

Preparing your georeferenced data for a Quick Look or Free Account

FILE TYPE: The Portal will not accept pdf or txt files of soil test lab results. Data must be in a spreadsheet-style format such as Excel (.xlsx) or Comma Separated Value (csv.). Unfortunately, the Portal will disconnect from the server if an inappropriate file type is submitted.

COORDINATE SYSTEM: Please use WGS 1984 or a geographic coordinate system that displays coordinates in latitude and longitude, for example:

X_long	Y_lat
-95.156	42.858

SAMPLE ID: it is a good idea to have a column labeled Sample ID so you can identify SHAPE results for each location. Using this specific label will help ensure that the data is correctly associated.

TREATMENT: Sometimes farmers perform experiments in their fields to test different management practices meaning that it may not be uniform across all sample areas. The Portal ignores all Treatment data unless it relates to Manure, Tillage, or Cover Crops. If you plan to donate data with differences in these treatments, please use the categories below. If you wish to preserve your original treatment categories, simply name that column heading anything other than TREATMENT.

- Cover Crop / No Cover Crop
- Manure / No Manure
- Conventional till / Strip or Vertical till / No till

BENCHMARK DATA TYPES: Although the Portal uses heuristic criteria to search for the data it pulls from your upload, there are always exceptions that can confuse the code. If you have followed the specifications described above and your data is still crashing the Portal, you may wish to match your column headings to the Portal default column headings to see if that solves the issue.

UNITS: Soil organic matter, organic carbon and microbially active carbon are reported as percent. Organic C, Organic N, Co2 C Burst, P1, P2, K and S are in parts per million or ppm.

Soil Health Value Column Headings:

SoilOM% Organic_C ppm Organic_Nppm Organic_C:N C02C_Burst ppm SH_Calc MAC% SOC

Standard Soil Fertility Column Headings:

SoilOM SoilP1 ppm SoilP2 ppm SoilK ppm SoilS ppm SoilpH Buffer_Index SOC

NOTE: To set up an account or donate your data, you will need to know the name of the lab where samples were processed, the month and year your samples were collected, the maximum depth of samples in inches (0-6" would simply be 6"), crop of sample crop year and crop of year prior to sample crop year. You will also be asked to select from these 3 general field management practices cover crop or no cover crop, manure or no manure, conventional till, strip or vertical till, or no-till. Donated data is sequestered at first to verify that metric units are compatible with the background dataset. We automatically receive a notification when donations are made. Thank you for your donation!