

## NOTICE

TO: Clients of Laboratory Services

From: Steve Tattrie  
Acting Director, Animal and Crop Protection

Date: April 30, 2020

CC: Marion MacAulay, Acting Executive Director, Agriculture Food Operations Branch  
Rick Hoeg, Acting Manager, Animal and Crop Services  
Lori Scott, Technical Laboratory Supervisor

**RE: Analytical Laboratory Services, Additional Testing for Registered Farms**

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Dear clients,

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, please note:

**In addition to soil testing, the Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Lab will be providing soil amendment and tissue testing to Registered Farms.** During these critical times moving into the 2020 growing season, this will help to ensure quality crop yields and environmental protection.

This decision was made with the current COVID-19 (<https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/>) orders and the health and safety of our clients and staff in mind.

Please Note: In order to follow Public Health orders to promote social distancing and minimize the number of people in our buildings, **all samples must be submitted to the lab using a courier service.** In addition, we will continue to work with a minimal number of staff members on-site and for this reason, sample turnaround times will be delayed.

Soil amendment and plant tissue testing is scheduled to begin the week of May 4, 2020.

The continuation of this testing is subject to the COVID-19 orders so can change at any time. We will update you with any changes to laboratory services as soon as they become available.

Please contact the laboratory with any questions:

Email: [LabServices@novascotia.ca](mailto:LabServices@novascotia.ca)

Phone: 902-893-6565

Sincerely,

Steve Tattrie  
Acting Director, Animal and Crop Protection