin being launched today is titled "**Soil Sampling - Why and How?**". It includes a best practice protocol for soil sampling as well as information on the benefits of having up to date information on soil fertility levels for planning fertiliser inputs and for tracking soil fertility trends on a farm over time.

At the launch, the President of the Fertiliser Association of Ireland, Paddy Casey, outlined the industry contribution to promoting good soil fertility and said: "*The launching of our Technical Bulletin Series today demonstrates the ongoing commitment of The Fertiliser Association of Ireland to promote the efficient use of fertilizer to produce quality food in an economical and environmentally sustainable manner. The bulletin reinforces the importance of soil sampling as a key first step in soil fertility management. This is the first in a series of bulletins aimed towards increasing awareness across the industry of best practice for soil fertility management and nutrient use.*".

Further bulletins in this series are being developed and will include advice and best practice guidelines for individual major and micro nutrients as well as organic manures and slurry. The bulletin is free to download on the Fertilizer Association of Ireland website: www.fertilizer-assoc.ie.



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Issued on behalf of The Fertilizer Association of Ireland
16 October 2015

The Fertilizer Association of Ireland is a representative body that promotes the efficient use of fertilizer to produce quality food in an economical and environmentally sustainable manner. Our members are drawn from the entire agricultural industry, and include farmers, agribusiness, fertilizer industry, government officials, advisors, researchers and university academics.