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Miller, Harold F., "Soil Test Results for 1967" (1968). *Agronomy Notes*. 182.

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Vol. 1, No. 15

APR 22 1968

April 1968

SOIL TEST RESULTS FOR 1967

Harold Miller
Extension Specialist in Soils

The results of soil samples tested in laboratories under the supervision of the University of Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station during 1967 have now been summarized.

Fifty percent of the 37,617 samples tested in the central and county laboratories last year had a pH of 6.0 or below, indicating a need for ground limestone for all field crop production. An additional 38 percent of the samples tested were slightly acid (pH 6.1 to 6.7). Limestone is needed on much of the soil testing in this range for certain crops. Twelve percent of the samples had a pH above 6.7, which indicates no need for limestone. In one Extension area 30 percent of the samples tested were in the strongly and moderately acid range, compared with 72 percent in another area.

Only 9 percent of the samples tested had a low phosphorus level in one Extension area, compared with 62 percent in another. The state average for soils having low phosphorus levels was 44 percent.

The potassium level was in the low range for 40 percent of the samples tested in the state. The 14 Extension areas showed averages varying from 22 to 55 percent of the samples tested having a low potassium level.

Copies of the detailed summary (University of Kentucky Soil Testing Report - 1967) showing the number of samples tested in each county, in each Extension area and throughout the state, along with the percentages falling in each of the soil test categories, are available from the Agronomy Department at the University in Lexington. Should you want copies of the detailed report, send a request to me or to the Agronomy Department stating the number you would like to have.

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