The SSSA North American Proficiency Testing (NAPT) Program furnishes agricultural and environmental laboratories with quality control and quality assurance tools through quarterly blind and double-blind statistical evaluation of soil, plant, and water samples. These tools assist laboratories in generating accurate and precise analyses, as well as leveraging their participation in assuring clientele and other consumers of their data that data meet high standards. Participating laboratories benefit from the scientific resources of the Soil Science Society of America and the vast expertise of its many member scientists.

The program is operated as an activity of the Soil Science Society of America and an oversight committee comprised of representatives of the above-mentioned groups. These include: Regional Soil and Plant Analysis Workgroups, Scientific Organizations, State/Provincial Departments of Agriculture, and private and public and plant analysis labs.

Program Objectives
• Provide an external quality assurance program for agricultural laboratories.
• Develop a framework for long-term improvement of quality assurance of the agricultural laboratory industry.
• Identify variability of specific analytical methods.

**Specific Soil Analyses**
- Saturated Paste Percentage, pH, ECe, HCO3, Ca, Mg, Na, SAR, Cl, SO4, NO3 & B
- Soil pH: (1:1), (1:2) & 0.01 M CaCl2
- Buffer pH†
- NO3-N †
- NH4-N, Al, & KCl extractable
- Extractable P †
- Extractable K †
- Extractable Ca, Mg & Na †
- Extractable SO4-S & S
- Micronutrients: Zn, Mn, Fe, Cu, B & Cl †
- Soil organic matter †
- Soil total organic carbon & nitrogen†
- Inorganic carbon
- Particle size analysis: sand, silt & clay
- CEC

**Specific Plant Analyses**
- NO3-N †, PO4-P, SO4-S, NH4-N & Cl
- Total nitrogen†
- Total P, K, S, Ca, Mg, Na, Al, B, Zn, Mn, Fe, Cu & Mo †

**Specific Water Analyses**
- pH, EC, Ca, Mg, Na, K, Cl, SAR, NO3-N, NH4-N,
- HCO3, CO3, SO4-S, B, Total P ICP, Total N†, TOC & Cation:Anion Ratio

**Soil Environmental Analyses:**
- Ag, Al, As, Ba, Be, Bi, B, Ca, Cd, Cr, Co, Cu, Fe, K,
- Li, Mg, Mn, Mo, Na, Ni, Pb, P, S, Sb, Se, Sn, Sr, V & Zn & Hg

(† multiple methods)

naprogram.org
As a 2022 program participant, you will receive CSA News, a monthly publication of ASA, CSSA, and SSSA, and have the option to be listed as a program participant on the NAPT website. Participants new to the program will also receive the new Soils Lab Manual. This document provides a model for developing a Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) plan for a soil testing laboratory. The information presented comes from previous publications on QA/QC and from the authors’ laboratory experiences.

Four exchanges will occur in February, May, August, and November. 2x Program exchanges will occur in requested quarters.

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**NOTE:** An additional Processing Fee of $195 will be charged to participants not enrolled by January 20, 2022.

**Shipping** will be charged to all program participants based on your shipping location via UPS ground service.

**NOTICE TO LABS OUTSIDE THE US**

Delivery of soil and plant materials to labs outside the United States cannot be guaranteed without an import permit. Please email or fax a copy of your import permit prior to January 20, 2022.

John Lawley  
john.lawley@usu.edu  
or call: 435-797-2117

**Further Information**

naptprogram.org

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**Acknowledgment**

The North American Proficiency Testing Program is overseen by an oversight committee of SSSA and acknowledges the contributions of the following groups: regional work groups NCR-13, NCERA-107, SERA-6, and WERA-103; Soil and Plant Analysis Council; Soil Science Society of America; Canadian Society of Soil Science; The Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture; Missouri Soil Testing Association Certification FSA Program; Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture; Iowa Dept of Ag & Land Stewardship; Illinois Soil Testing Association; Purdue FSA Program; Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; Michigan State FSA Program; Ohio FSA Program; Wisconsin FSA Program; USDA-NRCS; USEPA; and the commercial lab industry.