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 it meets 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.

It is operated as an activity of the Soil Science Society of America and overseen by 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, Ca, Cd, Cr, Co, Cu, Fe, K, Li, Mg, Mn, Mo, Na, Ni, Pb, P, Sb, Se, Sn, Sr, V & Zn & Hg

(† multiple methods)
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 per year 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.

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or call: 435-797-2117

Further Information
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Acknowledgment
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