
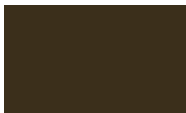





Soil organic matter: colour test.

Soil organic matter contains water and nutrients necessary to sustain life. Darker colours generally mean higher amounts of organic matter are present. Follow the instructions below to determine your soil's organic matter content.

Take a moist soil sample. If necessary, dampen your sample. **Match your sample** to the colour chart below. **Read off your results.**

Colour Chart

					
Average organic matter content	5%	3.5%	2.5%	2%	1.5%
Range of organic matter	3.5-7%	2.5-4%	2-3%	1.5-2.5%	1-2%

Find other tests and check out our work on our website:

soilsafe.auckland.ac.nz